

Neale Hanvey said: "My position on covid vaccine injury is not news. I have spoken in debates, at committee and detailed my concerns in a column in the National newspaper.

"My basic starting point is the simple fact that any agent has the propensity to cause injury or harm. That is why we have clinical trials to investigate efficacy, dose escalation and short and long-term iatrogenic effects. To deny this simple truth is indefensible for any clinician.

"In the immediate wake of last week's contaminated blood scandal much was made of the importance of the duty of candour, indeed it was a key focus at PMQs. That duty is absolute and applies to clinical, political and journalists equally. In 1993 when I first started working in haematology at University College London Hospitals, I cared for patients who had been infected with HIV from contaminated factor VIII. Everyone knew that was the source of the infection, but failures to observe the duty of candour meant it took more than thirty years to get to the truth, and an apology. That's unacceptable.

"Despite prior denials Astrazeneca recently admitted its vaccine can cause the serious blood coagulation condition called Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS). They insist the in only in very rare cases, but that is an assertion, not a fact. Given the resistance of big pharma and governments to even acknowledge the potential of vaccine injury, there has been no programme of surveillance to assess the prevalence of vaccine complications so no can say with any certainty how serious the problem is.

"I have spoken out on this issue, not because it is easy, but because it is the right thing to do. I have constituents whose lives have been deeply impacted by the covid vaccine, and they are my priority.

"For senior clinicians to suggest politicians shouldn't ask questions they don't like is disgraceful and strikes at the heart of the duty of candour. My comments and concerns are grounded in the Declaration of Helsinki and international GCP principles. There is mounting concerns about mRNA as a technology and a major drug company has now admitted their vaccine can cause injury causing them to remove it from the market.

"Every single question I have raised in parliament and directly with ministers is backed up in the scientific literature, and I will never apologise for doing my job of asking difficult questions when they clearly have merit.

"For senior clinicians to suggest it is unacceptable for MPs to advocate for their constituents is the height of irresponsibility. For them to seek to de-platform others who may have contrary view to them is a political act not a scientific one and it undermines scientific discourse and intellectual rigor.

"The basic fact is, that I am speaking at an event to raise funds for people who are suffering after their covid vaccine, and just like speaking in parliament I don't share the views of everyone in the room, but I defend their right to hold and debate them."