



Rt Hon. John Glen MP
Minister for the Cabinet Office and Paymaster General
Cabinet Office 70 Whitehall London
SW1A 2AS

Rt Hon Dame Diana Johnson DBE MP
and Sir Peter Bottomley MP
The APPG on Haemophilia and
Contaminated Blood
House of Commons, London
SW1A 0AA

29 November 2023

Dear Diana and Peter,

I am writing to you in regard to the introduction of the Post Office (Horizon System) Compensation Bill. As sponsor Minister for the Infected Blood Inquiry, I am acutely aware that this announcement may unsettle or bring concern to the Infected Blood community. The Post Office (Horizon System) Compensation Bill is required to ensure that there is a continuing legal basis for compensation to Group Litigation Order (GLO) members beyond the current arbitrary deadline of 7 August 2024. These payments are already being made under the authority of the Supply and Appropriation Act and we are committed to continuing these payments.

We recognise the common interest of those impacted by the Horizon Scandal and the Infected Blood Scandal, and tragedy and suffering of the individuals involved. However, whilst both the Infected Blood Inquiry and the Post Office Horizon IT Inquiry are ongoing, there is a distinct difference in the circumstances.

Compensation to Postmasters began before the Post Office Inquiry was placed on statutory footing. In comparison, the recommendations for compensation to the victims of Infected Blood are a result of the Inquiry recommendations and it is only right that those recommendations on compensation are viewed in the full context of the final report.

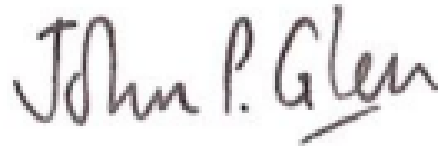
It is important to recognise that both of these injustices, and the circumstances of those affected, are unique and unprecedented in their own rights. Every case is a personal tragedy with unique characteristics and needs to be assessed individually. We would like to reassure individuals that the Government is committed to progressing these matters promptly and separately and that Parliament will also be informed of any update as is appropriate.

In regard to the Government response to Infected Blood Inquiry recommendations, I would like to reiterate the Government's commitment to the victims of Infected Blood.

The Government has accepted the moral case for compensation. In doing this, we have acknowledged that justice should be delivered - and we are working to put things right. We are continuing to undertake the necessary work to enable a swift response following the publication of the final report.

I am placing a copy in the Library of the House of Commons.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John P. Glen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line under the "n" in "Glen".

**RT HON JOHN GLEN MP
MINISTER FOR THE CABINET OFFICE
HM PAYMASTER GENERAL**