

# Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme

## Welcome to issue 11 of the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme (SIBSS) Newsletter

### Annual payment increase 10.1% to be paid from April 2023

The inflationary rate for payments in 2023-24 has been agreed at 10.1%. The rate is set for each financial year based on the rate of CPI for the previous September. See table below for revised payment levels.

| Category                             | Current Payment | 2023-24 Payment with 10.1% increase |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Hepatitis C (HCV) Stage 2            | £29,569         | £32,555                             |
| HCV Stage 2 (Widows)                 | £22,177         | £24,417                             |
| HCV Stage 1 - No noticeable impact   | £9,749          | £10,734                             |
| HCV Stage 1 - No noticeable (Widows) | £7,312          | £8,051                              |
| HCV Stage 1 – Moderately affected    | £19,498         | £21,467                             |
| HCV Stage 1 – Moderate (Widows)      | £14,624         | £16,100                             |
| HCV Stage 1 – Severely affected      | £29,569         | £32,555                             |
| HCV Stage 1 – Severe (Widows)        | £22,177         | £24,417                             |
| Coinfected                           | £46,469         | £51,162                             |
| Coinfected (Widows)                  | £34,852         | £38,372                             |
| HIV                                  | £29,569         | £32,555                             |
| HIV (Widows)                         | £22,177         | £24,417                             |

Letters/emails have been sent to all members in receipt of a regular payment. Please contact SIBSS if you have not received one. Please also check your junk mail.

## **UK Infected Blood Inquiry Update**

Many of you will be aware that the Infected Blood Inquiry published a second interim report on compensation before Easter. You can access a copy of the report in the News section on the Inquiry's website at <https://www.infectedbloodinquiry.org.uk/>. The Scottish Government has said they welcome the Inquiry's interim report and will consider it carefully. As the Inquiry recommends a UK-wide compensation scheme, the Scottish Government expects to work closely with the UK Government to take forward the development of a compensation scheme to build on the £100,000 interim compensation which was paid out last year. Unfortunately, we cannot say at this stage when further details will be available, but we will keep members updated when any information about the scheme is confirmed.

## **NSS Recognising Excellence Awards**

We are delighted to advise you that the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme Team were recently nominated then short listed for the Collaboration Award at the NSS Recognising Excellence Awards. We are very pleased to announce that we won. To be recognised and then nominated was indeed a fantastic achievement. We are a small team - Sally Richards, Emma Mauchline, Carol O'Connor and our new member of staff Sakshi Kumar, who joined when Lisa Scammell retired – so we are all extremely proud.

## **DWP / Benefits Help**

If there are any queries from DWP, HMRC or your local Council in relation to your income from the scheme we have guidance that we can provide. If you have any problems or you are invited to a formal interview then you may wish to call or email SIBSS staff – they can provide you with a letter to confirm the payments you have received from SIBSS and confirm that these payments should be disregarded. If your benefits are stopped, we have a Benefits Advisor that can help. Please contact us for more information.

## **Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme Survey 2023**

We will shortly be sending out our customer satisfaction survey. This is a short survey to enable us to improve our services to members. They have mainly been emailed but if you would prefer a printed copy in the mail then please let us know.

## Emails from SIBSS

If you receive emails from ourselves, can we ask that you periodically check your Junk folders as we have had a couple of messages to say that they seem to be ending up there instead of Inboxes.

## Did you know?

- If you do not have access to the internet, or prefer to talk directly, the SIBSS team are happy to give advice and assistance over the phone.
- If you receive a regular payment; you can request a monthly remittance advice to be sent to you.
- You need to inform us if you move address or your circumstances change. See link to change of detail form. [SIBSS Change of Details Form](#)

## Links Section

[Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme \(SIBSS\)](#)

[The Scottish Infected Blood Psychology Service \(SIBPS\)](#)

[Grant Information](#)

[Support Groups](#)

[Scottish Government Website](#)

[Written statements - Written questions, answers and statements - UK Parliament](#)

## Contact Us

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