



Newsletter

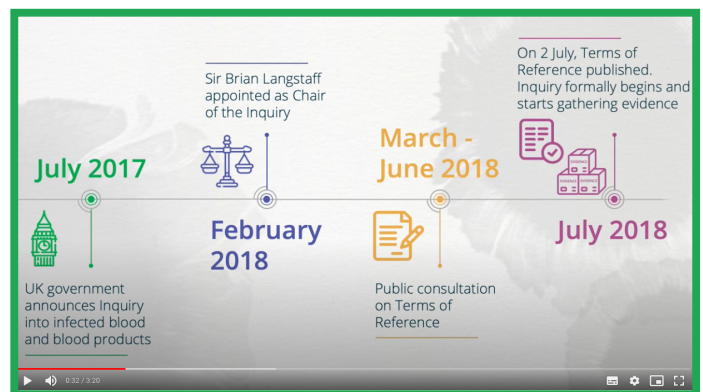
April 2022
Issue 17

Message from Catherine Nalty, Deputy Secretary to the Inquiry

At the recent local meetings, Inquiry participants wanted to know more about the Inquiry's future work, including the evidence from former government ministers and Sir Robert Francis this summer, and the panels of people infected and affected in autumn. As a number of people have recently contacted the Inquiry for the first time, this newsletter covers the work the Inquiry has done so far, what is to come, and the support groups open to participants.

Inquiry timeline

The Inquiry team has created a short video showing the key aspects covered in the Inquiry's hearings, which you can find on the homepage of our website. We hope this will be useful, not only for people new to the Inquiry, but also for others who are interested to understand when specific aspects of the Inquiry's terms of reference were covered. You can view the video on our [YouTube Channel](#).



Inquiry hearings during 2022

Over the summer the Inquiry will hear evidence from former ministers and officials on government decision-making and the response of governments; candour, openness and cover-up; vCJD; and from Sir Robert Francis on his compensation study. If large numbers of participants apply for seats, we will hold ballots in the same way as we did previously.

In September and October there will be two weeks featuring panels of people infected and affected. These hearings will be run differently from when individuals gave evidence during 2019. The Inquiry's intention is to hear from panels of up to 6 people, with the focus being on specific aspects of the Inquiry's terms of reference. The subjects have not yet been finalised but could, for instance, include accessing hepatology care after HCV treatment. We will provide more information in due course.

Support groups

A number of people have asked the Inquiry about support groups that are open to new members and we have been given this information to share with Inquiry participants. We have indicated below which are Facebook groups and which are contactable in other ways.

Facebook groups (all private)

[BloodLoss Families](#) is a support group for people in the UK who are infected and affected by transfusions or blood products.

[Contaminated Blood Campaign](#) campaigns for justice for people infected and affected by contaminated blood and blood products.

[Contaminated Whole Blood UK](#) is a support group for people who have been infected or affected with hepatitis C through contaminated whole blood.

[Factor 8](#) is for people infected and affected by Hepatitis C / HIV infected factor concentrate products in the 1970s and 1980s.

[Friends and families of haemophilia, Northern Ireland](#) is for people in Northern Ireland affected by bleeding disorders or by contaminated blood.

[Tainted Blood](#) is a campaign group for victims of contaminated blood in the UK, their families, and the families of those who have died.

[Tainted Blood Bereaved Parents Support Group](#) is for bereaved parents who have lost their child, or children, as a result of infection through treatment with blood or blood products.

[Tainted Blood Widows & Bereaved Partners](#) supports widows/widowers and bereaved partners of haemophiliacs who died as a result of infected blood products.

[The Fatherless Generation](#) is for the children of haemophiliacs who died because of contaminated blood products.

Other forums

[Factor 8 Positive Women](#) is an independent campaign and support group for HIV positive women fighting for truth and justice in the Factor 8 contaminated blood products scandal.

[Haemophilia Scotland](#) aims to support individuals and families in Scotland with haemophilia, von Willebrand and other bleeding disorders.

[Haemophilia Northern Ireland](#) is an independent charity based in Northern Ireland, which aims to support local people and their families affected by bleeding disorders.

[Haemophilia Wales](#) provides information, support and advocacy to people with haemophilia, von Willebrand and other bleeding disorders, including their families and carers.

[Haemosexual](#) is a community based online support group, and information resource advocating for anyone with a bleeding disorder or impacted by contaminated blood from the LGBTQ+ community.

[North West England Support Group](#) is for infected and affected people living in Lancashire, Manchester, Cheshire and the Lake District, and other parts of the North West.

[The Birchgrove Group](#) provides support for people with haemophilia, their wives and partners who were infected with HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C through blood products in Great Britain.

[The Forgotten Few](#) is a support group for haemophiliacs who were infected with HIV and hepatitis C through blood products.

[The Haemophilia Society](#) is a UK-wide organisation for anyone infected and affected by a bleeding disorder, including haemophilia and von Willebrand.

[The Hepatitis B Trust](#) offers support to people coming to terms with being infected with hepatitis B.

[The Hepatitis C Trust](#) is the national UK charity for hepatitis C, providing support and information to people infected and affected, and has recently started a support group.

The [Scottish Infected Blood Forum](#) supports people infected with hepatitis C through blood or blood products.

Infected Blood Inquiry contact details

Tel: 0808 169 1377

Email: contact@infectedbloodinquiry.org.uk

Address:

Infected Blood Inquiry - 5th Floor
Aldwych House, 71-91 Aldwych, London
WC2B 4HN

Twitter: @bloodinquiry

Website: www.infectedbloodinquiry.org.uk

British Red Cross Confidential Support line

Tel: 0800 458 9473 or 0203 417 0280 at these times:

Monday between 11am - 1pm;
Wednesday between 7pm - 9pm; and
Friday between 2pm - 4pm.

Or leave a message any time and you will receive a call back as soon as possible