

Witness Name: Julie Morgan

Witness No: WITN2438001

Exhibits: WITN2438002-WITN2438017

Dated: 23 September 2020

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

EXHIBIT WITN2438009

Consultation meeting with Welsh Government 15th August 2017

Venue: MPEC (Multi Professional Educational Centre) Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, Seminar Room 5.

Agenda: To discuss with people involved with the proposed enquiry into contaminated blood products in North Wales, a joint conference call.

Attendees from Cardiff:

Lynne Kelly, Chair of Haemophilia Wales, [GRO-A], trustee, Tony & Pat Summers, Trustee, Kirk Ellis & his partner Lizzie, Bev Tumelty, Michael Imperato, solicitor, [GRO-A], [GRO-A], David Thomas, Trustee, Julie Morgan, A.M. Nigel Miller, Jan Davies, Welsh gov. & Jenny Thorne, Welsh gov. & myself, Helen Cook social worker (haemophilia)

Attendees from Bangor: Cathy Cady, Welsh gov., Anona Price, Jennifer Hutchinson, Norman, Hutchinson, [GRO-A], [GRO-A], [GRO-A]

I have made a few notes from the meeting to feed back to the team at HRC

Introductions from North and South Wales

M.I. explained the English position, an 'arms battle' between solicitors, Collins & Co (not active until 5/52 ago) & Lee Day & Co. M.I. recommends anyone involved sign up with Haemophilia Wales, the Welsh context is very important, it is very confusing with law firms writing to everyone. Vaughan Gerthm is supportive of an Inquiry and is working with the DOH. A digital letter prepared will be sent to him, to be sent out by Alliance House to all people affected.

J.M. Cardiff North chair of the Cross Party group, says it is vital the Welsh voice is heard, Haemophilia Wales has a vital status in this.

L.K. Chair Haemophilia Wales relays Jan 2017 public Inquiry agreed by the Welsh Gov. In July cross party group meet in South Wales, Theresa May released there would be an Inquiry, a Public enquiry rather than a review plan.

M.I. explained a 'Hillsborough type' Inquiry would be 'half way house' (only looked at documents, saw wrong doing that led to a coroners inquest that was able to call witnesses, which did lead to prosecutions, a stepping stone to an inquest) and not have the power to compel witnesses, it would be more like the 'archer Inquiry', no recommendations acted on and nothing at the end of it.

Public enquiry CAN compel witnesses. Legal advice is to call for a full blown statutory enquiry, and a high court judge, a full forensic and panel members.

M.I. also relayed that Penrose 'lost its way', no panel members, failings and took a long time, nothing changed. Lord Morris, Lord Archer report D.O.H. refused to give evidence, key witnesses refused to give evidence (Hayden and [GRO-A] gave evidence)

It is up to the people involved to decide what type of Inquiry they want. (Andy Burnham indicated a Hillsborough type but this would not give the full picture) A full Inquiry calling people to account judge led with a Welsh voice for the people of Wales. (Alan Cairns M.P.) The timescale could be, a year pre Inquiry, appoint a chair, autumn, and it may take 2 1/2 years. Once a chair is appointed DOH are no longer involved, they just pay for the enquiry, the ball starts rolling. (Public Enquiry Act 2005)

Select the chair, consultation should influence the choice. What type of person, a judge can be asked. MI expressed that not to name anyone as this can be objected to, it can be tactical to ask for a specific person, track records, etc. A good judge must instil confidence, specify the level and type

Who determines the terms of reference- the chair

JM & L.K. have written their terms of reference they would request be considered

Haemophilia Wales general consensus is to represent everyone affected by contaminated blood including whole blood. Watkins and Gunn have worked for the Haemophilia Wales for 2 years and everyone has a grasp of the situation in connection with HIV/HCV.

JD advised DOH have a new team to advise the PM, working openly

The Terms of Reference are drawn up and ready to go, a few additions/subtractions to be amended from today e.g. not name clinicians, just say clinicians. To be submitted 18/8/17 in agreement with everyone present

J.M. Cross party agreement, discussed at Pierhead and all happy for the terms of reference to be submitted. (Not written in stone, room for adjustment)

L.K. requests no social media sharing to avoid misunderstandings at this time and deflect queries to Haemophilia Wales about this subject at present.