

“Over the past few months, we have worked hard to build our team”

Newsletter

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Foreword by Lord Brodie

The Scottish Hospitals Inquiry was launched on 03 August 2020 to investigate concerns relating to the planning, design, construction, commissioning, and maintenance of the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow, and the Royal Hospital for Children and Young People and Department of Clinical Neurosciences in Edinburgh.

We are now several months into the work of the Inquiry and as its Chair, I will ensure it is independent, thorough and fair. Your role in providing information will help the Inquiry uncover the variety of issues that have impacted on patient safety and care.

Over the past few months, we have worked hard to build our team, led by the Secretary to the Inquiry, David Anderson. Since August we have also been joined by Jim Logie, Solicitor to the Inquiry and Alastair Duncan QC, Counsel to the Inquiry.

With stages one and two of the Inquiry complete, we are now preparing to move onto stage three, “Preliminary Investigation” in the New Year. We will continue to meet with families, patients and other key stakeholders to identify potential witnesses and expert specialists. We may also decide on further areas of consideration within the Inquiry’s remit.

Further information on the stages of the Inquiry are detailed on our website, where you can keep up to date on the Inquiry and its progress.

If you wish to contact us and provide any information you believe to be relevant, please do so. Contact details can be found at the bottom of this newsletter. All enquiries will be dealt with in confidence.

Lord Brodie
Chair, Scottish Hospitals Inquiry

Where to find us

In November, we launched our official website www.hospitalsinquiry.scot/ offering information you may need to learn more about the remit and work of the Scottish Hospitals Inquiry. Further updates will be made to the website over the coming weeks and months as we progress through the ten different stages detailed

in the Order of Events www.hospitalsinquiry.scot/order-events.

Meanwhile, you can find out more about the Inquiry’s terms of reference, structure, procedures and guidelines, as well as the key members of the senior team.

Our Twitter page [@ScotHospInquiry](https://twitter.com/ScotHospInquiry) is also regularly updated with news.



Core participants



In November, the Inquiry announced that applications for core participant status would be received until 31 December 2020.

Under the Inquiry Rules 2007, core participants can include individuals, organisations or entities with a significant interest in an important aspect of the matters relating to the Inquiry.

Those designated as core participants may participate in the Inquiry in a number of ways including:

- ▼ Making an opening and closing statement at certain hearings;
- ▼ Their recognised legal representative may apply to the Chairman to ask questions of a witness; and
- ▼ Receiving a copy of the report in advance of publication.

The Chair will consider applications for core participant status assessed against the following criteria:

- ▼ Played, or may have played, a direct and significant role in relation to the matters to which the Inquiry relates;
- ▼ Has a significant interest in an important aspect of the matters to which the Inquiry relates; or
- ▼ May be subject to explicit or significant criticism during the Inquiry proceedings or in the report, or in any interim report.

If you wish to be considered for designation as a core participant there is still time to make your application.

You can find more information about Core Participants on this page: hospitalsinquiry.scot/core-participants

Please contact us on legal@hospitalsinquiry.scot if you have any questions.

You do not need to be designated as a core participant to give information to the Inquiry. Anyone with information relevant to the [Terms of Reference](#) can get in touch.



Information on how to apply to be a core participant can be found [here](#).

Please contact us on legal@hospitalsinquiry.scot if you have any questions related to this.

Applications close on 31 December 2020

You do not need to be a core participant to submit information. Read about this [here](#).



Affected persons and request for information



Several parties, including representatives of patients and their families at both hospitals, have already come forward and information that has been provided has helped to inform some specific lines of investigation that we will pursue.

We encourage anyone with information that may be relevant to the Inquiry to come forward. Information may include what you can tell us about your

experience or be in the form of any documents, photos or videos that you hold. If you are in doubt about whether your information is relevant, please contact our team on public@hospitalsinquiry.scot.

You can give us information either in writing or by talking to us directly by phone. The Inquiry team may subsequently discuss with you whether it would assist the Inquiry for you to appear at a hearing.



Communication campaign

In December Lord Brodie issued a video update urging people with information that could assist with fulfilling the Inquiry's Terms of Reference to get in touch. It also gave details of the progress made over the four months since launch and laid out the priorities for 2021. You can view the video [here](#).

Contact us:

E: public@hospitalsinquiry.scot

T: 0808 196 5000

lines are open from 0830 to 1700; local rates apply.

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