

HER MAJESTY'S CORONER FOR SOUTH YORKSHIRE (EAST DISTRICT) AND WEST
YORKSHIRE (WEST)



Hillsborough Inquests

Directions from the Preliminary Hearing of 7 October 2013

Applications for interested person status

1. Pursuant to section 47(2)(m) of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009, the following are recognised as interested persons in these inquests: retired Chief Superintendents Terry Wain and Donald Denton; former Deputy Chief Constable Peter Hayes; and former Assistant Chief Constable Stuart Anderson.

Disclosure

2. All documentary materials held by interested persons that are potentially relevant to the inquests shall (subject to legally valid objections) be disclosed to the Coroner, or to those conducting investigations on his behalf, by **13 December 2013**. Any legal objections to disclosure shall be notified (with particulars) by the same date.
3. Thereafter, and until the conclusion of the inquests, all interested persons shall remain under a continuing obligation to disclose to the Coroner, or to those conducting investigations on his behalf, such materials as they hold that are potentially relevant to the inquests. That duty shall be subject to any legally valid objections to disclosure of specific documents, and any such objections shall be notified promptly to the Coroner.
4. The Inquests Team shall complete the review and disclosure of material digitised by the Hillsborough Independent Panel by **8 January 2014**, subject to the need to resolve any legal objections or obstacles to disclosure.

5. The Inquests Team shall review and disclose other material coming into their hands as soon as practicable, prioritising the disclosure of the most apparently relevant and useful material.

Audio-visual materials

6. Interested persons shall be at liberty to make applications for relaxation of conditions on access conditions for audio-visual material. Such applications shall be made individually and in writing to solicitors to the inquests, and shall give details of security precautions to be taken.

Expert Evidence

7. The Inquests Team are to obtain and disclose expert reports as follows:
 - (a) an overview pathology report by Professor Crane, Professor Ruddy and Dr Shepherd, which is to be disclosed to the representatives of families of the bereaved by **18 October 2013** and to other interested persons by **28 October 2013**;
 - (b) individual pathology reports on each of the deceased, which are to be disclosed in stages thereafter;
 - (c) a structural engineering report by Dr Cutlack, which is to be disclosed to interested persons by **29 November 2013**;
 - (d) a report on pre-hospital emergency care by Mr Whitmore and Dr Moore, which is to be disclosed to interested persons by **29 November 2013**;
 - (e) a report on policing by Mr Hopkins, which is to be disclosed to interested persons by **3 February 2014**.
8. Interested persons may put written questions, observations or comments regarding the overview report to the pathology experts within 14 days of the date on which the overview report is sent to all interested persons. Such documents shall be supplied to the solicitors to the inquests, who will forward them to the experts. The experts shall respond to the solicitors to the inquests regarding any questions, observations or comments from interested persons within 21 days of receiving them

9. Interested persons may make written representations on documents or other materials to be considered by the pathology experts for the purpose of the individual pathology reports. Any such representations shall be supplied to the solicitors to the inquests within 14 days of the date on which the overview report is sent to all interested persons.
10. Interested persons may put written questions, observations or comments to each other instructed expert within 14 days of the date on which that expert's report is sent to all interested persons. Such documents shall be supplied to the solicitors to the inquests, who will forward them to the experts. In each case, the expert shall respond to the solicitors to the inquests regarding any questions, observations or comments from interested persons within 14 days of receiving them.

Lists of Relevant Individuals

11. Each interested person shall, by **4 November 2013**, provide to the solicitors to the inquests a list of individuals of whom that interested person is aware who are thought to have potentially relevant evidence and for whom that person has personal details and/or contact information. The lists shall provide such contact information as the interested person has for each individual named, and shall identify those individuals who are thought to be deceased or incapable of giving evidence. If no such list is provided by an interested person by the date specified above, an explanation shall be given.
12. Interested persons shall provide any amendments or additions to their lists on an ongoing basis.
13. The lists provided shall not be considered to be evidence or submissions, and shall not be disclosed to other interested persons.

Communications regarding Procedural Matters

14. Any interested person wishing to raise a procedural matter should, wherever possible, raise it in the first instance by correspondence with solicitors to the inquests.