UK Covid-19 Inquiry

June 2026 Newsletter

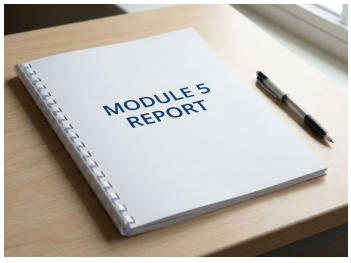
Introduction

By Kate Eisenstein

Acting Secretary to the UK Covid-19 Inquiry

Welcome to our June newsletter.

In this month's newsletter, you can read about:



- **The Module 5 report**
- **Carers Week**
- **How to get our reports in different formats**
- **How we check that the UK's governments read our reports and make changes**

Module 5 report

Our next report will be ready on **Tuesday 14 July**.

It is about how health care equipment was bought and given out to people.

You will be able to read the report here: Link to Module 5 web page

Baroness Hallett will also talk about it in a video.

The video will be on our YouTube Channel:
Link to Inquiry YouTube Channel

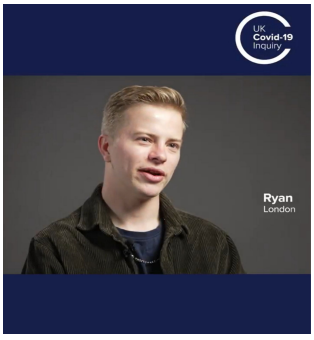
Carers Week

Carers Week was in June.

It is about celebrating and recognising unpaid carers across the UK.

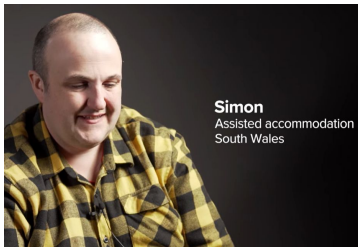
During Carers Week, we shared some of the things that carers said to us about life in the Covid-19 pandemic.

We shared stories from Module 6, which is about the whole care sector.



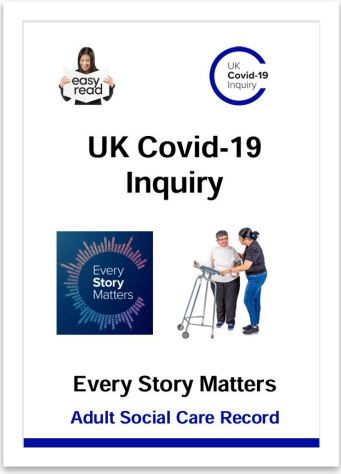
This is one of the stories we shared:

Link to Ryan's Story on X



As part of Module 6, we made an Impact Film. The film was shown on the first day of the Module 6 hearings.

Watch the Impact Film here.



We also wrote a report, called a **Record**. It is about all the stories people shared with us as part of Module 6.

Read the Easy Read version here.

The report for Module 6 will be ready in the autumn.

Link to the Module 6 web page.

The Inquiry's Reports

The Inquiry is divided up into **Modules**. Each module is about a different subject.

Each Module ends with a long report.

Each report has recommendations: things that need to change, so that we are ready for another pandemic one day.

Covid-19 Module 4: Vaccines and therapeutics

Report and Recommendations In Brief

The UK Covid-19 Inquiry is an independent public inquiry examining the response to, and impact of, the Covid-19 pandemic and to learn lessons for the future. Its terms of reference were set by the then Prime Minister Boris Johnson.

The scale of the pandemic was unprecedented; the Inquiry has a huge range of issues to cover. The Chair of the Inquiry, Baroness (Heather) Hallett DBE, decided to address this challenge by dividing its work into separate investigations known as modules. Each module is focused on a different topic with its own public hearings where the Chair hears evidence.

Following hearings, recommendations for change are developed and put into a Module Report. These reports contain findings from the evidence collected across each module and the Chair's recommendations for the future. The following reports have already been published:

- Module 1 - The resilience and preparedness of the United Kingdom
- Modules 2, 2A, 2B and 2C - Core decision-making and political governance
- Module 3 - The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the healthcare systems of the United Kingdom

The **fourth module** considers the development and deployment of vaccines and therapeutics (sometimes referred to as 'drugs') in the UK during the Covid-19 pandemic[1]. Public hearings took place between 14 January and 31 January 2025.

Future reports will focus on the following areas:

- Module 5 - Procurement and distribution of key equipment and supplies
- Module 6 - The care sector
- Module 7 - Test, trace and isolate programmes
- Module 8 - Children and young people
- Module 9 - The economic response to the pandemic
- Module 10 - The impact on society

1 Therapeutics is a branch of medicine that deals with the treatment of diseases. In this publication, the term therapeutics is also used to refer to medicines or drugs used in the prevention of disease such as Covid-19.

From the long report, we write a short version, called **In Brief**. It tells you about the most important information and recommendations.

From the In Brief report, we make accessible versions. Here are links to examples from our most recent report:

Module 4: Vaccines and therapeutics

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In Brief report

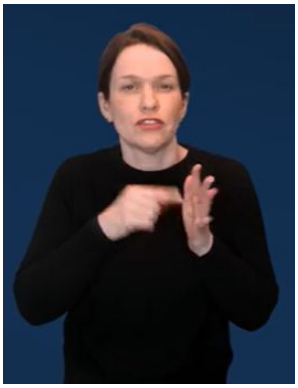
A short version of the main report.

Link to In Brief Report

Easy Read

Large print, easy words and pictures.

Link to Module 4 Easy Read



British Sign Language

A video of a person signing the report.

Link to Module 4 British Sign Language

Audio

A recording of a person reading the report.

Link to Module 4 Audio

Animation

A video about the main points in the report.

Link to Module 4 Animation

Welsh

A version of In Brief, written in Welsh.

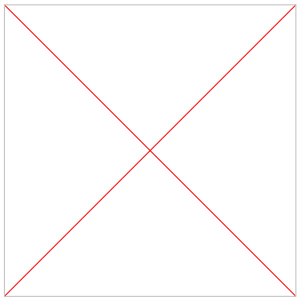
Link to Module 4 Welsh

Checking on progress

The aim of the Covid-19 Inquiry is to make sure we are ready for another pandemic.

Our Chair, Baroness Hallett, is finding out as much as she can about what happened during Covid-19 pandemic.

She is learning about things that could have been done better. For example, how masks, gloves and aprons were bought and given out to people.



She uses this information to make recommendations to the governments of the UK.

UK Government

Scottish Government
gov.scot

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Northern Ireland Executive

The recommendations are sent to the 4 governments of the UK.

They are expected to reply, saying what they will do to make sure we are ready for another pandemic.

After each of the Inquiry's reports are published, the governments have **3 months** to reply.

If they don't reply, the Inquiry will write to them again.

If they have not replied after 12 months, they have to tell us why.

You can read all the letters on our website here:

[Inquiry Recommendations for Modules 1 and 2]

All the governments have replied to Modules 1 and 2.

We expect them to reply to **Module 3** by September 2026.

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