# UK Government Announces Compensation Payments for Victims of Contaminated Blood Scandal



The UK government has announced that victims of the contaminated blood scandal, which affected around 30,000 people between the 1970s and early 1990s, will receive compensation payments before the end of the year. Cabinet Office Minister John Glen detailed the compensation scheme, including additional interim payments of £210,000 to living infected beneficiaries within 90 days, starting in the summer. The total compensation framework, managed by the newly established Infected Blood Compensation Authority, is expected to cost over £10 billion. Sir Robert Francis will serve as interim chair of the authority to ensure trust and credibility.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and Labour leader Keir Starmer issued apologies for the scandal, acknowledging the failure of multiple government bodies in addressing the crisis. The Infected Blood Inquiry, led by Sir Brian Langstaff, found that the scandal was exacerbated by a "pervasive" cover-up. The announcement follows the publication of a 2,527-page report detailing the failures and the need for comprehensive compensation. Infected persons, their estates, and affected loved ones will be eligible to claim under various categories, including injury, social impact, autonomy, care needs, and financial losses.