

To the legal representatives of all Core Participants

PROCEDURES IN RELATION TO FINAL HEARING

The chairman has directed that the procedures in relation to the final hearing of the Inquiry should be as follows:

1. Core Participants' final written submissions following on from their respective lists of proposed issues should be submitted to the Inquiry and intimated to the legal representatives of other Core Participants not later than by 5.00 pm on Monday 26 March 2012.
2. The hearing on 30 March 2012 will commence at 10:00 am and will consist of two parts.
3. In the first part counsel appearing for each Core Participant will have the opportunity to make a brief statement, expected to be of no more than 5 to 10 minutes duration, to assist the chairman by explaining the approach adopted in relation to their written submissions and to highlight any points considered to be of particular importance. Any such statements will be made in the order:
 - (i) Haemophilia Society and individual Core Participants,
 - (ii) NHS Scotland Core Participants
 - (iii) Scottish Ministers
4. In the second part of the hearing counsel appearing for Core Participants will have the opportunity, in the order set out above, to make closing statements in terms of Rule 10 of the Inquiries (Scotland) Rules 2007 in relation to which the chairman has directed that they should be of no more than a maximum of 45 minutes duration. At the conclusion of those statements counsel for the Inquiry will have the opportunity to address the chairman who may himself wish to make some concluding remarks.

5. The written submissions of Core Participants will be published at the Inquiry website along with the transcript of the hearing on 30 March but will not be so published beforehand.



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