

Professor Neil Douglas  
Chairman MTAS Review Panel  
& President  
The Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh  
9 Queen Street  
Edinburgh  
EH2 1JQ

16<sup>th</sup> March 2007

Dear Professor Douglas,

**Re: ASiT Position on MTAS**

The Association of Surgeons in Training would like to take this opportunity to outline to you our concerns and position in relation to the numerous errors that have evolved with the MTAS system.

Last week we had, along with the BMA, written the Secretary of State for Health to express our concern over the errors that had evolved with MTAS and we had urged that an urgent review be undertaken. To this am, we are pleased to see that the review panel has been convened.

We are well aware that this is a particularly emotive subject at this time and that any solutions are not easy to achieve. ASiT fully support the introduction of MMC for Surgery and feel that the training pathway offered as a result of MMC may be more beneficial to trainees and patients alike. However our concerns lie firmly with the MTAS system and the effect on those trainees shortlisted to date and those not shortlisted.

We enclose for your information an outline of our opinion on the MTAS system and the problems we see, with the potential solutions detailed. We will also be issuing a corresponding press release with regards to our opinion on this process.

We look forward to hearing from you,

Yours Sincerely,



Conor Marron  
President ASiT

c.c. Mr Bernard Ribeiro President, Royal College of Surgeons of England  
Mr John Orr President, Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh  
Dr Brian Williams President, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow  
ASiT Membership