

**REPLY BY THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE  
TO QUESTIONS POSED BY DEPUTY QUERPEL PURSUANT TO RULE 14 OF THE  
RULES OF PROCEDURE**

- 1. As we all know, the UK infected blood scandal has been all over the news recently and when I asked you a question during the recent May States debate, enquiring what are HSC doing to support islanders who had infected blood administered back in the 70's, 80's and 90's, and are now having to endure the horrors of being victims of that action, you informed me that those islanders were being supported by Public Health. So with that in mind, can you please provide me with the details of what that support consists of?**

Islanders who received infected blood did so as part of their care for haemophilia or other haematological disorders, or having received a blood transfusion following childbirth, surgery or other medical treatments. Those individuals who contracted Hepatitis C and/or Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) from these treatments and who are known to Health & Social Care have received specialist care and treatment from a Consultant Virologist.

This has included on-island treatment and support through the Consultant Virologist and the Orchard Centre, with links to off-island providers at a national centre of excellence for advice and support.

Islanders who are concerned they may have been infected are being offered free screening at the Orchard Centre. Further, help and support to those who may be eligible to claim compensation is being provided.

- 2. Can you please tell me how many islanders, in total, who were victims of the infected blood scandal, are now receiving, or have received, support from Public Health?**

Health and Social Care is aware of fewer than ten individuals.

- 3. Can you please tell me if any islanders have died as a result of receiving infected blood?**

Health and Social Care is aware of a death/deaths from this. The number is fewer than five individuals.

- 4. Can you please tell me what is being done in an attempt to pursue compensation for islanders who were victims of the infected blood scandal?**

The development of a UK compensation scheme has been expedited due to a successful amendment to the Victims and Prisoners Bill. As this was a backbench amendment, UK Government officials did not have opportunity to undertake the full, detailed policy work before the progression of the Bill (which subsequently received Royal Assent on

24<sup>th</sup> May 2024). No firm policy decisions were made by the UK Government and any further work will be delayed until after the UK's General Election on 4 July 2024. Officers will continue to engage with UK Government officials regarding the establishment of the compensation scheme and how it might extend to Bailiwick residents.

**Date of receipt of questions:** 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024

**Date of response:** 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024