



**CHAIR'S UPDATE ON REPORT
ISSUED ON 24 SEPTEMBER 2025**

1. The Panel heard closing submissions between 03 and 10 March this year. Then in June 2025, the Panel heard from 15 individuals who provided relevant and contemporaneous accounts of their recent experience in relation to resettling patients out of Muckamore Abbey Hospital.
2. We are now at the six month mark since closing submissions were received. I thought it would be helpful to provide an update on the Inquiry's work and progress on the final report.
3. As I hope will be appreciated, the Panel has the task of reviewing a considerable amount of information including the evidence of over 180 oral witnesses and a total of over 300 statements of witnesses some of whom produced 100s of pages of exhibits.
4. At the end of the hearings, I indicated that I had written to the Minister and said that I hoped we would be able to provide a report towards the end of this year and we would make our best effort to do so. However, the size and importance of the task has meant that, although the Panel has been working diligently on the report, it will not now be published before March of next year. I have informed the Health Minister of that fact.
5. It is important that any report is well founded upon the evidence and properly referenced and further, that any individual or organisation who may be criticised in the report should, where required, receive a warning of that criticism and be given a reasonable opportunity to respond. I hope to be able to begin sending out warning letters this year.

6. The Panel and the Inquiry team will continue to work to try to ensure that the report is produced as soon as it properly can be.

Tom Kark KC
Chair MAHI