

MUCKAMORE ABBEY HOSPITAL INQUIRY  
SITTING AT CORN EXCHANGE, CATHEDRAL QUARTER, BELFAST

HEARD BEFORE THE INQUIRY PANEL  
ON THURSDAY, 20TH OCTOBER 2022 - DAY 24

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1 THE INQUIRY RESUMED AS FOLLOWS ON THURSDAY, 20TH  
2 OCTOBER 2022

3  
4 CHAIRPERSON: Good morning. Thank you very much. Yes?

5 MS. KILEY: Good morning, Chair, Panel. The witness 10:01  
6 this morning is the mother of a former patient. I have  
7 spoken to the witness; she is content that the former  
8 patient be known by his first name, which is Ciaran.

9 CHAIRPERSON: Good.

10 MS. KILEY: And that she be known by her first name, 10:01  
11 which is Patricia.

12 CHAIRPERSON: Excellent. That makes it easier.

13 MS. KILEY: The witness is going to be accompanied at  
14 the witness table by her daughter, Paula.

15 CHAIRPERSON: And the normal restrictions apply; no 10:02  
16 further restriction is needed?

17 MS. KILEY: No additional applications.

18 CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much indeed. All right.

19  
20 CIARAN'S MOTHER, HAVING BEEN SWORN, GAVE EVIDENCE AS 10:02  
21 FOLLOWS:

22  
23 CHAIRPERSON: Good morning to you both.

24 THE WITNESS: Good morning.

25 CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much indeed for coming 10:03  
26 along to assist the Inquiry. I'm going to hand you  
27 over to Denise Kiley to read your statement to you.  
28 It's always a bit nerve wracking for the first few  
29 minutes. That disappears, I promise you. Ms. Kiley

1 will take you through your statement and then just ask  
2 you some questions. All right?  
3 THE WITNESS: Right.  
4 CHAIRPERSON: Lovely. Thank you. Ms. Kiley.  
5 MS. KILEY: Good morning, Patricia. You have beside 10:03  
6 you your daughter, Paula?  
7 A. Yeah.  
8 1 Q. And we have met briefly this morning and I explained to  
9 you the procedure that we'll adopt for your evidence  
10 this morning. As you know, the first thing that I'm 10:03  
11 going to do is read your witness statement that you  
12 have made to the Inquiry. I will read that aloud and  
13 then I'll ask you some questions about it.  
14 A. Right.  
15 2 Q. Now, I just wanted to remind you that you'll notice 10:04  
16 whenever I'm reading out the statement that some of the  
17 names of staff members have been replaced by ciphers,  
18 and I'll be reading out their ciphers, which are H  
19 numbers, or the letter H followed by a number.  
20 A. Yeah. 10:04  
21 3 Q. So I'll be using that. When I ask you questions later  
22 on, if you want to refer to a staff member, if you  
23 could try your best to do that too. I think you have a  
24 cipher list in front of you?  
25 A. Yeah. 10:04  
26 4 Q. Have you got that? Okay, great. It can be a difficult  
27 thing to do but we'll try our best to do that. If we  
28 need to pause the feed, we can do that.  
29 A. Right.

1 5 Q. okay? Are you ready for me to read out your statement,  
2 Patricia?  
3 A. Yes.  
4 6 Q. Okay, thank you. So, this is a statement which you  
5 made on 5th October 2022. You say: 10:04  
6  
7 "I, Patricia, make the following statement for the  
8 purpose of the Muckamore Abbey Hospital (MAH) Inquiry.  
9 In exhibiting any documents, I will number the  
10 documents, so my first document will be exhibit 1. 10:04  
11  
12 My connection with MAH is that my son, Ciaran, was a  
13 patient at MAH. The relevant time period that I can  
14 speak about is between approximately 1992 and 2010. My  
15 son Ciaran was born in 1980". 10:05  
16  
17 You then give your husband's name, and you say that you  
18 have four children and that Ciaran is the third eldest  
19 boy. You give the names your other children; two sons,  
20 who are older than Ciaran and your daughter, Paula, 10:05  
21 who's younger than Ciaran?  
22 A. (Witness Nods).  
23 7 Q. You say:  
24  
25 "Ciaran was a patient at MAH from around 1992, when he 10:05  
26 was aged 12. Ciaran is now aged 42. Ciaran was a  
27 beautiful wee boy, and was a nine pounds, 13 ounce  
28 baby. During his delivery at Lagan Valley Hospital,  
29 the consultant present did not know how to use forceps

1 and Ciaran was left in distress while they waited for  
2 another doctor to come to use forceps. Ciaran was in  
3 an incubator for a day. When he was ten days old, he  
4 wasn't feeding and we had to take him to the Royal  
5 Victoria Hospital in Belfast. Ciaran was tongue-tied 10:06  
6 and the doctor at the Royal Victoria Hospital released  
7 his tongue. I do not recall the doctor's name. Ciaran  
8 was still showing that he had problems. In particular,  
9 Ciaran was very slow at developing.

10  
11 When Ciaran was one or two years old, we had to take  
12 him to the Royal Victoria Hospital again for tests.  
13 The tests were required as he was very slow at  
14 developing, and to see what Ciaran could understand.  
15 He did not sit up until he was ten months old. He did 10:06  
16 not crawl at all, and he did not walk until he was one  
17 year and five months old. Ciaran's speech was also  
18 delayed.

19  
20 Ciaran was diagnosed when he was one or two years old 10:06  
21 with cerebral damage, brain damage, due to the  
22 complications with his birth."

23  
24  
25 And, Patricia, you then go on to describe in the rest 10:06  
26 of that paragraph the various doctors that Ciaran saw  
27 as a baby, and his behaviours as a baby. I'm not going  
28 to read all that out but the Panel have all that  
29 information.

1 A. (Witness Nods).

2 8 Q. I'll start reading again at paragraph 8. You say:

3  
4 "Because Ciaran remained slow at developing, Ciaran had  
5 a brain scan, an EEG, when he was around five or six 10:07  
6 years old, and it was discovered that his brain pattern  
7 was abnormal, he had unbalanced brain waves, and that  
8 he had a large head. From then, Ciaran was put on  
9 medication called Mellari I, and diagnosed with epilepsy  
10 and prescribed Epilim. I now understand that this was 10:07  
11 a mistake which was made with a lot of children, by  
12 starting them on medication from a young age where they  
13 did not need it, and now Ciaran cannot do without the  
14 medication. This is clear from speaking to parents  
15 whose children now have epilepsy and are drug-free, 10:07  
16 whereas Ciaran is on a cocktail of drugs. I have also  
17 expressed this view to H40, Ciaran's consultant  
18 psychiatrist, and he agrees.

19  
20 I cannot recall whether Ciaran was diagnosed with 10:07  
21 schizophrenia at this time. However, I believe it was  
22 later that he was diagnosed with schizophrenia, when he  
23 was around 13 or 14.

24  
25 We always suspected that Ciaran had autism because of 10:08  
26 behaviours we noticed, but in those days it was put  
27 down to behaviour problems and there was no formal  
28 diagnosis made when Ciaran was a child. I believe  
29 Ciaran was in his 30s before he was actually diagnosed

1 with autism."

2

3 You then, in the next two paragraphs, describe Ciaran's

4 schooling, Patricia, and again I'm not going to read

5 all of that out. 10:08

6 A. Right.

7 9 Q. But to summarise, you say that Ciaran was a bright boy?

