

CHAIR'S UPDATE ON EVIDENCE MODULES

ISSUED ON 05 MAY 2023

1. The Inquiry has heard a significant body of evidence relating to the law, policies and organisational structures that are relevant to the Terms of Reference, as per the topics listed in Evidence Modules 2023.
2. It has been necessary to make some adjustments to the schedule as the evidence has proceeded and some witnesses will be returning to supplement the evidence that they have already given.
3. The purpose of this short statement is to provide an update on the evidence to be heard in respect of Module 6 (MAH Reports and Responses).
4. On consideration of the material received by the Inquiry to date in respect of Topic 6b (Ennis Ward Safeguarding Report) and Topic 6d (Review of Leadership and Governance at MAH), as well as the responses to those reports, the Panel has determined that further groundwork will be required prior to the hearing of oral evidence in respect of those matters. This may include the obtaining of further statements to ensure that the Panel will have obtained a comprehensive picture of the processes that led to the production of those reports.
5. The Panel intends to hear all of the evidence relating to those matters in a discrete module to be scheduled at a later juncture. The Inquiry will be contacting the relevant parties to obtain the evidence that will be required to complete the exercise. I will issue updates as appropriate to ensure that Core Participants and the public are informed of progress.
6. This modification of the approach to Module 6 will mean that the Inquiry will not be hearing from the following witnesses in respect of that Module on the dates on which their evidence was scheduled: Aine Morrison (scheduled for 15 May 2023); David Bingham (22 May 2023); and Martin Dillon (01 June 2023).
7. The evidence of Miriam Somerville (15 May 2023) and Dr. Margaret Flynn (25 May 2023) will proceed as scheduled.
8. Between now and the end of June, the Inquiry will continue to hear evidence relating to Module 6 and will also hear further evidence of the patient experience (yet to be formally scheduled).

9. The revised schedule is available on the Muckamore Abbey Hospital Inquiry website. The next hearing day is Monday 15 May 2023.

Tom Kark KC
05 May 2023