



DWP

Department for
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21 NOV 2011

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Peter Stevens / Christopher FitzGerald
Alliance House
12 Caxton Street
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15 November 2011

Dear Mr Stevens and Mr FitzGerald,

Thank you for your letter of 28 October to the Minister for Disabled People concerning the disbursements made by The Caxton Foundation, Skipton Fund Ltd, The Eileen Trust, The Macfarlane Trust and MFET Ltd to persons who were infected with the HIV and Hepatitis C viruses through contaminated blood products supplied by the NHS.

You asked for an assurance that the disregards for these payments in the current benefit system would be carried forward into the new system created by the Welfare Reform Bill. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this issue and I can confirm that it is our intention to carry forward these disregards in the Universal Credit system created by the Bill. This will be done through new regulations on the treatment of income in Universal Credit, which will follow the Bill. We are developing the draft regulations and will share them with you when we are in a position to do so.

I hope this gives you the assurance you were seeking.

Yours sincerely,

Lord Freud

Minister for Welfare Reform