

# Infected Blood

Compensation Authority

**IBCA Board - Minutes and Actions**  
**21 October 2025, 13:00 - 16:00**  
**BP7118, Benton Park View, Newcastle**

## **Board Members:**

1. Sir Robert Francis - Interim Chair
2. David Foley - Interim CEO
3. Sir Rob Behrens - Interim Non-Executive Director
4. Russell Frith - Interim Non-Executive Director
5. Deborah Harris-Ugbomah - Interim Non-Executive Director
6. Helen Parker - Interim Non-Executive Director
7. Celine McLoughlin - Interim Director of Digital
8. Sindy Skeldon - Director of Operations
9. Caroline Patterson - CFO, CO and acting Interim IBCA CFO

## **Attendees:**

1. Hannah Probert - Deputy Director, Strategy and Governance
2. Victoria Brock - General Counsel
3. Rachel Forster - Director of Communications
4. John Kelly - Director of Data

## **Apologies:**

1. James Quinault - Director-General, Public Inquiries Response Unit

## **Welcome**

- 1.1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the Board meeting.
- 1.2. No interests were declared.

## **2. Minutes and Matters Arising**

- 2.1. The minutes were amended for accuracy.

### **2.2. Actions**

- 2.3. The Board reviewed the open actions on the IBCA action log. Members requested that the action log be reviewed and refreshed ahead of the next meeting **[Action]**.

## **3. CEO Update**

- 3.1. The CEO updated the Board on operational progress:
  - Compensation has been awarded to most of the registered living infected.
  - Registration has been opened to future cohorts.
  - 1,988 registrations have been submitted, as of 15 October.
  - There are critical risks around compensation design, and opening services for the deceased infected and the affected by the end of the year.
- 3.2. The Board congratulated staff on getting compensation out to most of the registered living infected.
- 3.3. The Board discussed the delivery risks around opening up the service to living infected but never compensated, and was updated on work to bring in new capabilities.
- 3.4. It was agreed that qualitative data should be shared with the Board to complement the claims data (for example, announcements) **[Action]**.
- 3.5. The Board requested that future packs be drafted without unexplained acronyms **[Action]**.
- 3.6. The Board discussed progress on IBCA Policy development, and was informed that the pay policy and speaking up policy would be brought to the Board for discussion **[Action]**.

#### **4. Risk Appetite**

- 4.1. The Board was given an overview of the risk appetite and risk policy. The policy and risk appetite had been seen by the Board previously and had been through the Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee (ARAC).
- 4.2. The Board requested more clarity on risk levels associated with the different elements outlined in the risk appetite and whether they matched the delivery risk expected within an organisation, such as the IBCA.
- 4.3. The Board requested that the risk appetite be set out in table form. The Board also requested to see the narrative around the risk levels. The Board agreed that they would review and discuss the updated risk appetite **[Action]**.
- 4.4. The Board approved the concept of a Performance and Quality Committee and requested that Terms of Reference be developed. Deborah Harris-Ugboma agreed to Chair the Committee, with future members to be agreed upon **[Action]**.

## 5. Public Board Update

- 5.1. The Board was updated on preparations to hold future Board meetings in public, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.
- 5.2. A paper was presented covering trials of new technology for public board meetings:
  - The use of technology for audiovisual transmission
  - Zoom webinar settings
- 5.3. The Board noted that testing and improvement of the use of technology were ongoing.
- 5.4. **Protocol:** The Board was invited to agree to the protocol for determining whether items should be discussed in public or private.
- 5.5. Members noted the Board should approve the minutes and confirm accuracy before they were published, and requested the timelines for publishing minutes be amended accordingly. The protocol was otherwise agreed **[Decision]**.
- 5.6. The Board discussed that the purpose of public board meetings was to improve transparency of Board decision-making.
- 5.7. The Board noted that the current room was not fit for purpose for Board meetings. Alternative venues would also need to be considered.
- 5.8. **Timing:** The Board agreed that a further development session in November should be held to ensure processes are ready **[Action]**.

## 6. Any Other Business

- 6.1. The Chair noted that he has asked Sir Rob Behrens to join the Remuneration Committee (REMCO), and appointed Helen Parker as Chair **[Action]**.
- 6.2. The Chair highlighted that there would be a new Performance and Quality Committee, and appointed Deborah Harris-Ugbomah as Chair.

**Date of next meeting: 18 November 2025**

**2025-10-21 Actions from the Board Meeting**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action No</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
21/10/25	Minutes and Matters arising	IBCAB 143	Amend the minutes to reflect the steer towards quarterly public board meetings	Hannah Probert	18 Nov 2025
21/10/25	Action log	IBCAB 144	Revise and shorten the Action log, removing items that are not for the Board	Hannah Probert	18 Nov 2025
21/10/25	CEO Update	IBCAB 145	Pay policy should come to the Board	HR	18 Nov 2025
21/10/25	Risk Appetite	IBCAB 146	Share a revised Risk Appetite statement and policy with the board, with a clear narrative and table setting out the risk levels.	PMO Team	18 Nov 2025
21/10/25	Public Board Update	IBCAB 147	Amend the protocol language to clarify that the Board should sign off minutes before they are published, and incorporate in the internal governance framework	Ashleigh Lamming	18 Nov 2025
21/10/25	Public Board Update	IBCAB 148	Governance Team to consider alternative venues for future meetings.	Governance Team	18 Nov 2025