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Sir Brian Langstaff
Chair
UK Infected Blood Inquiry
Fleetbank House
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10 July 2018

Dear Brian

You wrote to me on 5 July about the retention of records that may be relevant to the UK Inquiry into infected blood and asked me to ensure that all necessary steps are taken to ensure that the medical records of those infected and affected are preserved. You also asked that fees be waived for people who request access and copies to provide evidence to the Inquiry.

I will arrange for your letter and the Terms of Reference for the Inquiry to be sent to the Chairs and Chief Executives in all of the Scottish NHS Boards, and I will ask them to ensure that they retain any records that may be relevant to your inquiry. I will also circulate your letter to colleagues here, asking them to highlight this requirement in meetings they may have with relevant professional networks, such as Medical Directors and Directors of Public Health.

I can confirm that NHS Boards do not charge individuals for access to their own medical records and patients should be able to access their records free of charge where those records still exist. In the case of relatives seeking to access medical records of a deceased person, I will ask NHS Boards to ensure that any fees are waived.

Please do get in touch again if I can be of further help.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Gray