8 A. Yeah.

9 10 Q. But his condition deteriorated over the years, and his

10 mental health and reading ability deteriorated -- 10:08

11 A. Yeah.

12 11 Q. -- over his school years. You describe a number of

13 incidents which were behavioural type incidents at

14 school.

15 A. Yeah. 10:08

16 12 Q. And at the very end of paragraph 11 then, you say:

17

18 "Ciaran also displayed aggressive behaviour at times.

19 He couldn't settle and he couldn't concentrate on

20 anything. 10:08

21

22 It was felt by the teacher, Marie, at Parkview School,

23 that there was more to Ciaran's behaviour than just bad

24 behaviour. Noel was the educational psychologist from

25 the Education Board who Ciaran attended at school for 10:09

26 the duration of his education at Parkview. Noel also

27 came to visit Ciaran at home. I do not recall how

28 often Ciaran attended the educational psychologist, or

29 for how many sessions. Ciaran also attended H268,

1 consultant psychiatrist from MAH in Belfast, in an  
2 office on the Lisburn Road, who believed that Ciaran  
3 had mental health difficulties and sent him to MAH for  
4 a six-week assessment.

5  
6 When Ciaran went into MAH for the assessment in and  
7 around 1992, he was sectioned by H268, the same  
8 consultant psychiatrist he had seen at the Lisburn  
9 Road, Belfast, prior to his admission. It was after  
10 the six-week assessment was up that I was told over the 10:09  
11 phone that Ciaran had been sectioned and we could not  
12 bring him home. I cannot recall who it was told me  
13 this over the phone or what exactly was said. It was  
14 terrible.

15  
16 After I had been told over the phone that Ciaran had  
17 been sectioned, I went to MAH to collect him and bring  
18 him home, but the staff at MAH wouldn't let me take him  
19 home. I cannot recall who I spoke to at the time or  
20 what exactly was said, but it was awful. My husband 10:10  
21 was on the phone, telling me not to come home without  
22 Ciaran, but there was nothing I could do. Ciaran knew  
23 I was there outside MAH and he was banging on the door,  
24 shouting and roaring that he wanted to get out.

25  
26 When Ciaran was first admitted to MAH in 1992, he was  
27 placed in an adult ward. The name of the ward was  
28 Conacre. The nurse in charge of the ward at the time  
29 was H269. We discussed with H269 taking Ciaran home

1 shortly after his admission, and we were told that we  
2 could not take him home. We were told, because of his  
3 behaviour and his mental health issues, that it was not  
4 safe to take Ciaran home. It was out of our hands and  
5 I felt that I had to leave with my tail between my legs 10:11  
6 each time I asked about bringing Ciaran home.

7  
8 We were allowed to visit Ciaran and we went to MAH to  
9 visit two to three times a week. The staff would  
10 unlock the main door to the ward and let Ciaran out. 10:11  
11 We did not ever go to Ciaran's room in Conacre. Ciaran  
12 slept in a dormitory and did not have his own bedroom.  
13 We did not ask to go to Ciaran's room. There was a  
14 coffee shop where we would have taken Ciaran for the  
15 visit. We were left to our own devices during the 10:11  
16 visit, and we sometimes would have taken Ciaran to the  
17 lakes in Antrim, where he fed the swans.

18  
19 MAH was a horrible place. Everywhere was locked and  
20 the staff walked around with keys. When we went on a 10:11  
21 planned visit, Ciaran had always been showered and  
22 looked clean. This was when the staff clearly knew we  
23 were coming. When we called to visit unexpectedly,  
24 Ciaran was not as clean and had other peoples' clothes  
25 on. We always complained to H269 if he was wearing 10:11  
26 other peoples' clothes, and he would apologise and  
27 occasionally he blamed someone else for doing it.

28  
29 We brought Ciaran home at weekends when he was allowed.

1 We would ask the staff at the time for permission to  
2 take Ciaran home, and the staff would then ask the  
3 consultant psychiatrist at the time to confirm whether  
4 or not we were allowed to take Ciaran home. It  
5 depended on Ciaran's behaviour at the time and whether 10:12  
6 the consultant psychiatrist believed he was allowed to  
7 come home, and if the consultant said no, he was not  
8 allowed to come home.

9  
10 When Ciaran first went into MAH in 1992, he was a 10:12  
11 bright wee boy. He wrote on a piece of paper about how  
12 he was in a horrible place and wanted to escape. The  
13 staff at the time showed it to me in one of my visits.  
14 I cannot recall who showed it to me at that time. The  
15 hospital should have a record of this. 10:12

16  
17 Ciaran could not write like that now, as his mental  
18 health went downhill drastically during his time at  
19 MAH. His behaviour and his reading and writing  
20 abilities deteriorated. He can still read and write 10:13  
21 but not to the same standard as when he was younger,  
22 before he went into MAH.

23  
24 Being away from his family impacted Ciaran's mental  
25 health. I believe Ciaran was on Conacre Ward for a 10:13  
26 couple of years from his admission to MAH and then was  
27 moved to a children's ward. I do not recall the name  
28 of the children's ward or when he was moved there. He  
29 stayed there until he was moved to M7A when he was 16

1 or 17 years old, approximately 1996 or 1997.

2  
3 Ciaran was diagnosed with a severe learning disability  
4 and mental health issues when he first went to MAH.

5 There were two adult wards in MAH, M7A and M7B. M7B 10:13  
6 was a locked ward, and I believe more dangerous  
7 patients like sexual offenders were kept on that ward.  
8 M7A was an unlocked ward.

9  
10 When Ciaran was 17 years old, he came home one weekend 10:14  
11 and said that someone had touched him. I do not recall  
12 exactly when, but it was probably around a year after  
13 Ciaran was moved to M7A. He said somebody was touching  
14 him, and when we asked him where, he pointed to his  
15 privates. We did not want to go into detail too much 10:14  
16 with Ciaran about it. He was the type of wee boy that  
17 could have made things up. If you said too much to  
18 him, he would agree with you.

19  
20 We reported what Ciaran had told us to the nurse in 10:14  
21 charge of M7A at the time. I cannot recall the name of  
22 the nurse in charge at that time. Ciaran also went  
23 voluntarily and reported this himself to the nurse in  
24 charge of M7A. The staff at MAH told us that Ciaran  
25 had reported it. I cannot recall who told me at the 10:14  
26 time that Ciaran had reported it.

27  
28 Weeks after we reported it, it came to light that there  
29 was a 27-year-old patient on M7A who had been touching

1 Ciaran. I believe staff at MAH had caught this  
2 27-year-old patient touching Ciaran. I cannot recall  
3 the other patient's name, but I believe his name is  
4 P61. I remember his face and actually seeing him in  
5 September 2022. We do not really blame the patient as  
6 he had problems himself. I am not aware of the detail  
7 of exactly what happened at the time and I do not know  
8 how long it was going on for. I just know that the  
9 patient had been touching Ciaran inappropriately.

10:15

10  
11 We had a meeting at MAH with the consultant  
12 psychiatrist, H50, the nurses from the ward, the social  
13 worker from MAH, and Ciaran's social worker from the  
14 South Eastern Trust. I do not recall the names of the  
15 nurses or the social worker who attended the meeting.  
16 We really did not listen to anything they had to say  
17 about it as we had decided we were taking Ciaran home  
18 with us any way. I cannot recall whether the police  
19 were involved at that time.

