

Vaughan Gething AC/AM  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd, Llesiant a Chwaraeon  
Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MA – P/VG/2545/17

Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP  
Secretary of State for Health  
Department of Health  
Richmond House  
79 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2NS

19 July 2017

Dear Jeremy,

Thank you for your letter of 12 July concerning the proposed inquiry into the NHS supplied infected blood.

We appreciate that the form the inquiry takes is yet to be agreed, however, we would wish to see that the Terms of Reference are agreed UK wide. The issue was discussed during a topical question raised in the National Assembly for Wales on 12 July. A full transcript can be found at: [National Assembly for Wales Record of Proceedings](#)

This letter represents the initial view of parties within the National Assembly for Wales following that discussion.

We would like to see a commitment to engage and listen to those affected in Wales either individually or through their representative groups, in both setting the remit and in the taking of evidence. Although we have not had the opportunity to engage in depth with those affected since the announcement of the inquiry, we believe that the 10 points raised by the Haemophilia Society broadly cover the areas that most of those affected would wish the inquiry to cover. These can be found at: <http://haemophilia.org.uk/2017/07/14/update-contaminated-blood-inquiry/>

We expect the NHS in Wales to co-operate fully with the inquiry in providing information requested. Similarly, we would expect the same approach to be taken by the NHS in England and the UK Government to ensure that we maximise the information available to the inquiry. We note that the Scottish Government has referred you to the significant information already available as a result of the Penrose Inquiry.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

It should be noted that if the inquiry goes on to rule that there is culpability on the part of the NHS, which would predate the Assembly, we would expect the UK Government to address matters and ensure that none of the four nations of the UK are required to direct NHS spending to address this historic injustice.

Naturally, we expect families in Wales to be part of the pre-inquiry engagement in the remit and powers of the inquiry. We look forward to meaningful engagement between the four Governments of the UK in taking this matter forward.

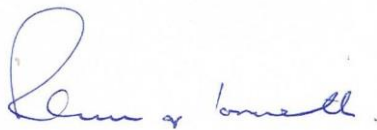
We are copying this to the Secretary of State for Wales, the Minister for Mental Health and Care in England, the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport in the Scottish Government and the Permanent Secretary at the Department of Health in Northern Ireland.

Yours sincerely,




**Vaughan Gething AC/AM**

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Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport



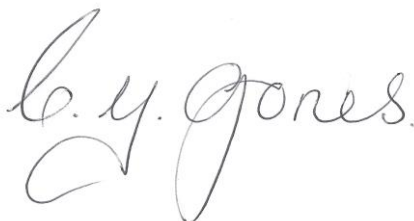
**Rhun ap Iorwerth AC/AM**

Ysgrifennydd Cysgodol Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol, Plaid Cymru  
Shadow Secretary for Health and Social Care, Party of Wales



**Angela Burns AC/AM**

Llefarydd Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, Ceidwadwyr Cymreig  
Spokesperson for Health and Social Services, Welsh Conservatives



**Caroline Jones AC/AM**

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