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Written Answer

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BLOOD PRODUCTS

N216 Paddy Tipping (Lab. Sherwood):

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what approaches he has received from Lord Archer of Sandwell requesting papers and information to help his inquiry into the contamination of blood products; what information has been supplied; what information is outstanding; and if he will make a statement. [148620].

DAWN PRIMAROLO

Officials met with members of the inquiry team on 25 April 2007 to discuss what information the Department may be able to provide to the inquiry. Following that meeting the Department sent the inquiry team a chronology on the screening of donors for evidence of transfusion transmissible infections.

We have also made available a recently completed document on the *Review of Documentation Relating to the Safety of Blood Products 1970-1985 (Non A Non B Hepatitis)*, and the supporting references. These documents are available in the Library.

Lord Archer has been advised that the Department will release all papers identified in the Review, in line with the Freedom of Information Act. The papers will be released to Lord Archer's inquiry as quickly as possible, in monthly batches. The first set of papers were sent to the inquiry team on 15 June.