

Witness Name: ROWENA
JECOCK
Statement No.: WITN0823001
Dated: 25 April 2022

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF ROWENA JECOCK

I, ROWENA JECOCK will say as follows:-

1. I am making this first statement following a Rule 13 request dated 5 July 2021, which notified me that I was subject to criticism by a witness with Inquiry reference number W3988 in relation to her involvement in campaigning on haemophilia and contaminated blood.
2. I have also responded to this criticism at section 15 of my third and main statement, but am responding separately in this statement at the request of the Inquiry.
3. My attention has been drawn to page 26 paragraph 54, and page 33 paragraph 11 of witness statement W3988, which speaks about the discontent of one of the members of the beneficiary community and her feeling that issues were being "blocked" by myself and my colleague, Ben Cole. I can only emphasize that my intent and the intent of the Department was not to "block" issues. Likewise, when speaking at the meetings, it would never have been my intention to be condescending.
4. The witness statement is also critical of the late circulation of meeting minutes. I recollect an occasion when there was a delay in circulating the minutes because I had not been able to review them in a timely way. For that I apologise.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed. GRO-C

Dated. 25/4/22