



Health and Social
Care Board

Health and Social Care Board
Gransha Park House
15 Gransha Park
Clooney road
L'Derry
BT47 6FN

JJ Evans

Via (e)mail request-532885-1984c1b1@whatdotheyknow.com

Date: 7th December 2018

Our Ref No: FOI 955 18

Dear Sir/Madam,

Reference – Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information. Your request was received by email on 15th November 2018. Your request has been processed under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I have now had an opportunity to consider your request and I have set out my response below and in the attached appendix.

Request.

Your request sought the following information, '*Copies of all correspondence (this includes both physical and digital) to AND from the Infected Blood Inquiry since 1st January 2018 to present day.*'

Response.

I am restricted in providing you with the information you seek, 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.

In reaching this decision, I am mindful that the unauthorised disclosure of information which has been placed in the custody of the Inquiry or its Officers, or which we, the Health and Social Care Board, 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.

In reaching this decision, the Health and Social Care Board is also very much aware that we are not privy to all information held by the Inquiry, and as such, we are unable to attach a specific weight to any information we might be in receipt of. Information may hold an inherent significance to the business of the Inquiry when considered in conjunction with and in a context of, other information held by the Inquiry which we would not be aware of. We are therefore concerned that any release could, unwittingly, jeopardise or impede the work of the Inquiry, and we can take no action that could impact the critical work of the Chair and his Officers.

It is therefore my view that 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.

It is for these reasons that I am applying section 32 'Court Records', in respect of the information you seek. I would refer you to appendix 1, for further details in this respect.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Moran', written in a cursive style.

Mr Peter Moran
Assistant Information Governance Manager
HSCB – Western Offices