10:15

10:15

20  
21 We took Ciaran out of MAH and brought him home at that  
22 time for three years. We told the consultant  
23 psychiatrist and the others in attendance at the  
24 meeting that we were taking Ciaran home, and we left  
25 MAH with Ciaran that day. We went to our solicitors  
26 about this incident. The solicitors reviewed the  
27 records from MAH at the time and said that MAH did not  
28 hide anything and had done nothing wrong. The  
29 solicitors, having reviewed the records from MAH at the

10:16

10:16

1 time, said that it was just Ciaran and P61 fondling  
2 with each other. We felt it still was not right, as it  
3 was a 17-year-old with a 27-year-old. However, given  
4 what the solicitor said, we just dropped the case.

5  
6 Ciaran was at home with us for three years and it was  
7 very hard work. His behaviour deteriorated so badly  
8 that we had to let him go back into MAH. His mental  
9 health deteriorated and he became very aggressive. I  
10 was left black and blue with bruises, and we felt that  
11 the only option at the time was to agree for him to go  
12 back to MAH. This was around 2000 or 2001, and Ciaran  
13 was around 20 or 21 years old at the time.

14  
15 The social worker was in contact with us through  
16 monthly meetings by telephone and home visits. The  
17 consultant psychiatrist, the nursing staff and the  
18 assigned social worker in MAH believed it was best that  
19 Ciaran went back to MAH and had his medication reviewed  
20 again.

21  
22 Around 2000 or 2001, Ciaran went back into the locked  
23 ward, M7B. We visited Ciaran two to three times during  
24 the week and brought him home at weekends. Ciaran's  
25 consultant psychiatrist was still H50. I cannot recall  
26 the name of the nurse in charge of M7B at that time.

27  
28 Every weekend when we brought him home, the first thing  
29 we would do would be to give him a shower. I believe

1 it was in and around the early 2000s when one weekend  
2 we were bringing Ciaran home. He was very quiet in the  
3 car on the way home. As soon as we got home, we  
4 stripped Ciaran off to give him his shower and we found  
5 his penis was completely black with bruising. From we 10:18  
6 left MAH until we got home would have been no more than  
7 45 minutes. I called our own doctor at the health  
8 centre, who came to our house to examine Ciaran. The  
9 doctor noted the injury to Ciaran's penis. Body checks  
10 were supposed to take place at MAH immediately before a 10:18  
11 patient was taken home. We were told by staff at MAH  
12 that body checks were carried out. We took him back to  
13 MAH the next day, and they said it must have happened  
14 after the body check was carried out. MAH staff did  
15 not confirm when the body check had taken place. 10:19

16  
17 I cannot recall who I spoke to at MAH at the time to  
18 report this, but it was never taken any further by MAH.  
19 We contacted Anne Blake, who was an MLA, and Jeffrey  
20 Donaldson, at the time our local MLA. Anne and Jeffrey 10:19  
21 went to visit MAH, and they told us following their  
22 visit that they could not believe the conditions that  
23 young people were living in. They told us following  
24 their visit that they found it was just a ward with  
25 chairs and absolutely no stimulation for the patients. 10:19  
26 I cannot recall exactly when this was, but Ciaran was  
27 probably in his 20s. I believe we got a letter from  
28 Jeffrey Donaldson at the time. I don't have a copy of  
29 the letter.



1 H54, H272 or H273. I understand from Ciaran that these  
2 are the names of individuals who were nurses at MAH  
3 during Ciaran's time there.  
4

5 Ciaran talks about seclusion all the time. He will 10:21  
6 just say "seclusion" or "am I going to seclusion" and  
7 things like that. I understand that seclusion was a  
8 padded room with nothing in it. Staff at MAH told us  
9 that there was a padded room to keep patients safe.  
10 Ciaran sings a song with the word "seclusion" in it. I 10:22  
11 do not know any of the detail about Ciaran being in  
12 seclusion.  
13

14 The news coverage of what is happening at the Inquiry  
15 has really brought this all back to Ciaran. When he 10:22  
16 sees any coverage on the news, he starts to rhyme off  
17 names who I know to be staff who worked at MAH.  
18

19 Another time when Ciaran came home at the weekend, I  
20 noticed he had a rash on his hands. I do not recall 10:22  
21 exactly when it was. It was very itchy and started to  
22 spread. I brought him back to MAH at the usual time at  
23 the end of the weekend, and they assessed him. I do  
24 not recall who assessed him but it was one of the  
25 doctors. They did not believe it was scabies, but it 10:22  
26 was later reported back to me by MAH that it was  
27 scabies. I do not recall who reported it to me. MAH  
28 said that Ciaran must have contracted scabies when he  
29 was at the caravan with us. The staff at MAH were

1 aware we have a static caravan, and they were aware  
2 Ciaran was away at the caravan very often with his  
3 family. I would not have known what scabies was at the  
4 time. Ciaran had to have a powder all over his body to  
5 treat it. 10:23

6  
7 When times were bad and I was driving to MAH to drop  
8 Ciaran off after a weekend visit, I used to think to  
9 myself if I just keep driving over the ditch, that  
10 would be the end of this for both of us, it was so 10:23  
11 devastating.

12  
13 Around April 2008, we were going on holiday to  
14 Tenerife. Around this time, Ciaran was moved to a ward  
15 where there were seven or eight patients who, it had 10:23  
16 been decided by the consultant at MAH, would be moved  
17 to Supported Living in Windemere, a housing development  
18 in Lisburn. The ward was called a resettlement ward.  
19 Supported Living were houses in a housing development  
20 in Lisburn named Windemere that would have been staffed 10:24  
21 24/7. We did not want that to happen at the time. We  
22 told H50 we did not want it to happen. I cannot recall  
23 what he said when we told him. The staff at MAH at the  
24 time were telling us this was best for Ciaran, with a  
25 view to Ciaran being settled into Windemere. 10:24

26  
27 When we went on the holiday to Tenerife in and around  
28 April 2008, MAH decided to move Ciaran to this ward in  
29 any event. H274 was the nurse in charge of the ward.

1 When we came back from Tenerife, we found Ciaran on the  
2 resettlement ward sitting like a zombie in a chair. He  
3 had lost a stone in weight in a week and he was in a  
4 terrible state. He was not talking or engaging when we  
5 asked questions. H50 at MAH blamed his mental health. 10:24  
6 I cannot recall the details of the discussion we had  
7 with H50 at the time.

8  
9 Exhibit 1 is photographs taken at that time in April  
10 2008, which show Ciaran looking very gaunt and ill when 10:25  
11 we brought him home for his birthday. Ciaran was very  
12 skinny and sad-looking. He just sat like a zombie with  
13 his hands clutched.

14  
15 Exhibit 2 is a photograph of Ciaran taken recently with 10:25  
16 my daughter Paula's dog, which shows the difference in  
17 his appearance between April 2008 and now.

18  
19 My husband and I spoke to H274, the nurse in charge of  
20 the resettlement ward at the time, and went ballistic. 10:25  
21 I cannot recall exactly what was said, but H274 kept  
22 blaming Ciaran's mental health. They knew Ciaran had  
23 deteriorated mentally and physically, and there was  
24 very little they could say about it. Ciaran was in the  
25 resettlement ward with patients who could not speak, 10:25  
26 and there was no stimulation for him. He was not  
27 talking, he was not eating and he had lost weight.

28  
29 H50, Ciaran's consultant psychiatrist, had a conference

1 about Ciaran at the time and decided to move him to  
2 Cranfield intensive care ward. My husband and I  
3 attended this conference, and the nursing staff and  
4 social worker attended.

