



Rt Hon Michael Ellis QC MP  
Minister for the Cabinet Office  
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Bill Wright  
Haemophilia Scotland

Our reference: MC2022/12934

By email: [bill@haemophilia.scot](mailto:bill@haemophilia.scot)

26 August 2022

Dear Mr Wright,

I am writing to you as the sponsor Minister for the Infected Blood Inquiry and in recognition of the vital role your organisation has played in campaigning on behalf of victims and families of the infected blood scandal.

You represented your group at the round table discussion in January 2020 with Oliver Dowden CBE MP and Nadine Dorries MP when the Government accepted the request to consider a framework of compensation ahead of the Inquiry making its final report.

I hope that you will now be aware that the Government has accepted the recommendation in the Infected Blood Inquiry Chairman, Sir Brian Langstaff's, interim report of 29 July, that:

*“(1) An interim payment should be paid, without delay, to all those infected and all bereaved partners currently registered on UK infected blood support schemes, and those who register between now and the inception of any future scheme;*

*(2) The amount should be no less than £100,000, as recommended by Sir Robert Francis QC.”*

Sir Brian's interim report built on the study by Sir Robert Francis QC, in which he made a number of carefully considered recommendations, and also followed the detailed evidence given to the public Inquiry last month.

This Government is profoundly aware of the terrible suffering experienced by many people over many years, and the urgent need to address the financial uncertainty faced. These interim payments recognise the urgent need of those infected and bereaved partners. This Government recognises the immense loss and suffering those you represent have experienced as victims.

This Government also recognises the immense loss and suffering of bereaved families. In his interim report, Sir Brian acknowledges the complexities in determining compensation for

broader groups of affected people who are not included in this interim stage. He determined that he should hear arguments about this before reaching any conclusion. The Government will continue to analyse the recommendations made in the Compensation Framework Study, ready to respond to the Inquiry's findings, as was intended when the study was commissioned.

This is only the first step in addressing this historic wrong and we acknowledge there is still more work to do.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Ellis', written in a cursive style.

**Rt Hon Michael Ellis QC MP**  
**Minister for the Cabinet Office**  
**HM Paymaster General**