

14th May 2019

Chief Executive
2 Franklin Street
BELFAST
BT2 8DQ

BY EMAIL
[REDACTED]

Tel: 028 9536 3863
Email: FOI.BSO@hscni.net

Our Ref: FOI 1059

Dear [REDACTED]

Your request for information was received on May 13th 2019 and was dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please be advised that the Business Services Organisation (BSO) has now completed its search for the information you requested with regards to:

1. How many beneficiaries are registered with the Northern Ireland Infected Blood Support Scheme?

There are currently 98 beneficiaries registered and 1 estate of a deceased beneficiary registered

2. What categories are they in? Eg Chronic/Advanced Hep C, HIV, Co-Infected, Widows.

Category	Numbers
Chronic Hep C:	59
Advanced Hep C:	19
HIV:	1
Co Infected:	3
Widows/Widowers/Bereaved Partners:	16

3. How many Northern Irish victims of the Contaminated Blood Scandal have passed away since July 2017?

From July 2017 through to October 2017 the scheme was administered by the Alliance House Organisations in London. The information relating to the above dates can be requested by contacting Russell-Cooke Solicitors in London via:

Julie.Collingham@russell-cooke.co.uk

Russell Cooke, 2 Putney Hill, London, SW15 6AB.

In November 2017 the BSO became the administrator of the scheme and since then 2 deaths have occurred.



I hope that the information provided assists you. If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter.

In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to

Information Governance Manager,
2 Franklin Street,
Belfast,
BT2 8DQ

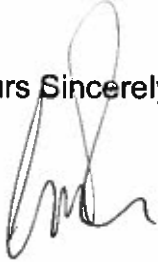
If, following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision making panel, you remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request, you may make a complaint under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the BSO has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

You can contact Information Commissioner at:

Website: www.ico.org.uk
Phone: 0303 123 1113
Email: casework@ico.org.uk
Post: Information Commissioner's Office
3rd Floor, 14 Cromac Place
Belfast
BT7 2JB

In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out. However the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Yours Sincerely,



Liam McIvor
Chief Executive