5  
6 MAH constantly changed Ciaran's medication over the  
7 years and exhausted every antipsychotic drug with  
8 Ciaran until there were none left. When Ciaran moved  
9 to Cranfield intensive care ward, H40, consultant  
10 psychiatrist, diagnosed him with schizophrenia. He was 10:26  
11 prescribed an antipsychotic drug called Clozapine.  
12 This was discussed with us, and it was explained to us  
13 that Ciaran had to stay in MAH for one year while he  
14 was being prescribed Clozapine. Ciaran's bloods were  
15 taken every month and sent to England to be tested. 10:26  
16 Ciaran had to join a Clozapine team, as the drug had to  
17 be dispensed from hospital, and we had to sign and give  
18 consent to him being prescribed Clozapine as there were  
19 a lot of side effects. Side effects included severe  
20 constipation, stiffening of the limbs, and drooling. 10:26  
21 It also affected the white blood cells in his immune  
22 system.

23  
24 Since Ciaran was prescribed Clozapine, it changed his  
25 life and he rapidly improved. His appearance improved, 10:27  
26 and he put on weight. His mental health improved. He  
27 started to eat and he talked and engaged more. It was  
28 like a miracle drug.

1 The care he received in the intensive care unit at  
2 Cranfield was quite good and Ciaran improved  
3 dramatically. He stayed there for one year. H12 was  
4 the nurse in charge of Cranfield at the time and was  
5 very good.

10:27

6  
7 Ciaran's family went to visit him so much that the  
8 staff at MAH could not have mistreated Ciaran, as there  
9 was always someone around to check on him, and the  
10 family sat in Ciaran's bedroom during visits. Ciaran  
11 improved dramatically, gained weight and looked  
12 happier.

10:27

13  
14 H40 is Ciaran's consultant psychiatrist to this day,  
15 and Ciaran is still on Clozapine.

10:27

16  
17 After one year in Cranfield, the staff at MAH decided  
18 that Ciaran was well enough to move him to another  
19 ward. I do not recall the name of the ward that MAH  
20 proposed Ciaran was moved to. However, the person who  
21 previously was involved in the sexual abuse of Ciaran -  
22 I believe his name was P61 but I cannot recall his  
23 surname - was on the proposed ward. One day when we  
24 were driving to our caravan around 2010, after hearing  
25 of Ciaran's proposed move, we decided that we were  
26 going to take Ciaran home from MAH. We telephoned MAH  
27 to tell them of our decision immediately, went to  
28 collect Ciaran and brought him home. H40 was of the  
29 view that it was the wrong thing to do at that time.

10:28

10:28

1 We were told by H40 that Ci aran would not get daycare  
2 or respi te.

3  
4 Ci aran came home around 2010 and, from that time,  
5 Ci aran has absol utely thrived. When Ci aran first came 10:28  
6 home, he attended a consul tant psychi atrist. I cannot  
7 recall the consul tant's name; I cannot recall how often  
8 Ci aran attended thi s consul tant, however i t was  
9 probably monthly. I cannot recall the exact dates,  
10 however Ci aran eventually stopped attending the 10:29  
11 consul tant and H40 began to vi sit Ci aran at home.

12  
13 H40 i s absol utely fantasti c. He has kept i n touch wi th  
14 us and would come out to the house around every two  
15 months. He was out wi th us recently and agreed that 10:29  
16 Ci aran i s absol utely thri vi ng.

17  
18 Ci aran i s si x-foot si x i nches tall and 14 stone. He i s  
19 a happy, contented young man. We have decided we are  
20 keeping Ci aran at home all the time wi th us from now on 10:29  
21 and that he i s not going anywhere.

22  
23 Ci aran needs 24-hour care. When he first came home  
24 from MAH, we had to fight for Ci aran to get daycare i n  
25 an adul t and resource centre, and respi te care at a 10:29  
26 faci lity. We deal t wi th the consul tant and soci al  
27 worker to try and arrange to have daycare and respi te  
28 care put i n place. Thi s i nvolved many phone call s to  
29 the consul tant and soci al worker. "

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You then go on to describe some incidents in the other facility which the Panel have, but I won't read all of that aloud. I'll pick up the reading then at paragraph 51:

10:30

"Ciaran is happy and thriving and a content young man. He is like a big child. Ciaran is very touchy-feely and always wants to shake hands. He wants to touch people by touching buttons on their clothes, for example. He is big in stance and people tend to be scared of him, but he is a big gentle giant. Ciaran still talks about MAH. He will rhyme off names of staff and will say things like "I'm not going back there". We assure him he is not going back, and tell him MAH has been knocked down.

10:30

10:30

The incident where Ciaran was touched inappropriately at MAH left him a very vulnerable adult, and he does not understand the rights and wrongs of touching people. We need to be careful where we take him and sometimes have to explain his behaviours to people. Ciaran's mental health has dipped since the MAH Inquiry has been on the news. He would repeat phrases such as "You're not going to hurt me", and "You're not going back to this ward", as though speaking to himself.

10:31

10:31

There are probably a lot more things that we do not remember. To be honest, we blanked out a lot of the

1 details as it was such a difficult time and we wanted  
2 to move on and try to forget about it. Ciaran cannot  
3 tell us any more details. Although his memory is good,  
4 he cannot tell us exactly what happened, and there were  
5 no cameras. We knew at the time there were no cameras, 10:31  
6 as it was an old building."  
7

8 You then go on to say, at the declaration of truth, you  
9 confirm the contents of this statement are true to the  
10 best of your knowledge and belief, and you sign the 10:32  
11 statement, and it's dated there 5th October 2022.  
12

13 So, Patricia, having heard me read the statement aloud,  
14 are you happy that it's an accurate statement?

15 A. Yes. 10:32

16 13 Q. And is there anything you want to change about the  
17 statement?

18 A. No.

19 14 Q. You're happy to adopt it as your basis of your  
20 evidence? 10:32

21 A. I am.

22 15 Q. Okay. Well, the first thing I want to ask you about,  
23 Patricia, is Ciaran's first admission to Muckamore.  
24 You say in your statement that that was around 1992?

25 A. Yeah. 10:32

26 16 Q. So Ciaran would have been about 12 then, is that right?

27 A. Yeah.

28 17 Q. And you explained that before his admission, he was  
29 seen by an educational psychologist and a psychiatrist?

1 A. Yeah.

2 18 Q. Can you tell the Panel a little bit more about the type  
3 of difficulties that Ciaran was having in the lead-up  
4 to his admission to Muckamore at that time?

5 A. Ciaran was probably going through puberty around about 10:33  
6 that age, and his mental health seemed to deteriorate  
7 very badly; he got very aggressive. At school he was  
8 displaying a lot of behaviours that the teacher thought  
9 there was more than behaviour -- more than -- a lot  
10 more going on than just bad behaviour with Ciaran. 10:33  
11

12 Ciaran was our lovely wee boy, a good-looking wee boy,  
13 and we still hadn't really come to terms with Ciaran  
14 having a learning disability. But it was decided that,  
15 because of Ciaran's mental health, that they thought 10:33  
16 the best thing was for Ciaran to be assessed in  
17 Muckamore.

18 19 Q. At that time, Patricia, were you told how long the  
19 assessment was likely to last?

20 A. They said a six-week assessment. 10:34

21 20 Q. Did you and your family agree to that at the time?

