

**Email to Lord Krebs, Chairman of the Science and Technology
Committee, from Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell, President and Vice-
Chancellor, The University of Manchester**

I am responding to your letter of 5 August, 2010. Your request came in over the summer period when, as you will be aware, many staff within universities take their annual leave. I am afraid, therefore, that this response is not as comprehensive as it otherwise might have been, but I hope that the examples highlighted below are illustrative of how the funding situation in this country fails to provide the incentives to attract some of the best to work and carry out their research here:

(1) Two individuals went most of the way through the appointment process for chairs (in one case all the way), but then withdrew because the financial packages were unsatisfactory. In one case, the main problem was funding of laboratory space and funding of unique transgenic rodent colonies. A better offer made and accepted in Switzerland. In the second case there were two issues: the personal remuneration was not equivalent in buying power to that currently received (particular issues were travel and housing) and the package did not incorporate sufficient dedicated laboratory and clinical space.

(2) The entire recruitment package for one individual recruited to a Chair amounted to more than £5 million. This was funded almost entirely from the Northwest Development Agency through the Biomedical Research Centre. The point here is that if the individual had applied one year later, this RDA support would not have been available and a leading medical scientist would not have come to the UK.

6 September 2010