DRAFT letter for MPs – please amend as appropriate

Your address (including email) here

Date here

Dear [insert name of your MP]

I am writing to tell you about an important debate taking place in Parliament on 24 November 2022 on the urgent issue of the Infected Blood Inquiry and compensation, which I urge you to attend.

It has taken four decades to have the contaminated blood scandal investigated by a public inquiry, during which time at least 3,000 people with haemophilia and other bleeding disorders have died as a result of HIV or hepatitis C infections caused by contaminated NHS treatment. Those who were infected often struggle with poor health and an uncertain future and at least 400 have died since the inquiry was announced in 2017. For those who lost loved ones, many have never received any financial support – an unacceptable situation which continues to this day.

The contaminated blood scandal has had a devastating effect on me and my family. I want the government to recognise the impact of this appalling disaster by accepting responsibility for what happened and acting decisively to support those infected and affected.

While the government’s recent payment of £100,000 interim compensation to people infected and bereaved partners was welcome, it has created the false impression that the issue of compensation has been dealt with. It has not. Bereaved parents, children and siblings were excluded from this interim compensation and there is still a lot of work needed to set up a compensation framework which is fair and quickly delivered.

I believe the government must announce its plans for full compensation and put in place a system ready to implement once the inquiry makes its final report in mid-2023. Of course, this is not just about financial compensation, it is about recognising the suffering and loss that this scandal has caused.

The debate on 24 November has been organised by the All-Party Group on Haemophilia and Contaminated Blood and takes place in Westminster Hall at 1.30pm. Please attend in support of all those who have been infected or affected by contaminated blood and blood products.

I would like to meet you either at your surgery locally or in Parliament to discuss my experiences in more detail. Please contact me at the above address.

Yours etc