



**Easy
Read**



October Newsletter

From the UK Covid-19 Inquiry team



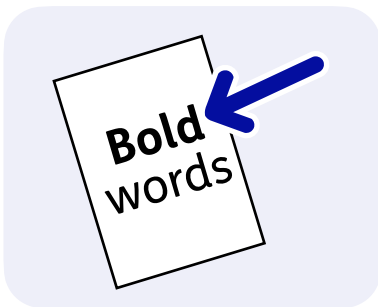
Easy Read



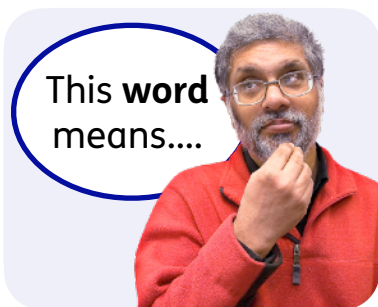
This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



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 Baroness Hallett 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 October 2023.

A message from Baroness Hallett



My name is Baroness Hallett. I am the Chair of the Covid-19 Inquiry.



This means I am in charge of the Inquiry team's work and I lead the **public hearings**.



The **public hearings** are when people tell the Inquiry team what they know about Covid-19.



I want to thank everyone who has spoken at the public hearings so far.



I know lots of people want to share what Covid-19 was like for them. But not everyone can speak at the public hearings.



This is why I am supporting people to take part in the **Every Story Matters** project.

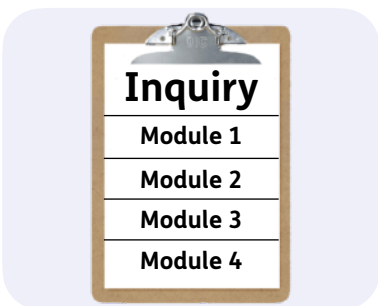


Every Story Matters is a way for people to tell the Inquiry what Covid-19 was like for them.

In this newsletter we will tell you more about:



- The Every Story Matters project.



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

Tell us what you think about our newsletters

We would like to know:



- 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 about our newsletters:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeK5pEEn07m1L4zVYTG7JYXIF4JDvCd7yPPOYQi2fnpY2wgEg/viewform>



The form does not take very long to fill in.

Every Story Matters



We have started Every Story Matters events.

People can go to these events and share what Covid-19 was like for them in person.



They can share their stories with each other, and with the members of the Inquiry team that are there.

We have already done Every Story Matters events in:



- Liverpool.
- Belfast.
- Birmingham.
- Exeter.
- London.
- Wrexham.
- Carlisle.



Members of the Inquiry team also went to the Bereaved Families for Justice Cymru event on 18 November.

Smaller events

We are planning to have smaller Every Story Matters events that are just for:

- Health and social care workers.



- Carers.



- People who live in care homes.



If you can help us meet with these groups of people in these areas, please email us at:

engagement@coronavirus.inquiry.gov.uk



Your events



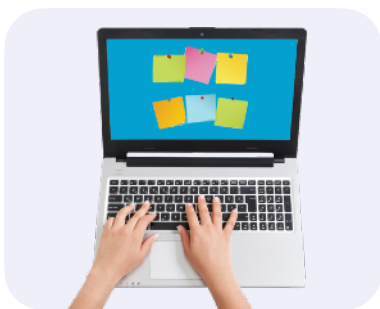
If you are having your own event where people can get together and share their Covid-19 stories, we might be able to take part.



If you would like us to take part in your event, please email us at:

engagement@covid19.public-inquiry.uk

Bereaved forum



A **forum** is like an online space where people can post messages and chat with other people.



Our **bereaved forum** is for people who have a family member who died during Covid-19.



These people can share what Covid-19 was like for them on the bereaved forum.

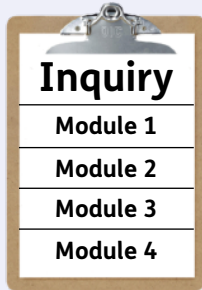


We ask people who take part in the bereaved forum to give us advice about our projects, like Every Story Matters.



