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Stephen Johnson is given money to care for his brother... a year after he died

NHS FINALLY COUGHS UP CARE COSTS

By James Wilson

A MAN has won £55,000 from the NHS after a four year battle.

Stephen Johnson has spent the past three years battling to recover the cost of his late brother's care from the NHS.

His brother Rod Johnson suffered two strokes in four days and died at Leighton Hospital on March 27, 2008. He first suffered a stroke in May 2005.

Stephen, of Strawberry Lane, Acton Bridge, has been fighting ever since to get the NHS to refund the cost of the 55-year-old's treatment while he was in Redwalls nursing home, in Sandiway.

The authorities refused to pay at the time, saying that they would only meet all costs if it was deemed there was a medical need but they said Rod's care was social, which is means tested.

As a result, he had to pay for his care.

But Stephen has now received a letter from Central and Eastern Cheshire PCT saying that they

will reimburse the amount that was paid out.

Stephen said: "I have had a letter saying they have given in but there is no apology even though it's a giving-in letter."

"It has taken me three years to get here."

"It's just a sense of nothing really, it's a hollow feeling. All sorts of things have happened to me since this has begun and now I have their response."

The money owed to Stephen has been set at £55,000 but the NHS has yet to transfer the fees.

Stephen added: "They have asked my lawyers to send them the documents which I got after Rod died in March last year."

"We won the case out of court because the NHS didn't want the adverse publicity."

"If I had gone to the High Court there wouldn't have been a problem in me winning."

What do you think about the outcome for Stephen?

Let us know at northwichguardian.co.uk/forum.



Stephen Johnson with the letter confirming the NHS has agreed to pay for his brother's healthcare costs

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