

Witness Name: William Wright

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INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

EXHIBIT WITN2287071



The Rt. Hon David Cameron MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London. SW1A 2AA

26 March 2015

URGENT: Response to the Penrose Inquiry Final Report

Dear Prime Minister,

We write following your announcement yesterday following the publication of the Penrose Report.

We are extremely anxious to get clarification of your plans for the additional £25 million for 'transitional arrangements to a better payment system' for people infected with contaminated blood and blood products and their families. There is a clear urgency to clarifying the situation as Parliament is, of course, about to rise and you have announced that this money will be spent in the 2015-16 financial year which begins in just 12 days.

Therefore, I would be grateful if you could clarify the following:-

1. Will the extra funds be distributed under the terms of the existing schemes such as the Skipton Fund, the MacFarlane Trust, or Caxton Foundation?
2. If so, will they apply in Scotland and what liaison did you have with Scottish Ministers prior to making your announcement?
3. When will the extra funding be applied from, given the implied urgent or emergency nature of the extra funding announcement?
4. If the extra funding is to be distributed under existing schemes which are tightly restricted, what policy adjustments you will be introducing prior to the dissolution of Parliament in order to free up the extra funding to those in particular need over the next two months.
5. Who, in particular, is likely to benefit in the short term from this extra allocation and what needs do you particularly intend to meet by making such an allocation. For example, we are aware of widows who are currently facing losing their homes.
6. How you arrived at the figure of £25 million as an amount, rather than say £24 million or £26 million?

We are meeting Scottish Ministers later today and look forward to hearing from you as a matter of the highest priority. You were able to act extremely swiftly following the formal release of the Penrose Report and we would be obliged if the same urgency could be applied to this enquiry.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

Bill Wright,
Chair