

Executive Summary

Report to the Board of Directors

Being Held on 28 January 2025

Subject	Infected Blood Inquiry Report
Supporting TEG Member	Sandi Carman, Assistant Chief Executive
Author	Sandi Carman, Assistant Chief Executive
Status¹	Note

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To present the Board of Directors with a final update on the review of the Infected Blood Inquiry Report, published on 20 May 2024. The recommendations outlined in the report have been carefully considered, and the summary below highlights those that are relevant to the Trust and fall within our remit to address.

KEY POINTS

- In 2017, the UK government announced the launch of the UK's largest-ever inquiry, the Infected Blood Inquiry (IBI), to investigate why men, women, and children in the UK were given infected blood and/or infected blood products.
- Following four and a half years' of hearings and evidence gathering, the Inquiry held its final public hearing on 3 February 2023, with the final report published in May 2024.
- Throughout the Inquiry, the Trust has provided full support by responding to multiple documentation disclosure requests and addressing various notifications of professional criticism.
- Upon receiving the final report, the Trust conducted a detailed analysis of the recommendations and identified the following summary areas where further action can be taken:

Preventing Future Harm to Patients (4av):

- Leaders should be required to record, consider, and respond to concerns about healthcare risks or harm. Action: *Ensure full compliance with Duty of Candour guidance.*

Staffing for Blood Transfusion Laboratories (7c):

- Transfusion labs should be adequately staffed and resourced. Action: *Conduct gap analysis and confirm mechanisms with commissioners to address any staffing needs.*

SHOT Report Implementation (7e):

- NHS organisations should implement SHOT recommendations and monitor outcomes. Action: *Conduct gap analysis, ensure digital reporting of transfusion outcomes through the new Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) implementation.*

Transfusion Outcome Framework (7f):

- Establish a framework to record transfusion outcomes and reduce incidents of incorrect transfusions. Action: *Integrate into LIMS implementation and ensure the framework is explicitly included.*

Hepatitis C Testing for Pre-1996 Transfusions (8a):

- Offer Hepatitis C testing for patients who received transfusions before 1996. Action: *Consider the development of a Trust-wide awareness programme and testing opportunities.*

Improving Haemophilia Care (9b & 9d):

- Implement peer review findings to enhance care quality. Develop multidisciplinary networks for haemophilia care, with necessary administrative and clinical resources. Action: *Continue to ensure compliance with care standards and work with commissioners to consider mechanisms to build regional networks.*

Promoting the Yellow Card System (10av):

- Increase awareness of the Yellow Card system for reporting issues with drugs or biological products. Action: *Consider education for staff and patients and explore opportunities for promotion.*

Supported by the CEO Office, these individual actions will be taken forward and a summary of progress will be provided every six months to the Quality and Safety Executive Committee which will subsequently be reported to the Quality Committee within its meeting assurance report.

IMPLICATIONS²

Aim of the STHFT Corporate Strategy		✓ Tick as appropriate
1	Deliver the Best Clinical Outcomes	✓
2	Provide Patient Centred Services	✓
3	Employ Caring and Cared for Staff	
4	Spend Public Money Wisely	
5	Create a Sustainable Organisation	
6	Deliver Excellent Research, Education and Innovation	

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Board of Directors is asked to:

NOTE the progress of the work to review and learn from the outcomes of the Infected Blood Inquiry.

SUPPORT the actions identified and the governance route for reporting.

APPROVAL PROCESS

Meeting	Date	Approved Y/N
Trust Executive Group	15/1/25	Y
Board of Directors	28/1/25	

¹ Status: A = Approval
A* = Approval & Requiring Board Approval
D = Debate
N = Note

² Against the six aims of the STHFT Corporate Strategy 'Making a Difference – The next Chapter 2022-27'