## Muckamore Abbey Hospital Inquiry



2022



# Update

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

#### **Hearing Day Information**



**Hearings** are meetings where we listen to information.

The first hearing is happening soon.

Hearing days start at 10am and finish by 4.30 pm. There will be breaks.



Inquiry hearings will not normally happen on

- Fridays
- Bank Holidays
- · or special holidays.

#### **Core Participants**



The Society of Parents & Friends of Muckamore Abbey









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

At the moment our Core Participants are

- some people from Action for Muckamore
- some people from the Society of Parents and Friends of Muckamore Abbey Hospital
- The Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
- The Department of Health
- The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA)
- The Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI).

#### **Documents and witness statements**



A **witness statement** is your story about what happened and what you saw. After it is written down by someone it is signed by you.



We now have a lot of documents from different people and organisations. The Inquiry team are looking at the information to see what it tells them.



We have given some people and organisations more time to give us extra documents.



109 people who would like to be witnesses have contacted us.



All people giving **evidence** about the treatment of patients have now been contacted. We call these **Phase 1 Witnesses.** 

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



We have started taking witness statements. This has been happening more slowly than we would like.

# The Police Service of Northern Ireland and the Public Prosecution service



We now have a **Memorandum of Understanding** with the police and the courts.

- It says how we will work with them.
- It will make sure our work does not stop them from doing their jobs.



This Memorandum of Understanding is on our website <a href="https://www.mahinquiry.org">www.mahinquiry.org</a>.

## The Inquiry Building



The Inquiry building is now ready to hold hearings at 31 Gordon Street

Belfast
BT1 2LG

It opens to the public on 23 May 2022.

You see and hear what is happening in the hearing rooms

- from other rooms in the Inquiry building
- or on our website.



We are looking for **stenographers**. They write down what is being said at hearings.



Witnesses will be able to give **evidence** from other places. This can be anonymous. This means no one will know who gave the evidence.

#### Week starting 23rd May 2022



During this week, Inquiry hearing rooms and building can be visited by

- Core Participants
- · people who give evidence
- and members of the public.



Visits can be organised by contacting the Secretary to the Inquiry, Jaclyn Richardson.



#### Why witnesses should visit

If you are a witness or might be a witness then it would be a good idea to visit. You can

- · see where you will give evidence
- and ask the Inquiry team any questions you have.

There will be other chances to do this.



#### Why Core Participants should visit

Core Participants can see if any communication equipment they use works with our computers.

These computers will write down what they tell us.



#### Week commencing 13 June 2022



Any Core Participants who have not yet spoken will say

- what they think
- and how they will prove it.

This is called an **opening address**.



The Inquiry panel will look at CCTV video.



## Week commencing 27 June 2022



Spoken evidence.



## Week commencing 4 July 2022



Spoken evidence.

#### Recommencement



The Inquiry will start again in September.



Hearings for 2022 will end on the 8th December.



We will give more information about hearing weeks at the end of the hearing in July 2022.