

Witness Name: **GRO-B**

Statement No: WITN3890001

Exhibits: 0

Dated: February 2020

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF **GRO-B**

I, **GRO-B** will say as follows:-

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is **GRO-B**. My date of birth is the **GRO-B** I live at **GRO-B** I am medically retired after suffering brain injuries as a result of a road traffic accident in or about **GRO-B**
2. I make this statement in relation to my late son, **GRO-B: S** **GRO-B** who was born on the **GRO-B** and died on the **GRO-B** **GRO-B** and my late ex-wife, **GRO-B: EW** who was born on the **GRO-B** **GRO-B** and died on the **GRO-B** at the age of **GRO-B**
3. My daughter, **GRO-B** (**GRO-B**) and my ex daughter-in-law, **GRO-B** (**GRO-B**) have also produced witness statements to the Inquiry.
4. This witness statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to both **EW and S**'s medical records. If and in so far as I have been provided with limited records the relevant entries are set out in the medical chronology at the end of this statement.

Section 2. How Infected

5. **S** was diagnosed with Severe Haemophilia A when he was about 2 years old. The social worker got involved in our lives because **S** always had bruises. Approximately a year after **S** was born, **EW** was diagnosed with mild haemophilia A.

6. **GRO-B**

7. **S** required a lot of Factor VIII (FVIII) treatment throughout his life. He was initially treated at the Children's Hospital in Liverpool and he treating doctor was Dr Hay. When Dr Hay moved to Manchester so did we.

8. I am not sure when **S** received infected blood products. It could have been anytime.

9. **S** and **EW** used to attend the hospital appointments together and I do not believe they were given any information or advice beforehand about the risk of being exposed to infection.

10. As a result of receiving FVIII, both **S** and **EW** were infected with HIV and Hepatitis C (Hep C).

11. I wish to rely on my daughter's statement in relation to how they found out about the infection, what information was provided, if adequate information was provided to understand and manage the infection, if information about the infection should have been provided earlier and risks of others being infected as a result of the infections.

Section 3. Other Infections

12. I wish to rely on my daughter's statement in relation to this section.

Section 4. Consent

13. I wish to rely on my daughter's statement in relation to this section.

Section 5. Impact of the Infection

14. It was not too long after my serious car accident and I was paralysed and registered blind that I found out about **S** and **EW** infection. **EW** became my full-time carer. We had two children and when **S** and **EW** were initially diagnosed with HIV it didn't really affect me massively at first. However, as time went on I became more aware and noticed a change in **S** he was more upset. When we had our children, I had a vasectomy because of the haemophilia. It always upset me and **S** that he was the last male in our family who could carry on the family name.

15. I was never hands on with the role of a father after the accident. I lost my wife and carer because **EW** struggled to deal with me and the children. She ran away from it all as she found it too difficult to deal with. My daughter also moved and I was alone in Liverpool. **S** stayed with me but wasn't well enough to look after me. This was a constant worry so I moved to a cottage near the rest of my family in **GRO-B** and my daughter would do the loop and visit all of us. **S** stayed in Liverpool.

16. I didn't realise how **EW** mentally deteriorated over the years, she was mentally demented and tormented when she died. It was a lot for **EW** to deal with at the time. Although **EW** and I were not together, she still took care of me. Since **S** and **EW** passed away I have become a lot quieter. I feel that I have lost myself a bit. My daughter does visit me with the kids as much as she can.

17. When I was initially told about the infections, I didn't really take on board the severity of the infections. It is only the last 10 years that I am coming to terms with what has happened to **S** and **EW** and it's heart-breaking. I feel lost without them as we were all very close.

18. I believe that **EW** suffered from depression as a result of what happened to **S**. I was very angry when **S** died and it took me a very long time to come to terms with what happened because of the injuries that I suffered when I had the car accident.

19. I wish to rely on my daughter's statement in relation what treatment, if any, both **EW** and **S** had, if they faced any difficulties in getting the treatment and the mental and physical effects of the treatment/s.

Section 6. Treatment/care/support

20. I wish to rely on my daughter's statement in relation to this section.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

21. I wish to rely on my daughter's statement in relation to this section.

22. I did not receive any monies from any of the trust and funds that were set up.

Anonymity, disclosure and redactions

23. I wish to remain anonymous.

24. I do not want to give oral evidence to the Inquiry.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed.....

GRO-B

Dated

5/8/20