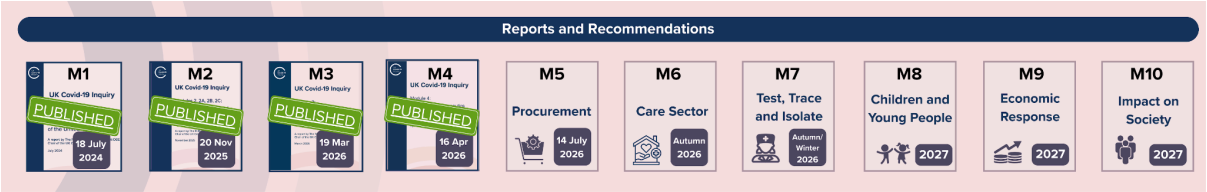


UK Covid-19 Inquiry June 2026 newsletter

In this issue

- Carers Week and how the Inquiry has heard unpaid carers' experiences during the pandemic
- How to find out about the Inquiry's key findings and recommendations - and in a format that works for you
- A look into how we monitor the implementation of our recommendations and what we've heard so far

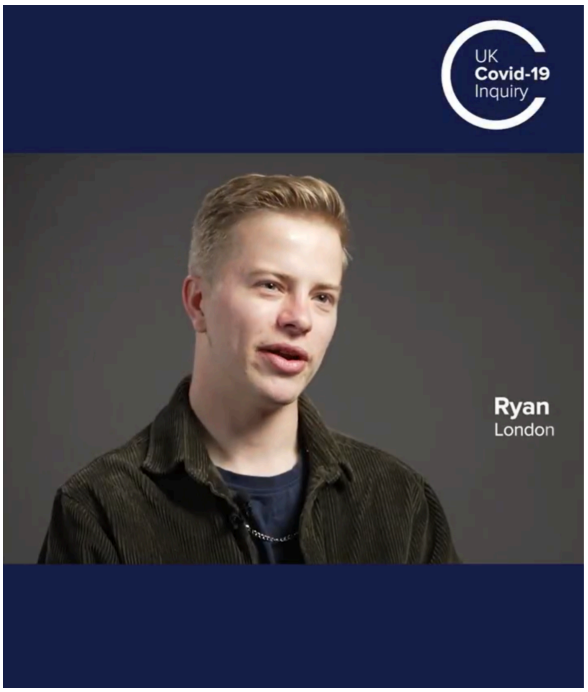
Message from Kate Eisenstein, Acting Secretary to the UK Covid-19 Inquiry

Welcome to the June newsletter.

Next month, we will publish our fifth report on Procurement (Module 5). The report will be available on the Inquiry website at 12pm on Tuesday 14 July 2026. The Chair, Baroness Heather Hallett, will present her recommendations in a video statement on the Inquiry's YouTube channel shortly afterwards.

The Module 5 report includes a chapter that we are not able to publish on 14 July, because it is covered by a Restriction Order which protects the integrity of ongoing or future criminal investigations. This chapter will be published once there is no longer a risk of prejudicing them.

This year, Carers Week took place between 8 and 14 June. It is an annual national awareness-raising campaign, highlighting the challenges faced by unpaid carers and to recognise their contributions. We took the opportunity to share what unpaid carers have told us about their experiences during the pandemic. This is available to read on the Inquiry website. We also shared videos of carers who shared their story with the Inquiry and were featured in the Inquiry's Module 6 Impact Film, shown on the first day of Module 6 public hearings in June 2025. Here is an example of one of our posts:

