



**Easy  
Read**



# September Newsletter

From the UK Covid-19 Inquiry team



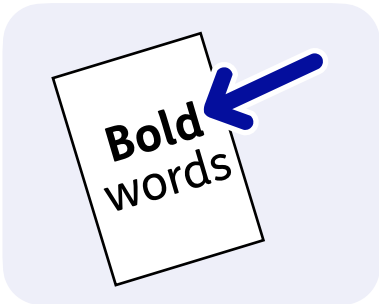
# Easy Read



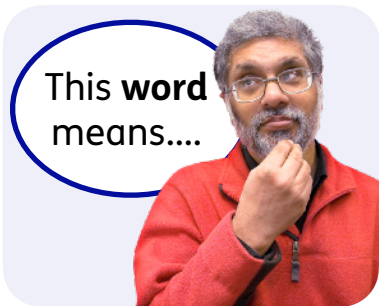
This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. You may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker.



These are words that some people will find hard. When you see a bold word, we will explain it in the next sentence.



Blue and underlined words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

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# About this newsletter



This newsletter is from Martin Smith and the UK Covid-19 Inquiry team.



We are the group that is looking at how the UK dealt with Covid-19.



We are looking at what could be done better in the future.

This will mean the UK is more ready for an emergency in the future.



This newsletter will tell you about the work we did in September 2023.

# A message from Martin Smith



My name is Martin Smith. I am the solicitor to the Covid-19 Inquiry.



I give legal advice to the Inquiry, to help them follow the law in the work they are doing.



This includes the way the Inquiry:

- Collects and looks after information.



- Speaks to people involved in the Inquiry.



- Gets ready for public hearings - these are when people tell the Inquiry what they know about Covid-19.

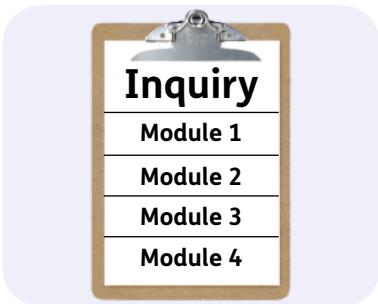
In this newsletter we will tell you more about:



- The way the Inquiry collects and looks after information.



- What is being done to involve more children and young people in the Inquiry.



- The Modules - these are the different parts of the work the Inquiry is doing.

# Tell us what you think about our newsletters



Lots of people read our email newsletters now.

Thank you to everyone who has already told us what they think.



We would like to hear from more people about:

- How useful you find the newsletters.



- What we can do to make them better.



Please fill in this form to tell us what you think:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1uQH0m84bJoJ4zJrzkWfqXBRWFwtUAZ6z4q8ojTnIco/viewform?edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1uQH0m84bJoJ4zJrzkWfqXBRWFwtUAZ6z4q8ojTnIco/viewform?edit_requested=true)

# Collecting and looking after information



The Inquiry collects information from different people and organisations that are involved in the Inquiry.



We follow the law about how to use and keep the information in the right way.

## Every Story Matters



**Every Story Matters** is a listening project for people to speak up about what Covid-19 was like for them.

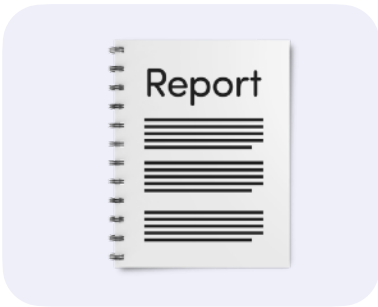


People who share their experiences through Every Story Matters do not give personal information, like their names.





The Inquiry is only collecting information about what happened to people, not who the people are.



This information will then be used to write a report about the most common things that happened during Covid-19.

## Post and email

If you have information that would be helpful to the Inquiry you can contact the Correspondence Team by:



- Post:  
FREEPOST  
UK Covid-19 Public Inquiry



- Email:  
[contact@covid19.public-inquiry.uk](mailto:contact@covid19.public-inquiry.uk)



All post and emails will be checked and anything important will be passed to the Inquiry's legal team.

