



**Isle of Man**  
Government  
*Kailtyn Ellan Vannin*

# Department of Health and Social Care

*Rheynn Slaynt as Kiarail y Theay*

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**Interim Chief Executive: Kathryn Magson**

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**Our ref: 1615741**

12<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear ###

We write further to your request which was received on the 28<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and states:

**“Question 1:**

**How many residents currently are positive for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) on the Isle of Man?**

**Question 2:**

**What's the status on changing the law to allow Men who have sex with Men (MSM) people to give blood? Is a change in law likely to happen in the near future?”**

**Our response:**

**Question 1:**

**How many residents currently are positive for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) on the Isle of Man?**

The exact number is always difficult as people can choose to go off island for testing and onward care.

Currently, in Genitourinary Medicine (GUM) we are caring for 40 people living with HIV.

**Question 2:**

**What's the status on changing the law to allow Men who have sex with Men (MSM) people to give blood? Is a change in law likely to happen in the near future?**

Historically, the UK changed the law due to a new testing protocol for HIV that was impossible to implement on the IOM at the time. We have recently adopted these tests (Nucleic Acid Tests) and this will allow us to re-evaluate our position on MSM donations.

A departmental paper will be considered by the DHSC Executive Team during 2021 and we hope to see some progress shortly after that paper.

Please quote the reference number 1615741 in any future communications.

### **Your right to request a review**

If you are unhappy with this response to your freedom of information request, you may ask us to carry out an internal review of the response, by completing a complaint form and submitting it electronically or by delivery/post.

An electronic version of our complaint form can be found by going to our website at <https://services.gov.im/freedom-of-information/Review> . If you would like a paper version of our complaint form to be sent to you by post, please contact me and I will be happy to arrange for this. Your review request should explain why you are dissatisfied with this response, and should be made as soon as practicable. We will respond as soon as the review has been concluded.

If you are not satisfied with the result of the review, you then have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner for a decision on;

1. Whether we have responded to your request for information in accordance with Part 2 of the Freedom of Information Act 2015; or
2. Whether we are justified in refusing to give you the information requested.

In response to an application for review, the Information Commissioner may, at any time, attempt to resolve a matter by negotiation, conciliation, mediation or another form of alternative dispute resolution and will have regard to any outcome of this in making any subsequent decision.

More detailed information on your right to a review can be found on the Information Commissioner's website at [www.inforights.im](http://www.inforights.im).

Should you have any queries concerning this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Further information about freedom of information requests can be found at [www.gov.im/foi](http://www.gov.im/foi).

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

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