

November

10

2021



Update

Please see our other easy read information if you want to know more about the Inquiry.

Introduction



To take part in the inquiry you do not need to

- have a lawyer
- or be a **Core Participant**.

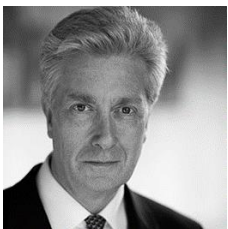
A **Core Participant** has a big role to play in what the Inquiry is about.



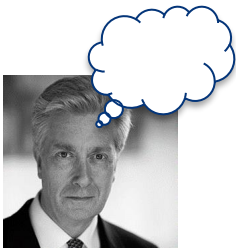
Everyone's **evidence** is important to the Inquiry.

Evidence is anything that you see, experience, read, or are told, that helps us find out what happened.

What the law says about Core Participants



The Inquiry Chair is in charge of the Inquiry. He can make someone a Core Participant if they are happy to be one.



To see if someone should be a Core Participant the Chair thinks about

1. how big their part is in the inquiry
2. how important inquiry findings are to them
3. if a lot of bad things have been said about them.



This update says how we will work with **Core Participants**.

For more information see

- [Protocols on Core Participants](#) and
- [Funding of Legal Representation](#)

Core Participants



The Chair makes people Core Participants if it helps the inquiry to

- look into the abuse of patients at Muckamore Abbey Hospital
- act in a fair way
- work in a quick way
- and save money.

Abuse is when someone hurts you or treats you badly.



Patients and family groups that asked for this Inquiry are

- Action for Muckamore and
- The Society of Parents and Friends of Muckamore Abbey Hospital.



The Chair has met with these groups. They have good knowledge and experience of the issues the inquiry will look at.

The Chair will make people in these groups Core Participants if they are happy to be one.



You have to apply to be a Core Participant.

Anyone can apply.

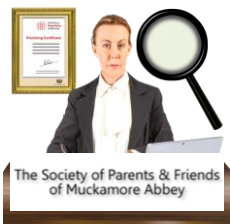
Lawyers



A Core Participant has a right to find their own lawyer.



Action for Muckamore already has a lawyer.
The Chair is happy with this.



The Chair would like the Society of Parents and Friends of Muckamore Abbey Hospital to have their own lawyer too.



Inquiry rules say that Core Participants from groups that are like each other should have the same lawyers. This is because it costs less and is better.

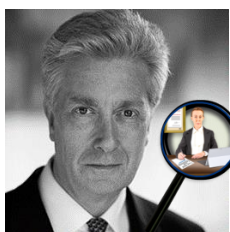


The chair would like lawyers for

Group 1: Action for Muckamore.

Group 2: The Society of Parents and Friends of Muckamore Abbey Hospital.

Group 3: People not part of groups 1 and 2.



The Chair will find a law firm for group 3. This law firm will be independent from the Inquiry.

Group 2 can use the same law firm as group 3 if they want.



Information about all law firms will be put on the Inquiry's website.

Paying for lawyers



If Core Participants share lawyers they are more likely to get public money to pay for them.

Public money is more likely to pay for law firms for groups 1, 2 and 3.

Core Participants who do not fit into groups 1, 2 or 3 may still have their lawyers paid for if they share a law firm with others. For example, hospital staff.

Keeping up to date with the Inquiry



There will be meetings all the way through the Inquiry for anyone with experience of Muckamore.



There will be updates and written copies of what has been said at the Inquiry on our website.

mahinquiry.org.uk

Contacting Us



If you have any problems or questions about this update please contact solicitor@mahinquiry.org.uk