



Cynllun Cynorthwyo Gwaed
Heintiedig Cymru

Wales Infected Blood
Support Scheme

WIBSS
Velindre Cancer Centre
Velindre Road
Whitchurch
Cardiff
CF14 2TL

EBOST / EMAIL: wibss@wales.nhs.uk
Y WE / WEB: wibss.wales.nhs.uk
FFÔN / TELEPHONE: 02920 902280

To whom it may concern,

RE: Financial Assessments & WIBSS

This letter is to provide information regarding ex-gratia payments and associated capital from Wales Infected Blood Support Scheme (WIBSS) and the impact upon financial assessments relating to care fees.

We would wish to bring your attention to a disregard within the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 – Part 4 and 5 Code of Practice (Charging and Financial Assessment) that covers the ex-gratia payments made by WIBSS and the predecessor organisations known as “Alliance House”. This is set out in the Code and appears as a full disregard, applicable to all forms of income and capital as:

“An approved blood scheme, that is a scheme established or approved by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, or a trust established with funds provided by the Secretary of State, to provide compensation in respect of a person having been infected from contaminated blood products”.

As an approved blood scheme, WIBSS and its predecessor’s funds are to be disregarded in full. Further details giving a breakdown of the scenario can be found overleaf. If you have any further queries or would like assistance, please get in touch with us at WIBSS@wales.nhs.uk or by calling us on 02920 902280.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Ferrier

Welfare Rights Advisor
Wales Infected Blood Support Scheme



Cynllun Cynorthwyo Gwaed
Heintiedig Cymru

Wales Infected Blood
Support Scheme

Further Information

Set up to support those whom were infected with Hepatitis C or HIV as a result of contaminated NHS blood products, the 'Alliance House' trusts were ex-gratia payment schemes that made payments to individuals who met this criteria. Initially providing a lump sum dependant on the severity of an individuals health and then later, more regular financial support was paid monthly or quarterly.

Since 1 November 2017, financial support has been provided by devolved governmental organisations in England, Wales, Northern Ireland or Scotland, depending on where an individual was infected. Within Wales, this has now become the Wales Infected Blood Support Scheme (WIBSS), hosted by Velindre NHS Trust.

Please note, where there is evidence provided of ex-gratia payments, payable by Velindre NHS Trust these amounts set to be paid indefinitely. In addition to care fees, payments made are not subject to any income tax, nor are payments (comprising of both monthly and lump sum amounts) included when calculating entitlement to any means tested benefit. These regulations also apply to all previous schemes providing ex gratia financial support.

More information on how these payments are disregarded can be found in the following legislation;

- The Social Security (Infected Blood and Thalidomide) Regulations 2017
- The Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013
- The Infected Blood Schemes (Application of Sections 731, 733 and 734 of the Income Tax (Trading and Other Income) Act 2005) Order 2017