



The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP
The Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

7 September 2022

Dear Prime Minister

We write to welcome you to your new role and to highlight the pressing need for fair compensation for all those whose lives have been devastated by the contaminated blood scandal of the 1970s and 80s.

As you will appreciate, many of the Haemophilia Society's members are infected or affected by this NHS disaster. Many have spent decades dealing with complex health problems with partners, parents and other family members devoting their lives to caring for their loved ones. Thousands more continue to suffer terribly, having experienced the death of their child, partner, sibling or parent.

Now that the Infected Blood Inquiry is in its final stages, action is needed to ensure that a compensation scheme is ready to implement once its chair makes his final report in mid-2023. While the announcement in August that interim compensation would be paid to those infected and bereaved currently registered on a UK support scheme was welcome, many people who suffered terrible loss as a result of the scandal were left out, including bereaved children and parents. We hope you will encourage the Cabinet Office to work with us to ensure that progress continues to be made in ensuring that all those affected by this appalling disaster are compensated quickly and fairly.

In March 2021 the former Paymaster General, Penny Mordaunt MP, set in motion Sir Robert Francis QC's Infected Blood Compensation Study which reported to government in March of this year. Sir Robert made 19 recommendations, of which the interim compensation payment was one. The government has yet to publish its response to Sir Robert's study. Publication of the government's response to Sir Robert's study would give clarity and direction on how to proceed with building a compensation scheme which is ready to implement once the inquiry reports in mid-2023.

In his evidence to the inquiry, Sir Robert said that work should begin well in advance of the end of the inquiry to ensure that a framework is in place to avoid excessive delays. He suggested shadow legal and medical panels are established to begin the process of agreeing payment tariffs and definitions of medical conditions.

The Haemophilia Society

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We urge you to be transparent in the government's response to Sir Robert's report and to put in place a fair compensation scheme based on his recommendations which will go some way towards recognising the loss and suffering of all those affected by this scandal. The knowledge that plans for full compensation are in progress would give reassurance to people who suffered great anxiety over the summer, wondering if they would be included in interim compensation and then having their hopes dashed once more.

Time is running out for many people who have suffered great loss. Work must resume now to ensure that compensation is paid quickly and fairly to all those who have been significantly impacted by this NHS catastrophe. We offer you our help and support in taking this process forward.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Burt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Kate Burt
Chief Executive
The Haemophilia Society

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Clive Smith
Chair of Trustees
The Haemophilia Society

CC: Rt Hon Nadhim Zahawi MP, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (by email)
Edward Agar MP, Paymaster General

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