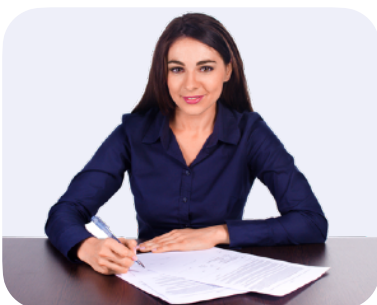


## Requests to witnesses

**Witnesses** are people who have important information that is helpful to the Inquiry.



When witnesses describe the information they have it is called a 'statement'.



The Inquiry needs witnesses to put their statements in writing so that they can be used as proof of what happened.

**We need a  
written  
statement**

When the Inquiry asks witnesses for a written statement, or for more information about their statement, it is called a '**Rule 9 request**'.



A **Rule 9 request** is one of the official rules that all Inquiries have to follow. The rules were set up in 2006.

# Children and young people



The Inquiry wants to hear from more children and young people about what Covid-19 was like for them.

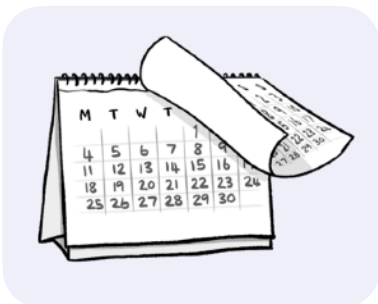


We are setting up a new listening project, like Every Story Matters, that will just be for children and young people.



The information we collect from this new project will help the Inquiry understand more about:

- What happened during Covid-19.



- What needs to change in the future.

# Module 2



The Inquiry's work is split into parts called **modules**.

These **modules** look at different things to do with what happened during Covid-19.



Module 1 is now done and we will be starting Module 2 on 3 October 2023.



Module 2 is about all about decisions made during Covid-19.



This Module will look at the decisions about Covid-19 made by:

- The UK government.



- Government staff.



- Governments in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.



- Local councils.

# Updates on the other Modules



Module 3 is all about how Covid-19 affected the healthcare systems in the UK.



Public hearings for Module 3 will take place in autumn 2024.



Module 4 is all about how vaccines and other treatments helped to deal with Covid-19.



Public hearings for Module 4 will take place in Summer 2024.

# Every Story Matters events



We have started our community events where people in local areas can meet together and share what Covid-19 was like for them.



The first community events took place in Liverpool between 10 and 13 September.



The next community event is in Belfast on 30 September.



This will be part of a conference called the 'Northern Ireland Covid-19 Bereaved Families for Justice Conference'.



The conference supports people who have a family member who died during Covid-19.

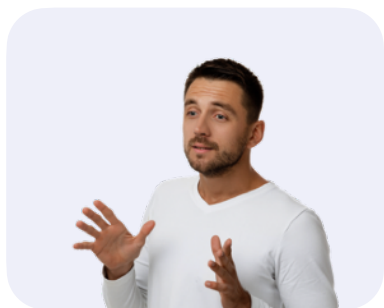


# Get our weekly updates



We have been sending out weekly email updates about the hearings.

The email updates will tell you:



- Who spoke at the hearings that week.



- What they talked about.



If you would like to get these when Module 2 starts, you can sign up for them here:

[www.covid19.public-inquiry.uk/newsletter](http://www.covid19.public-inquiry.uk/newsletter)

# Find out more



You can look at our website:

[www.covid19.public-inquiry.uk](http://www.covid19.public-inquiry.uk)

If you need more information you can contact us by:



- Post:

FREEPOST

UK COVID-19 Public Inquiry



That's all you have to write on the envelope. You do not need a stamp.



- Email:

[contact@covid19.public-inquiry.uk](mailto:contact@covid19.public-inquiry.uk)

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