

## Infected Blood Interim Compensation Payment

### Benefits and Tax disregards Information Sheet – UK wide information

#### Social Security Benefits

If you receive Universal Credit, Pension Credit, Housing Benefit, Income Support, income-related Employment and Support Allowance and/or income-based Jobseeker's Allowance you must inform the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) or the Department of Communities in Northern Ireland that you have received an Infected Blood Interim Compensation Scheme payment. You must also inform your local authority if you are only receiving Housing Benefit and do not receive any of the benefits listed above.

This payment will be disregarded when calculating your benefit entitlement.

You can contact DWP using the number at the top of any letters you have been sent about your benefit(s). DWP contact details can also be found on <http://www.gov.uk/>.

You can report a change of circumstances by signing into your Universal Credit account.

If you only receive Housing Benefit, you will need to contact your local authority.

If you live in Northern Ireland, you can contact the Department of Communities

Telephone helpline: **Make the Call** freephone (network charges may apply): [0800 232 1271](tel:08002321271)

Email: [makethecall@dfcni.gov.uk](mailto:makethecall@dfcni.gov.uk)

Information is available on NI Direct online at: [Make the Call Service | nidirect](#)

If you only receive Housing Benefit, you will need to contact the Northern Ireland Housing Executive on [0344 892 0902](tel:03448920902) (8.30 am to 5.00 pm).

#### Council Tax Reduction

If you are in receipt of a council tax reduction in England you must tell your local authority that you have received this payment. For persons of pension age the payment will automatically be disregarded when calculating your entitlement to a reduction. Councils are responsible for designing reduction schemes for working age people and the Government has encouraged them to disregard the payments.

If you are in receipt of a council tax reduction in Scotland you must tell your local authority that you have received this payment to ensure that it is disregarded when calculating your council tax reduction entitlement.

If you are in receipt of a council tax reduction in Wales you should inform your local authority that you have received this payment. However, your payment will automatically be disregarded when calculating your entitlement to a reduction.

#### Rates Relief Reduction (Northern Ireland)

If you are in receipt of rates relief in Northern Ireland (either through the Low Income Rate Relief Scheme or the 2017 Rate Rebate Scheme) you do not need to take any action.

## Social Care

If you are in receipt of local authority funded social care support, or if you are undergoing a social care financial assessment, in England you should inform your local authority that you have received this payment.

However, this will be disregarded by the local authority as a payment under an “approved blood scheme”.

The disregard is in the Care and Support (Charging and Assessment of Resources) Regulations 2014. Therefore, the local authority must not take this payment into account when determining how much you can afford to contribute towards your care costs either from your assets or from your income.

In Scotland, if you are in receipt of local authority funded social care support, or if you are undergoing a social care financial assessment, you should inform your local authority that you have received this payment.

If you are in residential care this payment should be disregarded by the local authority when they are determining how much you should contribute towards your care costs. This disregard is laid out in [The National Assistance \(Assessment of Resources\) Amendment \(Scotland\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2022](#) and associated [Charging for Residential Accommodation Guidance](#).

If you are receiving non-residential social care and support, for example care at home services, then this payment should also be disregarded under the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) guidance on [Charges Applying to Social Care Support for People at Home](#).

In Wales you should inform your local authority that you have received this payment. However, this will be disregarded by the local authority when calculating how much you will pay towards your care.

**Further information on the disregard regulations can be found at <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/eibss-resources>**