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21st March 2022

Dear Sir Brian,

Thank you for your letter of 16 March concerning the publication of the Infected Blood compensation framework study conducted by Sir Robert Francis QC.

As you know, Sir Robert was appointed to look at options for a framework for compensation for those infected and affected, and to report back to the Government with recommendations before the Inquiry reports. Sir Robert has completed that work and delivered his study to me.

It is my intention to publish the study alongside the Government's response. Before I am able to do so, you will understand that work must be undertaken within Government to formalise our response, and I can confirm that work is already underway.

I very much recognise how important it is for the Inquiry and its core participants to have sufficient time to consider the study before Sir Robert gives evidence, and it is my intention to publish the study alongside the Government's response as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon Michael Ellis QC MP

**Minister for the Cabinet Office
HM Paymaster General**