22 A. Yes, we agreed to it.

23 21 Q. So, was it a voluntary admission then rather than a  
24 detention under the legislation at that time?

25 A. Yes. 10:34

26 22 Q. It was? Okay. And were you able to visit him during  
27 that six-week assessment period?

28 A. I don't think we were allowed to visit him over the six  
29 weeks period, you know. To give him time to settle in,

1 that they said no, it was best not to visit him. But  
2 we phoned every night and every morning to see how  
3 Ciaran was doing, and...

4 23 Q. And you described at the end of the assessment period  
5 getting a phone call to tell you that Ciaran was going 10:34  
6 to be detained at that time?

7 A. Yes, that they felt it was best for Ciaran that he  
8 didn't come home. And we just didn't have any control  
9 over it.

10 24 Q. Did they explain to you why, why he was being detained 10:34  
11 at that time?

12 A. They felt that, you know, because his behaviour and his  
13 mental health was so bad that it was probably the best  
14 place for Ciaran to stay in Muckamore and get the  
15 appropriate treatment that he needed. 10:35

16 25 Q. And you described in your statement going to Muckamore  
17 shortly after and hoping to get Ciaran and bring him  
18 home.

19 A. Yes.

20 26 Q. So you didn't want him at Muckamore at that time, is 10:35  
21 that right?

22 A. No, we didn't want him. We thought after the six-week  
23 assessment that Ciaran would be assessed and we would  
24 get Ciaran home again, but that just wasn't the case.  
25 Ciaran was in Muckamore and there was no way we were 10:35  
26 getting him home again.

27 27 Q. You mention, again in your statement, having  
28 discussions with the ward staff about bringing Ciaran  
29 home. I just wondered, you were obviously making it

1 clear that you wanted Ciaran home at that time?

2 A. Yeah.

3 28 Q. And you say that you were told no. Did anyone ever  
4 tell you what your rights were as the parent of someone  
5 who was being sectioned, as you described it? 10:36

6 A. Not really, because this is the first time we ever knew  
7 about Muckamore. We didn't know our rights or anything  
8 about Muckamore; nobody told us. It was just felt that  
9 Ciaran was taken off us and we had no rights whatsoever  
10 over him. 10:36

11 29 Q. You say later on in your statement that Ciaran was  
12 diagnosed with a severe learning disability and mental  
13 health issues whenever he first went to MAH?

14 A. Yeah.

15 30 Q. Can you tell the Panel a bit more about what you were 10:36  
16 told about those diagnoses?

17 A. Ciaran had a great imagination as a child, and he used  
18 to talk to himself all the time and he used to talk  
19 about these wee men in his head and everything. But  
20 what we always thought was Ciaran had got these out of 10:37  
21 a comic and he just, he just talked about these things  
22 and... I don't know.

23 31 Q. You just thought it was Ciaran, it was something that  
24 he did?

25 A. Yeah. 10:37

26 32 Q. And whenever you were told about his diagnoses at  
27 Muckamore, were you told what type of treatments Ciaran  
28 was going to get during his time at Muckamore?

29 A. We were told -- there was a lovely doctor. I didn't --

1 this all just came back to me this past couple of  
2 weeks. There was a lovely doctor, and he told us that  
3 the only treatment that ever be for Ciaran would come  
4 out of a bottle, which was medication; that there was  
5 no other treatment for Ciaran, only medication. 10:37

6 33 Q. And you described actually in your statement, you said  
7 Ciaran was trialed on a number of medications during  
8 his time at Muckamore. In fact, I think you said they  
9 exhausted all the options for psychotic drugs, is that  
10 right? 10:38

11 A. Ciaran was tried on nearly every antipsychotic drug  
12 there was. Ciaran is very, very sensitive to  
13 antipsychotic drugs. So every drug they put Ciaran on,  
14 we would have got a honeymoon period where we thought  
15 this is the drug now for Ciaran, but once it got used 10:38  
16 to his system, Ciaran just deteriorated again.  
17 Antipsychotic drugs made Ciaran's heart go very fast.  
18 So one time we were up, his heart was going about 300  
19 and we had to bring him to the Antrim Area Hospital,  
20 where they found that Ciaran either comes off 10:38  
21 antipsychotic drugs or he is put on a beta blocker.  
22 So, he was put on a beta blocker to slow his heart  
23 down.

24  
25 But that just continued all over the years. Ciaran 10:38  
26 just exhausted every drug that there was available for  
27 him until Clozapine came along, which was the last  
28 drug; that they exhausted every other drug until they  
29 were able to use Clozapine.

1 34 Q. I'll come on to ask you a bit more about that and how  
2 that helps Ciaran. But I want to ask you a little bit  
3 more now about his time on the Conacre ward, so back to  
4 that first admission whenever he was 12. Conacre at  
5 that time was an adult ward, isn't that right? 10:39

6 A. Yes.

7 35 Q. Was it an all-male ward or was it mixed?

8 A. It was a mixed ward. A mixed ward.

9 36 Q. And how often were you able to visit him there?

10 A. Well, that was, you know, when he went in for the six 10:39  
11 weeks assessment so we weren't able to visit him then.

12 37 Q. Right, okay. So was he only in Conacre in that  
13 six-week period?

14 A. No. No. He was...

15 38 Q. He was in that even after the six-week assessment 10:39  
16 period?

17 A. Six weeks, yes, mm-hmm.

18 39 Q. But you say he didn't have his own bed in that ward.  
19 What were the sleeping arrangements?

20 A. You see when we brought Ciaran up to Muckamore to stay, 10:40  
21 like, we were so naive that nobody actually, you know,  
22 brought us up before to show us where Ciaran was going.  
23 We brought Ciaran up with a nurse, and we were brought  
24 up to this ward. As I say, we were coming to terms  
25 with Ciaran's learning disability. It was a ward where 10:40  
26 all these adults was walking about and just they looked  
27 like monsters, and the smell of the ward was absolutely  
28 terrible. And they just seemed to be walking about,  
29 not doing anything. And we had to leave our beautiful

1           wee boy in that ward.

2   40   Q.   And you described a dormitory-style sleeping  
3           arrangement, is that right?

4           A.   well, we were never shown anything but we were told  
5           they were sleeping in dormitories. 10:40

6   41   Q.   Right. So you never actually saw the dormitory?

7           A.   No, we never seen it.

8   42   Q.   Did you think that the ward and the arrangements were  
9           suitable for a child of Ciaran's age?

10          A.   No. well, we really didn't know at the time. You 10:41  
11          know, as I was saying to my husband last night, we were  
12          so naive that we brought a beautiful 12-year-old boy up  
13          and left him in an adult ward, you know. Things like  
14          that wouldn't happen now.

15   43   Q.   And did you ever raise a concern with the staff at 10:41  
16          Muckamore that he was on an adult ward?

17          A.   Not really. We just thought this was the thing. Now,  
18          there was a nurse there that was absolutely brilliant  
19          and took Ciaran under her wings, and she looked after  
20          Ciaran very well and would have took him out of the 10:41  
21          ward as much as she could.

22   44   Q.   Did anyone ever explain to you why he was on the adult  
23          ward?

24          A.   No. No.

25   45   Q.   And he was 12 at the time and had been attending 10:41  
26          special schools before he went into Muckamore, isn't  
27          that right?

28          A.   Yeah.

29   46   Q.   Did he have any access to schooling when he was on the

1           ward or tuition of any kind?

