

Witness Name: Mark Ward  
Statement No: WITN1591002  
Exhibits: WITN1591003-6  
Dated: September 2019

## INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

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### SECOND WRITTEN STATEMENT OF MARK ANTONY WARD

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I, Mark Antony Ward, will say as follows:-

#### Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is Mark Ward, DOB [GRO-C]1969 and I live at [GRO-C] [GRO-C] with my civil partner, Richard Dudley-Smith.
2. I make this statement in response to the request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 23 August 2019 and further to my First Written Statement on which I continue to rely.

#### Section 2. Medical Records/UKHCDO

3. On 26<sup>th</sup> August 2004, following a conversation with Lynne Dewhurst on the telephone. I requested copies of my treatment sheets dated 1977 – 1984.
4. In 2007 I requested copies of all my records from a number of institutions including Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) and the UKHCDO.
5. Copies of my correspondence with GOSH are now shown to me marked **WITN1591003**.

6. Following receipt of the data from the UKHCDO, I wrote to Dr Gerry Dolan on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2007 and again on 28<sup>th</sup> December 2007 raising my concerns about missing information and irregularities in the data I had received.
7. In January 2008, following a telephone call to Lynne Dewhurst, who refused to search for any further data I claimed to be missing. I received a letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> January 2008 confirming I had received "a complete record of all information held about you".
8. I wrote to UKHCDO in July 2019 to follow up my previous correspondence in 2007 as I believed that there were still records missing and wanted to pursue this for the Inquiry. On 19 July I was provided with a number of additional documents. These are exhibited at **WITN1591004**.
9. There are a number of irregularities and inaccuracies in the data. The covering letter states that the UKHCDO no longer collects batch numbers. However, the period that I was referring to when requesting batch numbers was a period when everything was recorded in great detail at GOSH.
10. Until I saw these records I was not aware that my first positive test for HIV was a retrospective one in 1984. Similarly, I was not aware that I naturally cleared HCV in 2005 as I was not told of this.
11. In July 2019 I received a letter from Professor Hay dated 25 July which confirmed that the data I was provided with in 2007 was incomplete. A copy of this letter is now shown to me marked **WITN1591005**.
12. It was of particular concern to me that, despite me requesting a full set of my data for a second time, I was not, in 2019, provided with a copy of the treatment sheets from the 1980s which were originally sent to me in 2007. I cannot therefore see how Professor Hay can say that no documentation has been lost. For accuracy, none of my correspondence with the UKHCDO was provided either.

### Section 3. DWP

13. Examples provided in my First Witness Statement outline how "the DWP have made my life unbearable at times and have triggered psychological crisis which does include steps to take my own life. I honestly live in fear of a brown envelope coming through the letter box from the DWP".
14. I had been greatly concerned about the way in which the benefits of those in the haemophilia community were being dealt with.
15. I approached the Haemophilia Society about some of the problems being faced by infected haemophiliacs and the DWP. I was made aware of a DWP Working Party which was being set up and asked if I would like to become part of the group. As there were no "super-infected" haemophiliacs already invited I agreed.
16. In the first meeting I brought seemingly unknown information to the attention of the DWP Working Party with individuals affected by contaminated blood. This prompted an immediate internal investigation into the assessment process of infected haemophiliacs.
17. Following the internal investigation haemophiliacs were reassessed due to their haemarthropathy not being taken into account at first. Requiring £1.8 million pounds in benefits being awarded.
18. In August 2019 I wrote to Amber Rudd, Secretary of State for the Department of Work & Pensions. A copy of the correspondence is now shown to me marked **WITN1591006**.

**Statement of Truth**

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

Signed GRO-C .....

Dated *24<sup>th</sup> September 2019* .....