

** Redraft **

PQ08953 2005/2006

Written Answer

Han Ref: Vol

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LORD MORRIS OF MANCHESTER (LABOUR):

The Lord Morris of Manchester - To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they are content with the administration of the Skipton Fund for ex gratia payments for hepatitis C infection by contaminated National Health Service blood and blood products; and what Ministerial surveillance there has been of its administration. (HL4570)

SUGGESTED REPLY

The Skipton Fund is an independent company set up to make ex-gratia payments to those people who contracted hepatitis C through NHS treatment. In January 2006, officials were notified about a fraud against the Skipton Fund. Officials in the Department and the NHS Counter Fraud and Security Management Services are working with the Skipton Fund to ensure that the necessary arrangements are in place to handle the administration of the scheme and prevent potential cases of maladministration.

GRO-C
[CF]

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29/3/06

Jacqui
is his information
already in the
public domain?

The Press and
of crisis + special
advisers.

Shearman.

GRO-C [CF]