2           A.    Yes.  There was like daycare where they went.

3   47   Q.    Yes.

4           A.    And done some learning.

5   48   Q.    So he was able to go off the ward and go to daycare?           10:42

6           A.    Yeah.

7   49   Q.    How often did he get to go to daycare?

8           A.    I think he went about two or three times a week to

9            daycare.

10   50   Q.    You did mention in your statement that when Ciaran was           10:42

11           first admitted, he wrote a note.  I just wanted to ask

12           you a bit more about that.  What was Ciaran's emotional

13           state at the time around that time he wrote the note?

14           A.    Ciaran really didn't show an awful lot of emotion.  But

15           the staff were able to show me that Ciaran wrote a           10:42

16           letter saying about this horrible place and that he was

17           going to escape from it.

18   51   Q.    Who had he written the letter to, do you know?

19           A.    He had just wrote it.  Ciaran used to love to write.

20           He would have wrote wee stories; drew a picture, wrote           10:43

21           a wee story about it.  And I think he drew the building

22           and wrote that wee story about it, that he was going to

23           escape from Muckamore.

24   52   Q.    I think you actually say later on in your statement

25           that Ciaran couldn't write like that any more.  You say           10:43

26           that was something that deteriorated during his time at

27           Muckamore?

28           A.    Yes.

29   53   Q.    Can you tell the Panel a bit more about that?

1 A. Well, Ciaran used to be very good writer. He could  
2 read but, as I did say, they found out, you know, he  
3 could read anything, but didn't understand, have any  
4 comprehension what he was reading. But his writing was  
5 good. But now Ciaran can still write, but his writing 10:43  
6 would be like a five-year-old. He can still spell and  
7 things but his writing would be like a five-year-old  
8 now. And he's no interest in writing or reading or  
9 anything.

10 54 Q. How long was he on that ward, the Conacre Ward? 10:43  
11 A. I can't even, sorry, recall how long.

12 55 Q. Okay.  
13 A. But he was eventually moved to a children's ward.

14 56 Q. A children's ward?  
15 A. Yeah. 10:44

16 57 Q. And how was the children's ward?  
17 A. The children's ward was just something the same; you  
18 know. They didn't have a lot of stimulation. They  
19 still slept in dormitories, and...

20 58 Q. You mentioned there not a lot of stimulation; was that 10:44  
21 an issue in Conacre as well?  
22 A. Yes, yeah, mm-hmm. Because I think a lot of the  
23 children, you know, would have destroyed things and  
24 smashed things about, so there was really nothing.

25 59 Q. And then after the children's ward, you say whenever he 10:44  
26 was about 16 or 17, he moved to ward M7A at that time?  
27 A. Yeah.

28 60 Q. Isn't that right?  
29 A. Yeah.

1 61 Q. So if he was 16 or 17, that would have been in and  
2 around 1996/1997?

3 A. Yeah.

4 62 Q. Is that right?

5 A. Yeah. 10:44

6 63 Q. And was that an adult ward or a children's ward?

7 A. That was an adults ward.

8 64 Q. An adult ward?

9 A. An adults ward.

10 65 Q. And you describe in your statement a particular 10:45  
11 occasion when Ciaran told you, when he was on the ward,  
12 that he had been touched by somebody?

13 A. Yeah. It was one of the weekends we took him home and  
14 he told us that somebody was touching him. But we  
15 didn't really take it on board with Ciaran because 10:45  
16 Ciaran could make up things. You know, if I said to  
17 Ciaran was somebody touching your head; somebody was  
18 touching my head. Was somebody touching your leg;  
19 yeah, somebody was touching my leg. So we didn't go  
20 into a lot of details about it but we phoned up the 10:45  
21 ward and said to them. So when we brought Ciaran  
22 back - it was normally on a Monday morning we brought  
23 him back - and they said that Ciaran had voluntarily  
24 went to them and told had them that somebody was  
25 touching him. Now, we don't know how long this had 10:45  
26 been going on for.

27 66 Q. And just to clarify that, did you get the impression  
28 that Ciaran had reported that to staff at Muckamore  
29 before he had told you?

1 A. Yes, but they had not told us that.

2 67 Q. And whenever they did tell you, whenever you were  
3 discussing this with them, what did they say about it?

4 A. They really didn't say an awful lot.

5 68 Q. Was there any investigation? 10:46

6 A. I'm not 100% sure. But we thought, you know, after  
7 that that, you know, they would keep a close eye on  
8 Ciaran and this other boy so that it wouldn't happen  
9 again. But it did happen again then.

10 69 Q. You did say that weeks later, it came to light that 10:46  
11 staff had discovered -- I think had caught them, as you  
12 had described?

13 A. Yeah. I don't even know whether it was weeks later or  
14 what the exact time was.

15 70 Q. Okay. Is that what you mean, though, whenever you said 10:46  
16 there it did happen again?

17 A. Yes.

18 71 Q. Is that what you meant on that occasion?

19 A. Yeah.

20 72 Q. What was reported to you then? 10:47

21 A. Well, we got a phone call to say this had happened, and  
22 we went straight up -- no, before we went up, we told  
23 them on the phone we were taking Ciaran home. So we  
24 went up and they had all things Ciaran, all his DVDs  
25 and all, to take him home. And we took him home. 10:47  
26 Against their judgment that we took Ciaran home. I  
27 think they were totally embarrassed and everything  
28 about this that we -- and we took Ciaran home. We  
29 didn't care what they said to us or anything, we took

1           him home.

2    73   Q.   Did he still have the status of a detained or sectioned  
3           patient at that time or was he voluntary?

4           A.   He must have been voluntary --

5    74   Q.   Okay. 10:47

6           A.   -- when we were able to take him home.

7    75   Q.   And can you remember at the meeting that you had, were  
8           you provided with any explanation or any other  
9           information about what Muckamore were going to do about  
10          this? 10:48

11          A.   No. No. We had a meeting in the community as well in  
12          Lisburn about it. They really -- I just felt they were  
13          just totally embarrassed about this here, that this had  
14          went on and it happened, and that we were keeping  
15          Ciaran home against their will, and... 10:48

16   76   Q.   And you did. Eventually, you took Ciaran home?

17          A.   Yes, we took him home.

18   77   Q.   That was on that day, wasn't it?

19          A.   Yes, we took him home.

20   78   Q.   And he was home at that time for three years? 10:48

21          A.   For three years we kept him home.

22   79   Q.   About. What support did you get for Ciaran at home at  
23          that time?

24          A.   We didn't get a terrible lot of support. My son,  
25          Aidan, he actually got direct payments to help us look 10:48  
26          after Ciaran for a while. And eventually he got back  
27          into daycare --

28   80   Q.   Okay.

29          A.   -- with a two-to-one staff. He was two-to-one.

1 Eventually, all over the years just things got --  
2 deteriorated very badly. We were left black and blue  
3 manys a time. Male nurses had to come out to help us  
4 control Ciaran. So, eventually we had to agree to let  
5 Ciaran go back into Muckamore again for treatment. 10:49

6 81 Q. And I want to come on and ask you about that. Just  
7 before I do, after that, the incident that you have  
8 described with the inappropriate touching and you  
9 brought Ciaran home, did Ciaran -- was he ever offered  
10 any sort of therapies -- 10:49

11 A. No.

12 82 Q. -- to address what had happened to him?

13 A. No. No. No.

14 83 Q. And you describe then a difficult time at home and then  
15 Ciaran had to go back in to Muckamore? 10:49

16 A. Yeah.

17 84 Q. And I think you said that was around 2000/2001, is that  
18 right?

