

Mr.A.Burnham
Department of Health



Mrs. M. Murphy
[Redacted]
Liverpool
[Redacted]

June 16th 2009

Dear Mr. Burnham,

As the new Secretary of State for Health, I enclose a copy of the letter I sent to Mr. Johnson to which I never received a reply.

I have written many letters to every Health Minister since 1994, regarding the plight of the Haemophiliacs infected with Hepatitis C who are treated differently from those infected with Hiv, although they were all treated with the same NHS blood products.

Please put an end to this discrimination and treat all Haemophiliacs with the same respect, all widows with the same respect, that they deserve, and accept the responsibly treating with contaminated blood has caused. Why do we have to have the Skipton Fund for Hepatitis C and the Macfarlane Trust for Hiv, Let us have one fund to cover all Haemophiliacs who have suffered and died from contaminated blood products, as I have said end this discrimination now.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs, Maureen Murphy.

From: Maureen Murphy [REDACTED]

Subject: letters

Date: 16 June 2009 at 12:55

To: Gregory Murphy [REDACTED]

See if this works.



Burnham.rtf

2 KB

From: Gregory Murphy gregmurph [REDACTED]
Subject: Regarding Andy Burnham constituency visit 19/6/09
Date: 18 June 2009 at 20:47
To: mmike [REDACTED]
Cc: Maureen Murphy [REDACTED]

Hello Mike,

First let me introduce myself: Greg Murphy (son of Maureen Murphy whom I believe you met at the most recent HS campaign meeting). I'm sorry I could neither attend the campaign meeting or indeed assist ahead of the constituency visit to Andy Burnham's office. Basically I'm quite unwell at the moment and have been for some weeks; although I'm hoping to be back on my feet in July.

I wanted, though, ahead of tomorrow's visit to forward you the enclosed e-mail which I, rather fortuitously, received only today from David Cameron's office. As you'll see, if you read up from the bottom, the Tory response is following an e-mail contact I initiated on May 18th this year with: Gordon Brown, Alan Johnson, Dawn Primarolo and every minister at the Dept of Health and also my own constituency MP, Peter Kilfoyle.

The same letter has been sent to all of them. Aside from Peter Kilfoyle's response (he has assured me that he has been in contact under his own volition with Dawn Primarolo about the matter and is awaiting a reply), Cameron's office is the only other party to respond. Rather speaks volumes, I think.

As I'm sure you will agree, the contents make for interesting reading.

I wonder if you would be able to inform Mr Burnham of this correspondence (both the details concerning my late father and the injustice meted out to my mum and those like her but also the Tory stance) however you see fit tomorrow?

Don't worry if it's too late or cumbersome; for I'll make sure that Mr Burnham's Westminster office gets a copy next week.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

But I just wanted to see if I could get it under his nose via tomorrow's delegation.

I wish you and the whole delegation good luck tomorrow.

Regards Mike,

Greg Murphy
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: "CAMERON, David" [REDACTED]
Date: 18 June 2009 10:54:52 BST
To: gregmurph [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Help for widows of Hepatitis C Haemophiliacs v MPs' Expense Claims

Dear Mr Murphy,

I am writing on behalf of David Cameron to thank you for your e-mail.

I am very sorry for the long delay in this reply. As you might understand, David Cameron has received an unusually large number of e-mails recently, and I am afraid it has taken longer than normal to reply to everyone.

We are grateful to you for getting in touch, and we do understand your concerns.

As you are aware, Conservatives called consistently for the Department to take part fully in the Archer enquiry. The Government's response has been a disappointment to many, including the thousands of patients exposed to hepatitis as a result of contaminated blood and blood products.

2014 seems to be a completely arbitrary date for the former Health Secretary,

Alan Johnson, to select for a review of payments, and the Shadow Health team are calling for a debate on the floor of the House about this.

The Shadow Health Minister Stephen O'Brien MP is leading this issue, and I will certainly pass on your comments to him.

Yours sincerely,

Lara Moreno Perez

Office of the Leader of the Opposition

House of Commons

London

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: gregmurph [REDACTED]

Sent: 13 May 2009 09:21

To: BROWN, Gordon; CAMERON, David

Cc: KILFOYLE, Peter

Subject: Help for widows of Hepatitis C Haemophiliacs v MPs' Expense Claims

To the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition (copied also to my constituency MP).

Dear Sirs

It is now approaching 15 years (on September 3rd) since my haemophiliac father's death; and during that time neither government you have served has sought to alleviate the hardship suffered by my widowed mother.

Therefore, I can only conclude that she is - and always has been - of very little concern to either of you.

It is also now rapidly closing-in on 100 days since Lord Archer's independent report into the contaminated blood tragedy was released and during that time I note that neither the government nor its opposition has moved to say anything of real import regarding it.

Therefore, I am beginning to conclude that it is similarly of very little concern to either of you.

Yet I note - how can one not? - how recent headlines are saturated with the tawdry business of MPs' expenses.

And I find it impossible not to reflect on the ugly issue of parliamentarians grabbing every single shilling they can whilst at the same time considering how governments and parties, of either shade, these last 20 years have not only steadfastly refused to redress the appallingly inadequate financial assistance afforded to some +HIV and +HCV haemophiliac victims (and their dependants) of the NHS blood tragedy but have heinously insisted never to provide even a single penny piece to my widowed mother - now 71 and those like her.

You are aware of this, I assume?

You see, despite the fact that some victims (or their dependent families) of the blood tragedy have received some pitifully meagre and insulting financial handouts (it cannot be termed compensation) over the last two decades, the reality is that in the 15 years since the death of my father, who was an +HCV but -HIV haemophiliac (who incidentally was one of three haemophiliac brothers to perish: the other two were +HIV which hideously, under Dept of Health rules, at least afforded their families some limited, long-expired financial relief) my mother has never even received a penny.

Absolutely nothing!

You do realise this?

I can only assume you don't otherwise - considering how caring you repeatedly tell us that you are - how else would you allow such an injustice to prevail?

My mother and widows like her exist somewhere near the very bottom of the deep pit of this foul tragedy. Bereaved, bereft and betrayed several times over.

In fact, since the appalling and arbitrary "line in the sand" was drawn by Dr John Reid on August 30th 2003 - which excluded widows of +HCV haemophiliacs who had died before that date from ever receiving any form of recompense - this government and its repeatedly docile opposition, has in fact actively sought to compound the injustice and injury meted out to my mother and those like her.

Dr Reid's callous clarion translated as: "You haven't received anything and we'll ensure you never will. This is only right and fair and proper."

So you will surely see how it is impossible not to draw an angry comparison between the headline-dominating matter of MPs' expenses and the hardship my mother has been forced to endure these last 15 years, through no fault of her own, as she has seen her already paltry savings decimated, pensions unfulfilled on two counts (my father's and her own as she was first forced to resign her work to become a carer and then finally retire through ill-health and stress), insurance and mortgage protection policies not being worth the paper they were written on (such is the reality for stigmatised haemophiliacs) and has been forced to take out loans and risky extra mortgages simply in order to survive.

You do you see my point of view?

I would appreciate any thoughts from either of you ahead of what will be the fourth General Election since my father's death.

Yours sincerely,

Mr G Murphy