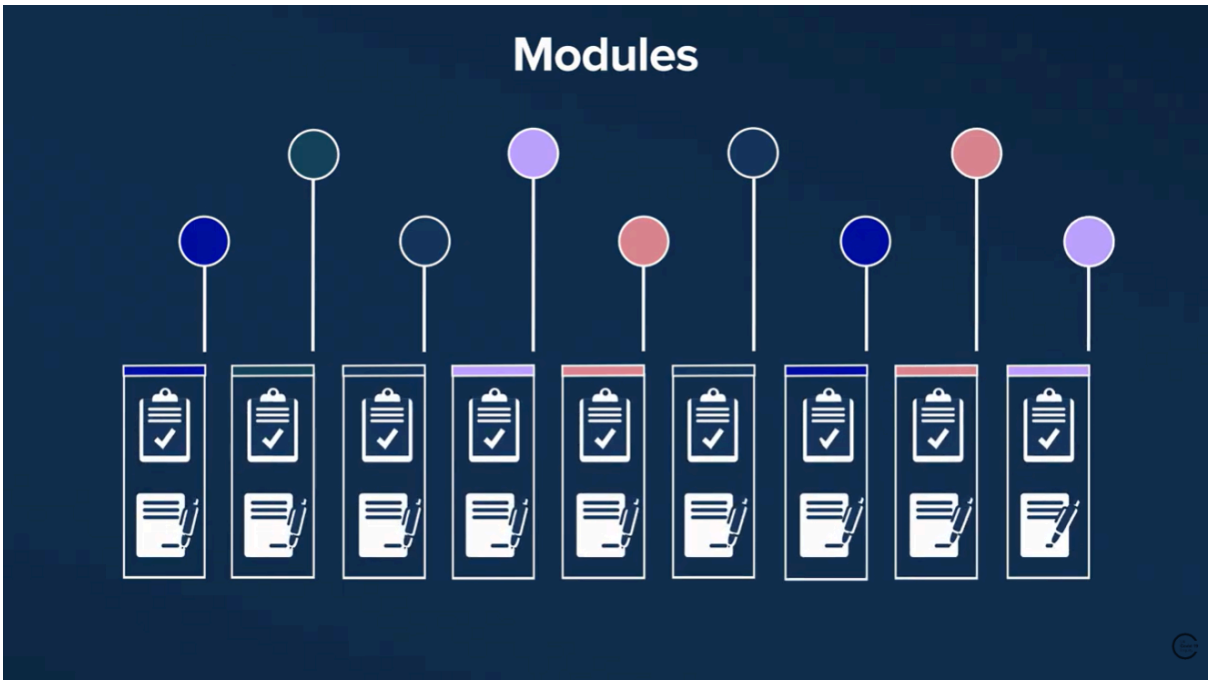


Above: [Ryan's story] featured in the Inquiry's Module 6 Impact Film and posted across all Inquiry social media platforms during Carers Week.

During the Inquiry's investigation into the impact of the pandemic on the Care Sector (Module 6), the Chair received evidence on the experiences of those with care needs, their families, unpaid carers and social care professionals during the pandemic. These experiences were shared with the Inquiry's listening exercise Every Story Matters and brought together to create the Module 6 Every Story Matters record 'Adult Social Care Sector'. The Every Story Matters record was entered as evidence into our investigation. The record was also referred to by Counsel to the Inquiry when questioning witnesses during the public hearings for Module 6. The Module 6 Every Story Matters record 'Adult Social Care Sector' is available to read on the Inquiry website. Many organisations supported us with Every Story Matters - the Inquiry remains very grateful to them and acknowledges them in the record.

The invaluable experiences shared with the Inquiry via Every Story Matters will inform the Chair's report on the Care Sector (Module 6). This report is scheduled to be published in autumn 2026. I would like to thank everyone who took the time to share their stories with us.

How you can read, watch and listen to the ‘In Brief’ summaries of our module reports in alternative formats



Above: the animated ‘In Brief’ video summary of the Module 1 report

We work hard to ensure that our findings and recommendations are accessible to as many people as possible. As a result, we publish summaries of our module reports in a variety of formats.

The ‘In Brief’ is a short summary of the key findings and recommendations of that module report and is available to view in HTML format or download as a PDF.

The ‘In Brief’ summaries of all of our reports are also available in a range of accessible formats. Here is how you can read, watch or listen in a format that works for you:

Easy Read: This uses plain language and images to explain our findings. It is designed for people with learning disabilities but helpful for anyone who prefers a clearer, simpler format aided by images.

British Sign Language: Watch our British Sign Language (BSL) video summary This is for BSL users and the Deaf community.

Audio: A spoken version of the ‘In Brief’ for people with visual impairments or those who prefer to listen.

Animation: Our short and engaging animated summary brings the report to life visually.

