



11 March 2022

**The Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AB**

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for providing me with draft Terms of Reference for the UK Covid-19 Inquiry. I will today begin gathering views on them from the public, especially from those who have experienced the most hardship and suffering.

This public consultation will run for four weeks, until 7 April 2022. It includes an online survey, to which I am inviting anyone who has an interest in the Inquiry to respond.

Over the next four weeks, the Inquiry team and I will be travelling around the United Kingdom to meet with bereaved families, community and support groups, professional and other bodies. It is also my intention, once the Inquiry has been officially established, to provide ways people across the UK can share their experiences of the pandemic with the Inquiry. I will be seeking views on the best way to do so, as part of this consultation.

The consultation will be independent, open, and thorough; the same standards I intend to apply throughout the life of the Inquiry. I will listen attentively and sympathetically to what the public has to say and will consider their feedback before recommending to you any changes to the draft Terms of Reference.

Once the consultation has closed, I will make any recommendations to you promptly, so that you may consider them and approve the final version. The sooner I have your approval, the sooner we can begin the formal stages of the Inquiry.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H Hallett', with a horizontal line underneath.

Baroness Hallett DBE
Chair