

## **Collins Solicitors Statement for Tainted Blood**

**21 April 2021:** In the last 24hrs Collins Solicitors has been made aware of concerns arising from third party correspondence to the All Party Parliamentary Committee on Haemophilia which unfortunately misrepresents our view on the opportunity for Government to agree to common law compensation.

Des Collins has long spoken over his concerns that the monies currently being paid to certain of the contaminated blood infected and affected victims is solely structured as what is for all practical purposes a voluntary charitable scheme and therefore its continuance, let alone at current levels, is purely at the whim of future government ministers. With that in mind, Collins Solicitors has been working tirelessly over the past 4 years or so to get this seemingly charitable scheme upgraded to a formal agreement, under common law compensation principles.

We recognise that to some, any proposed change in the payments scheme may suggest some kind of risk. We refute that suggestion entirely and wish to reassure clients and commentators alike. None of Collins Solicitors' clients would ever be encouraged to move to a compensation scheme that does not provide them with anything other than an improved financial position. As expert advisors on personal injury compensation, we are confident that the current system does not best reflect the interests of our clients and their long term financial security, let alone provide reasonable damages for the losses they have endured as a result of the contaminated blood scandal.

It is for this reason that Collins Solicitors took up the battle against the Government on behalf of victims and their families when many other firms declined to lend their expertise. We still have a long way to go – there has been no further publication from the Government on the detail of the compensation payment fund, only that we have succeeded in ensuring that one will be forthcoming - but we continue to press for full transparency and will not rest until our clients in the infected blood community receive the recognition they deserve.

If any client has any concerns, please do contact us in the usual way and we will be happy to explain in person the strategic process we are following to ensure the best outcome for all.

ENDS

**Client Enquiries** 

**Collins Solicitors** 

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