If you are interested in being asked to give us advice, please email: engagement@covid19.public-inquiry.uk

Module work



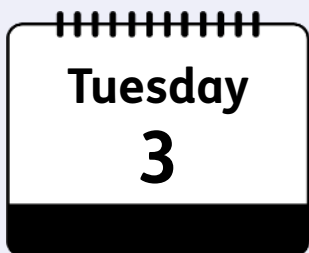
The Inquiry's work is split into parts called **modules**.

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



We are still going through lots of information and documents that have been used in the public hearings.

Module 2



The first lot of public hearings for module 2 started on Tuesday 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.



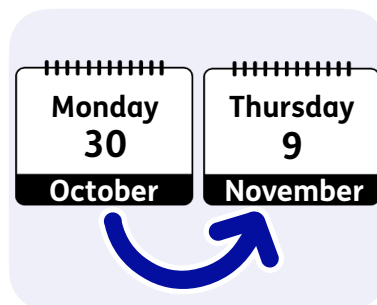
- Government staff.



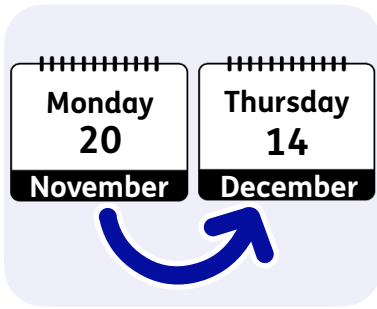
- Local councils.



The first lot of public hearings for module 2 finished on Thursday 19 October.



The second lot of public hearings for module 2 started on 30 October and finished on 9 November.



The third lot of public hearings will start on 20 November and finish on 14 December.



You can watch all of the public hearings on YouTube.



Witnesses are the people we listen to at the public hearings.

They have important information that is helpful to the Inquiry.



You can look at the names of all the witnesses we have listened to so far in module 2 here: www.covid19.public-inquiry.uk/public-hearings/module-2-public-hearings-timetable/



You can also find written documents of everything that has been said at public hearings here:

www.covid19.public-inquiry.uk/documents/



At the end of module 2, Baroness Hallet will write and share a report.



The report will be about everything we have learnt from module 2, and what we can do better.

Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland



Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will have some of their own separate module 2 public hearings.



This is so we can also look at decisions that were made during Covid-19 by the Scottish, Welsh and Northern Irish governments.



On Thursday 26 October, there was a **preliminary hearing** about big decisions that were made during Covid-19 in Scotland.



A **preliminary hearing** happens before the main public hearing.

At the preliminary hearing, we decide what information we will talk about at the public hearing.



On Tuesday 12 December, there will be a preliminary hearing about big decisions that were made during Covid-19 in Wales.



On Tuesday 12 December, there will be a preliminary hearing about big decisions that were made during Covid-19 in Northern Ireland.

Module 5



On 25 October we started working on our newest module, module 5.



Module 5 is about looking at how the Government gets the things that the UK needs.



We will start **evidence hearings** for Module 5 in 2025.

Evidence hearings are when we start looking at important information that helps with module 5.

Going to watch public hearings



The public hearings are taking place in Dorland House, in London.



The main room where the public hearing takes place has 41 seats for people to sit and watch.



There are also separate rooms where people can watch the hearing on a television.

We call these viewing rooms.



We have changed the way you book seats in the main room and viewing rooms.



You will now need to fill in a 'reservation form' the week before you want to go and watch a hearing.



We will share the form on this website every Monday: www.covid19.public-inquiry.uk/public-hearings/



There will be some seats that can not be booked. They will be given to people who turn up on the day and have not booked.



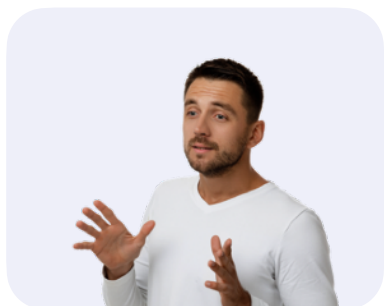
There are not many of these seats so only the first few people who have not booked will get a seat.

Get our weekly updates



We have been sending out weekly email updates about the public 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 weekly emails, you can sign up for them here: www.covid19.public-inquiry.uk/newsletter/

Find out more



You can look at our website:

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

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