



Blood and Transplant

Charcot Road
Colindale
NW9 5BG

Tel: 01923 366 7643
www.nhsbt.nhs.uk

Our ref: MOC/362669

Dear JJ Evans

Re: Information request

Thank you for your request dated 15th December 2018 for information from NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) regarding the Infected Blood Inquiry.

I am writing to advise you that we cannot provide you with the information requested for the reasons detailed below.

Copies of all correspondence (this includes both physical and digital) to AND from the Infected Blood Inquiry since 1st January 2018 to present day.

As a Core Participant of the inquiry under Section 32 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act (2000) NHSBT is not obliged to release any information held 'only by virtue' of being contained in documents that are created or held for the purposes of court, inquiry or arbitration proceedings. This exemption applies to the information which is held 'only by virtue of the fact that, it is contained in a document that is either (1) created by the inquiry or (2) placed in the custody of the inquiry, for the purposes of the inquiry.

This is an absolute exemption and so no public interest test applies.

I have taken this decision because, the unauthorised disclosure of information which has been placed in the custody of the Inquiry or its Officers, or which we, NHSBT, have received by virtue of our 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.

What information is released and when it is released into the public domain should be decided by the Inquiry Chair and his officers in conjunction with those affected by the matters being examined by the Inquiry.

I hope this is helpful in addressing your questions. Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely



Wayne Lawley
Head of Corporate Communications

E-mail: customer.services@nhsbt.nhs.uk

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Customer Services Operations Manager, NHS Blood and Transplant, Charcot Road, Colindale, NW9 5BG (Email: customer.services@nhsbt.nhs.uk).

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT). The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.