



DIRECTIONS FOLLOWING THE MODULE 2A

PRELIMINARY HEARING ON 21 MARCH 2023

I am grateful to the Core Participants who made oral and written submissions for the second Preliminary Hearing in Module 2A. In particular, I thank them for the commitment they have shown and the assistance they have offered and continue to offer Module 2A. At present I do not consider it necessary to issue a further ruling but I make the following directions:

1. Public hearing

The Module 2A public hearing will take place in Scotland. The start date for the public hearing is 15 January 2024. The public hearing is listed for three weeks. I will keep the length of the public hearing under review as Module 2A progresses but wish to emphasise that this direction relates only to the hearing for Module 2A. Other modules will also focus on Scottish issues.

2. List of Issues

On or before 12 May 2023, Module 2A will provide the Core Participants with a provisional, detailed list of issues to be examined in Module 2A.

3. Experts

As I recently ruled in relation to Module 2, the Inquiry will obtain expert evidence from a suitably qualified expert, or experts, on the nature and degree of pre-pandemic structural racism and structural discrimination. I will adopt the same approach in Module 2A as I did in Module 2. I therefore direct that the expert evidence on structural racism and structural discrimination being commissioned for Module 2 should include evidence on those issues as they pertain to Scotland.

4. Next Preliminary Hearing

A third Preliminary Hearing in Module 2A will be scheduled for 24 October 2023. This will allow a sufficient window between the date of the next Preliminary Hearing and the start of the oral hearings. This third Preliminary Hearing is likely to be a hybrid hearing with members of the Module 2A legal team participating from Scotland where they will have been conducting in-person meetings with CPs and material providers in the days prior to and following the Preliminary Hearing. Further details will be provided in due course.

5. I continue to keep under review all matters, whether referred to in the written and/or oral submissions made by the Core Participants or not.

Rt Hon Baroness Heather Hallett DBE
4 April 2023