

|                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Reference:</b>       | FOI.1177.19            |
| <b>Subject:</b>         | Infected blood inquiry |
| <b>Date of Request:</b> | 22 July 2019           |

**Requested**

- a) Copies of all correspondence to/from the Infected Blood Inquiry during the period 1st January 2019 to 17th July 2019.
- b) Have you received any notice or instruction regarding the retention and/or request of documents relevant to the Infected Blood Inquiry?
- c) If a request for documentation and/or its retention has been received from the Infected Blood Inquiry, please supply a copy of any such notices or requests and copies of any replies to such a request and internal correspondence relating to such.

**Response:**

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is restricted in providing you with the information requested, namely information which has been received from, or transferred to, the Officers of 'The Infected Blood Inquiry', by virtue of the provisions of Section 32 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The UHB is exempting this information under Section 32(1b) and 32(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Information held by a public authority is exempt information if it is held only by virtue of being contained in –

32(1) (b) Any document served upon, or by, a public authority for purposes of proceedings in a particular cause or matter

32(2) (a) Any document placed in the custody of a person conducting an inquiry or arbitration, for the purposes of the inquiry or arbitration,

32(2) (b) Any document created by a person conducting an inquiry or arbitration, for the purposes of the inquiry or arbitration Section 32 is an absolute exemption therefore a public interest test is not required and there is no requirement to confirm or deny if this information is held.

In reaching this decision, the UHB is mindful that the unauthorised disclosure of information, which has been placed in the custody of the Inquiry or its Officers, or which the UHB, has received by virtue of its active participation in the Inquiry's Business, can, in certain circumstances, constitute an offence, particularly, but not exclusively, under the Inquiries Act 2005, and Inquiry Rules 2006.

The UHB confirms it is for the Inquiry Chair and his officers in conjunction with those affected by those matters being examined by the Inquiry, to determine what information is released, when it is released and in what sequence information is released, into the public domain.