



STATEMENT OF APPROACH – USE OF INQUIRY EVIDENCE FOR THE INFECTED BLOOD COMPENSATION SCHEME

1. This statement sets out the processes and safeguards for evidence held by the Inquiry being used for the Infected Blood Compensation Scheme administered by the Infected Blood Compensation Authority (IBCA).

Written statements and exhibits held by individuals

2. Where an individual holds a written statement or exhibits provided to the Inquiry they may provide this to IBCA.

Anonymous written statements and exhibits held by the Inquiry

3. The Inquiry is writing in September 2025 to people infected and affected who provided anonymous written statements to ask if they would like the Inquiry to take any steps to make their evidence identifiable by IBCA.
4. An anonymous witness can choose to consent explicitly to their witness number being shared with IBCA for the purposes of being able to identify their anonymous statement. The General Restriction Order has been updated to include this choice. The anonymous statement would also be shared with IBCA in redacted form as it appears on the Inquiry website. An anonymous witness who decides to do this can also choose to consent explicitly to sharing exhibits with IBCA in redacted form where they have previously provided them to the Inquiry and the Inquiry has coded them as being Medical Record, Test Results, Patient Medical Record or Medical Note.



Non-anonymous written statements and exhibits held by the Inquiry

5. The Inquiry is writing in September 2025 to people infected and affected who provided written statements and did not choose to be anonymous to ask if they would like the Inquiry to take any steps to make their exhibits accessible by IBCA, and also to ask if any witnesses wish to now become anonymous so their names are not searchable on the internet.
6. A witness can choose to consent explicitly to share with IBCA exhibits in a redacted form where they are exhibits they have previously provided to the Inquiry and which the Inquiry has coded as being Medical Record, Test Results, Patient Medical Record or Medical Note. The Inquiry will also share publicly available redacted written statements with IBCA.

Other information held by the Inquiry

7. Where a claim cannot otherwise proceed and the claimant provides explicit consent, IBCA are able to use their statutory powers under the Victims and Prisoners Act 2024 to make a specific request to the Inquiry for available evidence to support an application. When the Inquiry closes, this evidence will remain accessible with safeguards and this will be explained in a further statement of approach in due course.

Issued by the Chair on 15 September 2025