

Witness Name: Jeremy Quin  
Statement No.: WITN7526001  
Exhibits: None  
Dated: 21 November 2022

## INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

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### WRITTEN STATEMENT OF RT HON JEREMY QUIN MP

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I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9(1) and (2) of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 25 October 2022.

I, Jeremy Quin, will say as follows: -

#### **Section 1: Introduction**

1. My name is Jeremy Mark Quin. My date of birth is  1968. My address is C/O The Government Legal Department, 102 Petty France, Westminster, London SW1H 9GL. I completed my education reading history at the University of Oxford and then started my career in the financial sector, which continued until I was elected to Parliament in 2015. I served, on secondment, as senior corporate finance adviser to HM Treasury 2008-2009.
2. I first stood as an election candidate in the 1997 general election and was elected Member of Parliament for Horsham in May 2015. After serving a period as a Parliamentary Private Secretary, I was appointed to the Government and have held the following posts:

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| July 2018       | Member of the Whips' office as Government Whip, subsequently as a Lord Commissioner and then Comptroller of HM Household |
| December 2019   | Parliamentary Secretary in the Cabinet Office  |
| February 2020   | Minister of State at the Ministry of Defence   |
| September 2022  | Minister of State at the Home Office   |
| 25 October 2022 | Paymaster General and Minister for the Cabinet Office  |

3. I confirm that I am not, nor have I ever been a member of any committees, associations, parties, societies or groups relevant to the Inquiry's Terms of Reference.
4. I can also confirm that I have never provided evidence to, nor been involved in, any other inquiries, investigations or criminal or civil litigation in relation to human immunodeficiency virus ("HIV") and/or hepatitis B virus ("HBV") and/or hepatitis C virus ("HCV") infections and/or variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease ("vCJD") in blood and/or blood products.
5. Whilst I have only recently been appointed to my current role, I shall endeavour to assist the inquiry as much as I can, recognising the sensitive subject matter and importance of it.

## **Section 2: The Francis report**

6. I was appointed Minister for the Cabinet Office on 25 October 2022 and my Ministerial portfolio, including the role as the Sponsor Minister for the Infected Blood Inquiry, was confirmed thereafter. In this role, I am supported at Ministerial level by the Parliamentary Secretary for the Cabinet Office, Alex Burghart MP.
7. Upon my appointment I was provided with an oral briefing from the Cabinet Office Inquiries Sponsor Team, which I received on 27 October 2022. The briefing covered the background and work of the Inquiry so far, but also covered the issue of interim compensation payments which were being made that same

week. This included the background to the Government's acceptance of the Chair of the Inquiry's recommendation to pay interim compensation to infected and bereaved partner beneficiaries registered on the four national support schemes, and the work officials across Government and the devolved administrations of the UK had been doing to enable payments to be made by 28 October, which included ensuring that mechanisms were in place to ensure that the payments would be disregarded for tax and benefits purposes. The briefing also covered the wider recommendations of the *Compensation Framework Study* written by Sir Robert Francis KC.

8. Since the Government announced on 17 August that it was accepting Sir Brian's recommendations for interim compensation, officials in the Cabinet Office have been working with colleagues from HM Treasury, Department of Health and Social Care, Ministry of Justice, Department for Work and Pensions, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, HM Revenue & Customs and the Scottish, Welsh, and Northern Irish Departments of Health to ensure that arrangements were in place to enable the payments to be exempt of tax and disregarded for the purposes of benefits. On 30 September my then predecessor wrote to Ministerial colleagues seeking their agreement to the proposals which had been developed to enable the payments to be made by the end of October.
9. The consideration and decisions required to deliver interim compensation impact on many of the recommendations in the *Compensation Framework Study*, such as delivery, administration, oversight, scope, and statutory and/or legislative requirements - all of which were under active consideration by officials prior to the Inquiry's 29 July report, and remain so through a network of cross-government working groups.
10. Sir Robert's study was commissioned in May 2021 by the then Paymaster General, in order to, "*provide the Paymaster General with advice on potential compensation framework design and solutions which can be ready to implement upon the conclusion of the Inquiry, should the Inquiry's findings and recommendations require it*". Work continues across Government and with the

active participation of the Devolved Administrations, to consider Sir Robert's recommendations, his evidence to the Inquiry, and the views of infected and affected witnesses, so that Government can respond swiftly to any recommendations relating to compensation in the Inquiry's final report.

11. Sir Robert's recommendations for establishing medical and legal panels to consider compensation cases, and an arms-length body to administer a future compensation scheme needs to be considered alongside his other recommendations. The type and shape of the mechanism for administering any future scheme largely depends on the scope of the scheme itself, and so it is not possible to reach conclusions about the machinery for delivery, remotely from his other recommendations. Officials are giving the recommendations thorough consideration but at this stage no decisions have been taken on what a final scheme might look like, nor have options been presented to me at this stage. The Department is keen to develop solutions holistically, and this remains an area of ongoing policy development.
12. Cross Government work, coordinated by the Cabinet Office, will consider Sir Robert's *Compensation Framework Study* as part of its wider work in preparation for the Inquiry's final report. This work includes for example consideration of other national and international compensation schemes, their scope, and methods of administration, principles of eligibility scope and delivery; the work will also include preliminary cost estimates.
13. The interim compensation payments made in response to the Inquiry's interim recommendations are the start of a process, not the end of one. Government is committed to supporting the many people affected by the infected blood scandal. While the Government cannot pre-empt the Inquiry's findings, the preparatory work already underway will present options to allow the Government to respond more quickly to any recommendations related to compensation in the Inquiry's final report.

### **Statement of Truth**

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

Signed GRO-C

Dated 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022