

Witness Name: Danielle Holliday

Statement No.: WITN7763001

Exhibits:

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INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

EXHIBIT WITN7763013

Danielle Holliday

From: ibcafeedback@cabinetoffice.gov.uk via SmartSurvey
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Sent: 28 June 2024 16:49
To: Danielle Holliday
Subject: A message from Sir Robert Francis on his recent engagement sessions

Dear member of the IBCA community,

Thank you for signing up to register your interest in the development of the recently established Infected Blood Compensation Authority.

Over the last week, I have led a series of engagement sessions with charities, trusted groups and legal firms who represented the community during the Infected Blood Inquiry. These meetings were intended to provide background and information on the rationale behind the Government's proposed compensation scheme. As I set out in my [statement of intent](#), the meetings were also an opportunity for the communities represented to offer their views on the proposals. Given the statutory requirement to produce the Regulations under which the Scheme will function by 24 August, I wanted to have the benefit of those views as early as possible.

To keep you informed, I wanted to share what we covered during these sessions. You may wish to refer to the [compensation scheme summary](#). The main themes which were discussed during the engagement sessions are listed below:

1. [Future of the current Support Schemes](#)

As the Inquiry recommended, the proposed Scheme will compensate for both past and future losses suffered as a result of infected blood. This includes future care costs and the financial loss suffered as a result of infection. Discussions centred around what should happen to the support payments some victims already receive once full compensation is available.

2. [Severity Banding](#)

The Inquiry recommended that compensation reflects the impacts of infection a person has suffered by developing severity bandings. Discussions focused on whether the bandings proposed by government sufficiently covered the full range of experiences people have had.

3. [Care and Financial Loss Awards](#)

The Scheme proposes to provide compensation in accordance with five '*Categories of Award*', as recommended by the Inquiry. Each *Category of Award* recognises and compensates for the unique impacts of the infected blood scandal in different areas of a person's life. Discussion focussed on the Care and Financial Loss Awards and whether the compensation proposal accurately reflects the full range of individuals' future financial and care needs and requirements.

4. [Evidence Requirements](#)

Discussions focussed on which types of evidence should be considered when making a future claim through the scheme and which forms of evidence may be challenging for people to obtain.

5. Equalities Impacts

Discussions centred on whether any of the proposals for the scheme could result in differential treatment between people based on protected characteristics such as race, sex, or sexual orientation.

I intend to put forward the findings from these important engagement sessions to Ministers immediately following the General Election.

If you have any comments about how the authority is developing, please let us know by emailing ibcaenquiries@cabinetoffice.gov.uk and please visit our [website](#) for regular updates. I would ask that you please do not send personal or individual information at this time as we will be unable to respond.

We will be in touch in due course to let you know of our latest developments.

Sir Robert Francis

28 June 2024

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