



Nicola Sturgeon MSP
First Minister
Bute House, Charlotte Square
Edinburgh. EH2 4DR

25 July 2017

Thank you for your continued support of those infected by contaminated blood and blood products in Scotland.

The recent announcement by the Prime Minister that there will be a UK Public Inquiry into the disaster presents an opportunity to address those dimensions which were out-with the terms of reference of the Penrose Inquiry or pertain to the disaster in the rest of the UK.

We are writing to you today to urge you to do everything in your power to make sure that the UK Inquiry has access to all relevant witnesses and evidence from Scotland. Also, that affected people in Scotland and their representatives are able to engage in early consultations and the drafting of the Inquiry's Terms of Reference and to play a full part in the Inquiry once established. As well as issues such as appropriate legal representation, we know you will appreciate the importance of practical considerations such as the ability to watch the proceedings remotely, moving the hearings around the UK, and the use of fully accessible venues.

Both Haemophilia Scotland and the Scottish Infected Blood Forum value our constructive working relationship with the Scottish Government. We hope our joint history of working closely on these issues will be valuable in helping to make the UK Inquiry as beneficial to those affected in Scotland as possible.

During the urgent questions debate in the House of Commons on 20th July the UK Government spoke warmly of the cooperation that was being achieved on this issue between London and Edinburgh. We hope that within those discussions the Scottish Government will highlight the benefits of the collegiate Scottish approach.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill".

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John".

John Rice
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