19 A. Yeah.

20 85 Q. So then Ciaran would have been about 20 or 21 by that 10:49  
21 time?

22 A. Yeah.

23 86 Q. At that time did he attend Muckamore voluntarily or was  
24 he detained?

25 A. I think he was then detained. 10:50

26 87 Q. Okay.

27 A. Yes, he was detained. Or sectioned, or...

28 88 Q. Yes. You said that he went to ward M7B, is that right?

29 A. M7B.

1 89 Q. And that's a locked ward?  
2 A. No, M7 -- I don't know which way it was. There was a  
3 ward here and a ward there (indicating) and one was M7A  
4 and one was M7B. I think it was M7A was the unlocked  
5 ward. 10:50  
6 90 Q. Yeah.  
7 A. And M7B was the locked ward.  
8 91 Q. Okay.  
9 A. Yeah.  
10 92 Q. So at this time, whenever he went back, it was the 10:50  
11 different ward to the one that he had been on before,  
12 is that right?  
13 A. Yes. Yeah.  
14 93 Q. And you continued to bring him home, though, every  
15 weekend, isn't that right? 10:50  
16 A. Yes, we were still -- I think when we left him back for  
17 a period, he had to stay there for a period, and then  
18 eventually we got taking him back home again.  
19 94 Q. And then at paragraph 28 of your statement, you  
20 describe a particular incident in the early 2000s when 10:51  
21 you were bringing Ciaran home for one of those visits?  
22 A. Yeah.  
23 95 Q. And when you got home, you noticed bruising on Ciaran's  
24 penis?  
25 A. Yeah. 10:51  
26 96 Q. And you called your own doctor, you say, and he  
27 examined Ciaran. Was that examination the same day?  
28 A. Yes, that was the same day. It was a Friday.  
29 97 Q. Mm-hmm.

1 A. That was the same day.

2 98 Q. And you say that he, that doctor, noted the bruising.  
3 Was that your GP?

4 A. That was our GP, yeah.

5 99 Q. Did he give you, the GP I mean, any medical opinion on 10:51  
6 what would have caused that type of bruising?

7 A. I can't really recall. I know he was totally shocked  
8 when he did see Ciaran. But I cannot recall, you know,  
9 really what he said about it. You know, he said it was  
10 going to be noted and would be in Ciaran's file, you 10:51  
11 know, this bruising.

12 100 Q. Did Ciaran say anything about what had caused it?

13 A. No, just Ciaran would have said that he was sore. We  
14 tried to question Ciaran, you know, what happened, but  
15 Ciaran really could not tell us. 10:52

16 101 Q. And you reported it to Muckamore then the next day,  
17 isn't that right?

18 A. We took Ciaran back up to the ward the next day and  
19 they had a doctor there that examined Ciaran as well.  
20 They just told us they didn't know how this happened, 10:52  
21 that Ciaran would have got a body check before we took  
22 him home, and they said this must have happened after  
23 the body check, it must have happened in the toilets or  
24 somewhere.

25 102 Q. Did they show you any record of the body check? 10:52

26 A. No.

27 103 Q. No?

28 A. No. No. No.

29 104 Q. And you describe Ciaran being examined there by a

1 doctor whenever he went back to Muckamore?

2 A. Yes.

3 105 Q. Was there any further investigation that you were aware  
4 of?

5 A. No. No. I think they were really afraid of us taking 10:52  
6 it any further, which we didn't take it any further.  
7 So...

8 106 Q. But there was then, after that, a meeting, I think.  
9 Because you say that it was agreed that Ciaran would  
10 get one-on-one supervision after that? 10:53

11 A. Yes, yeah.

12 107 Q. Isn't that right?

13 A. Yeah. That there would be constantly a nurse with him  
14 at all times.

15 108 Q. As far as you know, did he receive that one-on-one 10:53  
16 supervision?

17 A. Yes.

18 109 Q. He did?

19 A. He did, yeah.

20 110 Q. Now, you then also say that, again during Ciaran's time 10:53  
21 at M7B, that Ciaran contracted dysentery and scabies,  
22 so I want to now ask you about that. First of all in  
23 respect of the dysentery, can you recall when that was?

24 A. I can't really recall, you know, the exact time it was  
25 but it was one of the weekends we took Ciaran home. 10:53  
26 And he was quite ill and had diarrhoea, and we had to  
27 put a pad on him because it was just going everywhere.  
28 And we phoned our own doctor, and he came out and he  
29 took a sample and sent it away and then phoned us up to

1           -- no, he came out to the house to inform us that  
2           Ciaran had dysentery.

3 111 Q.    The doctor --

4           A.    Yeah, the doctor.

5 112 Q.    -- told you that? That's your GP, is it? 10:54

6           A.    Yeah. And then he had to inform Environmental Health  
7           over this. So they came out to us and, you know,  
8           questioned us about Ciaran, you know, where he was at  
9           the time. They said the source was -- no, they looked  
10          into it and everything, and the source was Muckamore. 10:54

11 113 Q.    So it was actually Environmental Health that told you  
12          that, that the source was Muckamore?

13          A.    Environmental Health, yeah.

14 114 Q.    And did you ever discuss that with staff at Muckamore  
15          or the Trust? 10:54

16          A.    Well, they knew about it so it really wasn't discussed.  
17          We had to keep Ciaran home until he was well enough to  
18          go back to the ward again.

19 115 Q.    How long was he at home with you before then?

20          A.    It was probably a couple of weeks. 10:55

21 116 Q.    A couple of weeks? Yeah.

22          A.    A couple of weeks, but he was quite ill at the time.  
23          And when Ciaran is ill, he just, like, sleeps all the  
24          time.

25 117 Q.    And did Muckamore or the Trust ever give you an 10:55  
26          explanation of how that all came about?

27          A.    No. No. No.

28 118 Q.    Then the scabies, that was at a later time, is that  
29          right?

1 A. That was at a later time. Ciaran came home one weekend  
2 and he was scratching an awful lot at his hands  
3 (indicating), and I put cream and all on his hands to  
4 stop him scratching and he was scratching and  
5 scratching, and they seemed to be spreading. So when 10:55  
6 we brought him back, we told them this here. So they  
7 didn't know what it was but eventually they said it was  
8 scabies, and they said that he must have got it when he  
9 was at the caravan at the weekend with us. And, like,  
10 our caravan is spotless, so it is. Our caravan's 10:56  
11 spotless. And we disagreed, no, he wouldn't have got  
12 it at the caravan. So, it ended up he had got it in  
13 the ward --

14 119 Q. Mm-hmm.

15 A. -- so he had, because I think there was somebody else 10:56  
16 had it as well. And he had to get powder all put over  
17 his body, and we weren't allowed to take him home for a  
18 couple of weeks until it had cleared up. But his hands  
19 and everything was in an awful state, you know, with  
20 the scratching and... 10:56

21 120 Q. Yeah. Did you ever discuss that with the staff at  
22 Muckamore or the Trust staff --

23 A. No.

24 121 Q. -- in further detail?

25 A. Nothing was discussed about it. And we don't know 10:56  
26 where -- well, we knew he got it from Muckamore but  
27 that's all that was said about it. Nothing else was  
28 said about it.

29 122 Q. Did you have regular meetings with Muckamore staff at

1 the time during the time that Ciaran was there?

