

Rt Hon John Glen MP Minister for the Cabinet Office and Paymaster General Cabinet Office 70 Whitehall London SW1A 2AS

Rt Hon Dame Diana Johnson MP House of Commons London Our reference: MC2024/03347

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By email: johnsond@ GRO-C

12 th March 2024

Dezur Dzune Diana,

Thank you for your email of 8 March raising your concerns about the Government's response to the Infected Blood Inquiry and requesting a meeting to discuss these issues in more detail.

As you know, the Government has committed to responding to the Inquiry's final report as soon as possible following its publication on 20 May this year. We are rightly working through the Inquiry's recommendations on compensation systematically and thoroughly.

To enable this, I have appointed an expert group to advise on the clinical, social care and legal aspects of the recommendations. Professor Sir Jonathan Montgomery has been appointed as the Chair of the expert group. The names of the other members of the expert group will not be disclosed to safeguard the privacy and ability of experts to continue their frontline clinical roles whilst advising on Government policy.

I was very grateful for the opportunity to speak to you on Wednesday 7 February, Thursday 8 February, and again last week on Tuesday 5th March. I greatly appreciate the important role that both you personally and the APPG play in engaging with and supporting the infected blood community. As the Leader of the House of Commons said at Business Questions, I am working on plans to engage with the community and groups across the UK. She and I agree that this engagement is an important moment and I am keen that these conversations are helpful and I give a meaningful update.

I am planning to engage you and your fellow officers of the APPG as soon as I can. I am very firmly committed to meeting you ahead of the Lords Report Stage of the Victims and Prisoners Bill, once the date is known, to discuss these matters further, as well as the proposed Government amendment. My office will be in touch in due course to agree on a mutually convenient time.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

RT HON, JOHN GLEN MP
MINISTER FOR THE CABINET OFFICE
HM PAYMASTER GENERAL