

**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**

- 1a. Guernsey resident Mr Ian Walden, a victim of the UK infected blood scandal, said on the Channel TV News on June 18 that he had already received compensation from the Guernsey government, are you aware of that?**

The Committee *for* Health & Social Care ('the Committee') has currently not seen any documentation that confirms whether or not, or when, compensation might have been paid to these individuals by the States of Guernsey. The Committee is actively seeking further information, including from outside Health & Social Care, to understand what, if any, compensation has been paid and would invite anyone with information or evidence to come forward.

- 1b. If you are aware of Mr Walden being compensated by the Guernsey government, then can you please tell me why you didn't refer to him being compensated in your response to my previous set of Rule 14 questions?**

See above.

- 2. Have all residents of the Bailiwick who were victims of the scandal been compensated by the Guernsey government?**

This information is not available to the Committee.

The Committee is supporting anyone who has come forward to date who may be eligible for compensation from the UK government. Furthermore, the Committee would urge anyone who has any concerns to contact the Orchard Centre to discuss these further.

- 3. If they have all been compensated, can you please tell me if they were all satisfied with the amount of compensation they received?**

This information is not available to the Committee.

- 4. Can you please provide me with the exact number of people in the Bailiwick who were victims of the UK infected blood scandal and as a result, are now receiving, or have received, support from Public Health?**

Where they involve few patients, deaths or incidences of disease, it is standard best-practice to report these data as "fewer than ten" or "fewer than five," as appropriate. This approach to safeguarding patient confidentiality is not unique to Guernsey.

5. **Can you please provide me with the exact number of people in the Bailiwick who died as a result of being victims of the UK infected blood scandal?**

See above.

6. **If you aren't prepared to provide me with those exact numbers, then can you at least please provide me with an alternative reason other than the fear of victims being identified, because as I said earlier, that approach makes no sense to me whatsoever?**

Please see the response to question 4. This is standard, best-practice reporting borne out of the duty placed on health professionals and health authorities to maintain the confidentiality of patients and their families which is highly relevant in a small community such as Guernsey.

7. **As we all already know, the UK government embarked on a disgraceful and shameful MASSIVE 'cover up' for decades on this whole issue: so with that in mind, are you able please to provide me with an assurance that there has never been, and never will be, a 'cover up' here in the Bailiwick by the Guernsey government?**

Notwithstanding that the Committee cannot formally respond on behalf of the States of Deliberation, it endeavours to function with integrity and honesty.

Date of receipt of questions: 6th August 2024

Date of response: 21st August 2024