

**MUCKAMORE ABBEY HOSPITAL INQUIRY
RESTRICTION ORDER
PURSUANT TO SECTION 19 OF THE INQUIRIES ACT 2005**

**Restriction Order No. 101
(Ciphering of Forenames in Report and Transcripts)**

I have power under section 19(1)(b) of the Inquiries Act 2005 to make orders restricting disclosure or publication of evidence or documents given, produced or provided to an Inquiry. I also have power under section 20(4) of the Act to vary or revoke such orders by making a further Order in the course of the Inquiry.

The Panel's final report will include quotes from the evidence of patients and family members of patients who gave evidence in the course of the Inquiry. The effect of Restriction Order No. 2 (Patient Anonymity) is that a person who is or has been a patient at Muckamore Abbey Hospital is entitled to anonymity, but that entitlement to anonymity can be waived on request by the patient or by a person with authority to waive anonymity on the patient's behalf. Many witnesses chose not to waive anonymity but partial waiver of anonymity occurred in respect of a number of witnesses in the course of the patient experience evidence, to the extent that the forenames of patients and their relatives were used in evidence.

In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Inquiry, the PPS and the PSNI, I have acceded to a request by the PPS that, where waiver of anonymity occurred with respect to a patient who is the subject of alleged abuse in the forthcoming criminal proceedings, the forename of the patient shall be replaced in the final report and in the relevant transcripts by the applicable patient 'P' cipher (and the forename of any family member of such patient ciphered accordingly).

I am satisfied that this measure is conducive to the Inquiry fulfilling its Terms of Reference and is necessary in the public interest having regard to the matters specified in section 19(4), and to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Inquiry, the PSNI and the PPS. Specifically, I am satisfied that this measure is necessary to protect against any potential adverse impact on the criminal justice process.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. where waiver of anonymity occurred with respect to a patient who is the subject of alleged abuse in the forthcoming criminal proceedings, the forename of the patient shall be replaced in the final report and in the relevant transcripts by the applicable patient 'P' cipher;
2. the forename of any family member of such patient shall be ciphered; and
3. ciphering shall be applied as appropriate to any closing submission and transcript in which such forenames are referenced.

Any threat to break this Order, or any breach of it, can be certified to the High Court under section 36 of the Inquiries Act 2005, which will deal with it as though the breach had occurred in proceedings before that Court.

Made by the Chair on 05 June 2026

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom Kark'.

Tom Kark KC
Chair