

Witness Name: Helen Callaghan

Statement No.: W7580

Exhibits: Nil

Dated: 21 November 2022

## **INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY**

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### **WRITTEN STATEMENT OF HELEN CALLAGHAN**

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I provide this statement on behalf of Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust, in response to the request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 24 October 2022.

I, Helen Callaghan will say as follows: -

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

1. I work at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells Hospital in the role of Director of Quality Governance. My date of birth is the GRO-C 1978 and my work address is Maidstone Hospital, Hermitage Lane, Maidstone, Kent, ME16 9QQ. I have worked at Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust since 11 October 2021. My professional background includes quality governance, leadership roles, within emergency care and I have a professional background of adult and children's nursing. I have worked in a variety of acute NHS provider Trusts since 2002.

#### **Section 2: Response to Criticism(s) by W3445**

1. I write on behalf of the Trusts Chief Executive, Mr Miles Scott. Having undertaken a thorough review of the witness statement (Inquiry reference W3445), I recommended a clinical and professional review of the issues raised. As part of that review, the patient's medical notes were requested. Unfortunately, it was ascertained the patient's notes are no longer available, this is secondary to the passage of time since the patient's last admission to Maidstone Hospital, which means they have been destroyed.

Unfortunately, the Trust is therefore limited in its ability to fully respond to the concerns raised in respect of Mr Paterson's care, clinical treatment plan and the communication issues with the family of Mr Paterson.

In response to the concerns raised, the Trust would like to offer its sincere apologies for any way it may have adversely contributed to both Mr Paterson and his family's experience, during the last months of his life. In addition, we would like to offer our heartfelt condolences to the witness, alongside an offer for her to meet with our Chief Nursing Officer, Ms Joanna Haworth and Ms Ritchie Chalmers, Chief of Service for Core Services. Ms Chalmers is a breast surgeon by background but also has an additional clinical background which involves transplant surgery. It was felt the witness may like to meet with both leaders from the Trust, to afford her with the opportunity to discuss her adverse experience of Maidstone NHS Trust.

### **Section 3: Other Issues**

1. The Trust has no further evidence to submit for this section.

### **Statement of Truth**

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

Signed

GRO-C

Dated 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022

### **Table of exhibits:**

| Date | Notes/ Description | Exhibit number |
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