

Witness Name: Brendan Brown

Statement No.: WITN4496048

Exhibits: WITN4496049

Dated: November 2023

## **INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY**

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### **WRITTEN STATEMENT OF BRENDAN BROWN**

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I, Brendan Brown, Chief Operating Officer of National Health Service Business Services Authority ("NHSBSA"), will say as follows: -

1. I provide this statement on behalf of the England Infected Blood Support Scheme ("EIBSS") in response to the request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 2 November 2023, and the supplementary request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 10 November 2023. As with my other statements, this statement is based on information available to the NHSBSA from its records of the EIBSS and the knowledge of members of the EIBSS team. I have made clear where the information is from my own personal knowledge.

#### **Section 1: Introduction**

2. My full name is Brendan Craig McMahon-Brown (known as Brendan Brown), and I am the Chief Operating Officer at NHSBSA as from 1 February 2022. Prior to this date, I was the Director of Citizen Services at NHSBSA, and this fact is reflected in my previous statements. My role is based at Stella House, Goldcrest Way, Newburn Riverside, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE15 8NY. Details of my professional background and career are set out in my first statement.

3. I have structured my response below in a question-and-answer format, for ease of reference and completeness. For every answer provided I have included the relevant notes and caveats for the information provided.

## **Section 2: Response to Rule 9 request dated 2 November 2023**

***How many people, who have been paid the £100,000 interim payment in the first year of operation, have registered with the English Infected Blood Support Scheme since 29 July 2022?***

4. The EIBSS have made 330 interim compensation payments to those who registered with EIBSS on or after 29 July 2022 and up to 7 November 2023, the latest EIBSS payment date.

***Of these registrants, please provide the number of people infected and the number of bereaved partners.***

5. NHSBSA's response is provided below:

**Table 1: Compensation Payments ( 29/07/2022- 07/11/2023)**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Count</b>
Infected Beneficiaries	125
Bereaved Partners*	205
TOTAL	330

Notes/Caveats:

a. ***\*\*Includes one Bereaved Partner Estate payment, where the beneficiary died between 29/07/22 announcement and the payment being made on 28/10/2022.***

b. ***Payments from 29 July 2022 onwards.***

c. ***Payments up to and including the £100,000 payments made on 07 November 2023.***

d. ***The data in Table 1 is correct as at 06/11/2023.***

6. NHSBSA received instruction from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) to make interim compensation payments to the estates of infected persons in September 2023.

7. The Instruction was received by agreement of the final letter template (Exhibit WITN4496049) to be sent to the estates who met the following criteria, *'The UK Government agreed that the payment can be claimed by the executor or authorised representative of the estate of a deceased beneficiary, or their bereaved partner. This applies to cases where a Scheme beneficiary passed away after the announcement was made on 29 July 2022, but before the payment was made on 28 October 2022, and has no surviving partner who satisfies the eligibility criteria to register as a bereaved beneficiary with an Infected Blood Payment Scheme'*.

8. The EIBSS wrote to all 7 estates who were due a payment in September 2023. To-date we have paid one Bereaved Partner Estate, the remaining six have yet to be paid, as we are awaiting them to provide evidence in support of their entitlement, such as proof of executorship.

### **Section 3: Response to Rule 9 request dated 2 November 2023**

***What proportion of the total numbers of people infected/bereaved to whom the payment was made in the first year of operation to 7 November 2023<sup>1</sup> have registered since 29 July 2022? (i.e. the percentage of people infected and percentage of people bereaved).***

9. NHSBSA's response is provided below:

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<sup>1</sup> Note : the request dated 2 November 2023 originally requested the data up to 28 October 2023, but confirmed by email to EIBSS representatives dated 14 November 2023 that this should read 7 November 2023 to match the data provided in the request dated 2 November 2023.

**Table 2: Total Interim Payments Made up to 07/11/2023**

Status	Beneficiary count- all infected and bereaved up to 07/11/2023	Beneficiary count- where registered on/after 29/07/2022 to 07/11/2023	% Beneficiaries where registered on/after 29/07/2022 to 07/11/2023
Infected Beneficiaries	2,812	125	4.4%
Bereaved Partners*	743	205	27.6%
Infected and Bereaved**	27	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	3,582	330	9.2%

**Notes/Caveats:**

- a. *\*Includes one Bereaved Partner Estate payment, where the beneficiary died between 29/07/22 announcement and the payment being made on 28/10/2022.*
- b. *\*\*27 payments have been made to beneficiaries who are both infected and bereaved, and therefore cannot be included within any one status of infected or bereaved.*
- c. *Payments from 29 July 2022 onwards*
- d. *Payments up to and including the £100,000 payments made on 07 November 2023.*
- e. *The data in Table 2 is correct as at 06/11/2023*

**Statement of Truth**

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

Signed:

GRO-C

Dated: 28 November 2023

**Table of exhibits:**

Exhibit number	Date	Notes/ Description
WITN4496049	September 2023	Template Letter- to Infected Blood Payments to Estates