



RULING ON PARTICIPATION OF DR CATHERINE CALDERWOOD IN THE UK COVID-19 INQUIRY

Introduction

1. On 11 December 2023 I gave a Ruling that Dr Catherine Calderwood, the former Chief Medical Officer for Scotland, be excused from participation in the work of the Inquiry for the foreseeable future (meaning a maximum period of one year) due to ill health. The maximum period described in my Ruling expires on 11 December 2024.
2. Since my original Ruling I have been provided with regular updates about the health of Dr Calderwood. The most recent report is dated 8 November 2024. Each report has indicated that Dr Calderwood remains unfit to provide evidence.
3. On 29 November 2024 Module 2A Core Participants were informed that, having taken account of the medical updates I had received, I was minded to excuse Dr Calderwood from further participation in the Inquiry. Core Participants were invited to provide any observations they would like me to consider by 5 December 2024. I have received no such observations.
4. Accordingly, this is my ruling.

Decision

5. I have carefully considered the importance of Dr Calderwood's evidence to the issues being investigated in Module 2A and subsequent modules. Having reviewed the medical evidence provided to me and having received no observations from Core Participants, I am satisfied that Dr Calderwood should be excused from further participation in the Inquiry. I will review in the event that the situation changes.

The Right Honourable Baroness Hallett

Chair of the UK Covid-19 Inquiry

11 December 2024