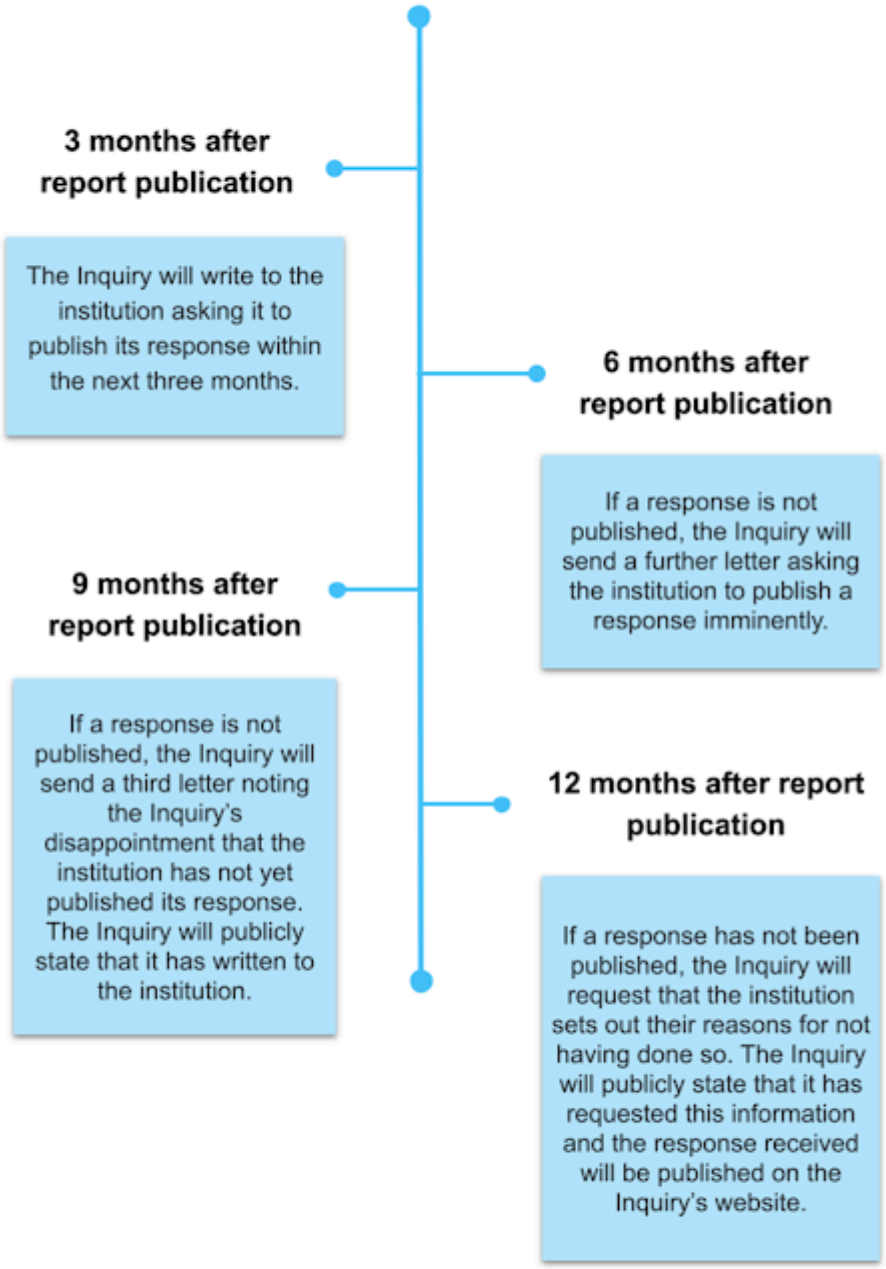
Welsh In Brief: A Welsh translation of our ‘In Brief’ report summary available in HTML and PDF.

You can find the ‘In Briefs’ and their accessible formats for each published module report on the Inquiry website.

How we monitor the implementation of our recommendations

The Inquiry publishes the Chair’s key findings and recommendations in our module reports.

The Chair expects all four governments in the UK to consider and act upon recommendations in full. The Inquiry requests that the institution responsible for implementing each recommendation publishes the steps they will take in response and the timetable for doing so. Unless otherwise stated, institutions should do this within six months of the recommendation being published. The Inquiry follows a set process for monitoring compliance as follows:



Above: the Inquiry's recommendation monitoring process

All relevant correspondence is made publicly available on the Inquiry's recommendation monitoring page.

To date we have received responses from the governments of the UK, Scotland and Wales and the Northern Ireland Executive to the Inquiry's first two reports:

- Module 1: The resilience and preparedness of the United Kingdom
- Modules 2, 2A, 2B and 2C: Core UK decision-making and political governance

We expect to receive responses from all four governments in the UK to the Module 3 report: The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the healthcare systems of the United Kingdom by 19 September 2026. The Inquiry continues to monitor the progress of the Chair's recommendations and future responses relating to these and subsequent reports will also be published on the website.

More information about how we monitor recommendations is available to read on the Inquiry website.

ENDS