

Witness Name: Simon Hamilton

Statement No: WITN2339012

Exhibits: WITN2339013-

WITN2339043

Dated: 25th August 2020

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

EXHIBIT WITN2339032



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

21 October 2019

Dear Jackie

Thank you all for your letters of 1 August and 16 October. I am sorry it has taken so long to reply to your first letter.

I want to assure you of my complete commitment to the people infected and affected by the infected blood disaster. I share the confidence that my predecessor expressed when she wrote to you in July that the Infected Blood Inquiry will provide the answers that you and all those infected and affected, who have suffered so greatly over so many years, have waited so long for. The Government will give the most urgent consideration to any recommendations made by the Inquiry.

I am taking a very close interest in the Inquiry, and the issues it is examining. I have asked Oliver Dowden, the Minister for the Cabinet Office (who as you know, is the Minister responsible for the Inquiry), to reply substantively to your letter and to meet you to discuss these matters further. Oliver will be keeping me regularly briefed on both the Inquiry's progress and on progress to address the issues of disparity you raise in your letters.

Thank you, once again, for writing.

HM Govt

GRO-C: Boris

Ms Jackie Britton