2 A. Yes, you would have had, you know, where the social  
3 worker from the South Eastern Trust, you know, would  
4 have had regular meetings.

5 123 Q. Yeah. 10:57

6 A. You know, you just went into a bare room with a table  
7 and would have had meetings.

8 124 Q. Did you feel that those were beneficial?

9 A. They probably were. Probably were. But a lot of  
10 negative, you know, things about Ciaran -- you know, 10:57  
11 about Ciaran would have been said. And you used to go  
12 home feeling, you know, is there ever going to be the  
13 end of this?

14 125 Q. You went on to describe then the move to the  
15 resettlement ward in April 2008. In your statement, 10:57  
16 you say that you didn't want him to move to the  
17 resettlement ward. Can you tell the Panel why you  
18 didn't want that to happen?

19 A. Well, the resettlement ward was a ward where they were  
20 going to resettle him that they would move him into the 10:57  
21 community, not at home, not to home; move into staffed  
22 houses. There was a new development being built. And  
23 my husband and me went to see this new development, and  
24 we didn't even like the area that it was in from the  
25 start. But because we were told this was going to be 10:58  
26 the best thing for Ciaran, this was the way forward for  
27 Ciaran, we went along with it for a while. But we  
28 really didn't want Ciaran -- we wanted Ciaran at home  
29 to be with us, we really didn't want him anywhere else.

1 So, they moved him into the resettlement ward with the  
2 rest of the men that was going to be resettled. Now,  
3 most of these men would have had a more severe learning  
4 disability than Ciaran. You know, a lot of them  
5 autism; no speech, they didn't communicate with 10:58  
6 anybody. So Ciaran was put in here. Ciaran was  
7 verbal, you know. He could talk, he loved to talk to  
8 people.

9  
10 We went away on holidays and when we came back, first 10:59  
11 thing we went up to visit Ciaran, we would have brought  
12 him back presents from holidays, you know, like the  
13 football shirts and things that he would have liked.  
14 And when we went back, Ciaran was just sitting on a  
15 chair like a zombie; didn't even hardly, you know, 10:59  
16 communicate with us at all. He was skin and bones. He  
17 was just -- he was just so wretched looking, so he was.  
18 He was just...

19 126 Q. When you say he was like a zombie, Patricia, did you  
20 get the impression that he was medicated at the time? 10:59

21 A. I'm not --

22 127 Q. Or what do you think caused him to be like that?

23 A. I'm not 100 % sure. It was probably, you know, he was  
24 moved to a new ward. He didn't know these other ones  
25 that he was in. Nobody probably talking to him, 10:59  
26 communicating with him. I just don't know.

27 128 Q. And you said he lost about a stone's weight in a week,  
28 is that right?

29 A. He must -- probably more than a stone in weight.

1 129 Q. And I think you have provided photos around that time?  
2 A. Yeah.

3 130 Q. If the Exhibit 1 photos could come up on the screen  
4 please. While we are waiting for those to come up, did  
5 you raise the weight loss with staff at Muckamore? 11:00  
6 A. Yes, we raised all that. They said it was down to  
7 Ciaran's mental health. That's really the only  
8 explanation they'd give us, that it was down to  
9 Ciaran's mental health.

10 131 Q. Yeah. 11:00  
11 A. That he had deteriorated, and...

12 132 Q. The photos now should be up on the screen in front of  
13 you. You have hard copies also, if you'd rather look  
14 at those.

15 A. Yeah. 11:00

16 133 Q. But that first photo there, can you recall when that  
17 was taken?  
18 A. That was taken shortly after that, so it was, when we  
19 took him home. And he just looked like a scared, very  
20 agitated, not a very happy wee -- I was going to say 11:00  
21 wee boy; young man.

22 CHAIRPERSON: Just so that we understand, this is when  
23 he was in Muckamore but this photograph was taken at  
24 home?

25 THE WITNESS: This was taken at home, yes. This was 11:01  
26 taken at home.

27 MS. KILEY:

28 134 Q. How does the way he looks there compare to the way he  
29 looked before? You described a weight loss. So what

1 differences would you like the Panel to note about that  
2 photo?

3 A. Just how thin he is, how gaunt he looks. He just looks  
4 so ill-looking.

5 135 Q. If we could go to the next photo, please. When was 11:01  
6 that taken?

7 A. That was taken in Muckamore.

8 136 Q. Can you remember a rough time?

9 A. It must have been around about -- around about the same  
10 time. 11:01

11 137 Q. Was it while he was on the resettlement ward?

12 A. No, it wasn't. It was when he moved out of the  
13 resettlement ward.

14 138 Q. Right, okay. He looks like he's wringing his hands  
15 there, is that right? Is there anything you want to 11:02  
16 tell the Panel about that?

17 A. Yes. He would have been -- Ciaran would have been  
18 very, very agitated and he would have gripped his hands  
19 (indicating). And it ended up that his hands was  
20 ulcerated because he was moving the hands about that 11:02  
21 much. His toes were completely ulcerated where he was  
22 constantly moving his toes up and down inside his  
23 shoes. He had to get treated. They actually made him  
24 these special sandals that Ciaran had to wear because  
25 of his feet were so ulcerated. And, like, Ciaran wears 11:02  
26 a size 15 in shoes, so they had to make these special  
27 sandals shoes that Ciaran could wear, that they were a  
28 lot better for his feet, that his feet were so agitated  
29 -- were so ulcerated, and blisters.

1 139 Q. If we can bring up the next photo. 19, please. Can  
2 you tell the Panel when that one was taken?  
3 A. That was taken at home as well.  
4 140 Q. Was that around this time?  
5 A. It was probably all round the same time. 11:03  
6 141 Q. All around the same time?  
7 A. Mm-hmm.  
8 142 Q. So all around April 2018?  
9 A. Yeah. Like, you can see his arms are just skin and  
10 bones. And he's not even, he's not even happy. 11:03  
11 143 Q. And the next one as well, please. Was that at home or  
12 is that at Muckamore?  
13 A. That's at home, yes.  
14 144 Q. That's at home?  
15 A. Yeah. You can see the agitation on his face and the 11:03  
16 stress on his face, and...  
17 145 Q. How did that compare to what he was usually like?  
18 A. Well, Ciaran was always a very happy, very happy wee  
19 boy. You know, Ciaran never had a care. You know,  
20 it's hard to describe Ciaran. Ciaran was a very 11:04  
21 spoiled wee boy, wanted for nothing, got the best of  
22 everything. And, you know, that just wasn't Ciaran, so  
23 it wasn't.  
24 146 Q. I think we have two more photos as well. We'll bring  
25 up 21, please. Was this Ciaran's birthday? 11:04  
26 A. That was Ciaran's birthday, yeah.  
27 147 Q. And that's at home, is it?  
28 A. That's at home, yes.  
29 148 Q. And the next one. 22.

1 A. My daughter didn't want me to show that one there. One  
2 day Ciaran found it in my bag and had just ripped it up  
3 to pieces. I think probably his brother was making him  
4 show his muscles in that one, and it just shows how  
5 thin and gaunt-looking Ciaran looks. I think he has a 11:04  
6 smile on his face in that one.

7 149 Q. Yeah.

8 A. So he has.

9 150 Q. And just to compare, you've also provided another  
10 photo, a recent one of him. Exhibit 2, if we could 11:05  
11 bring that up. When was that taken?

12 A. That was taken last year, was it? Sorry. That was  
13 taken last year.

14 151 Q. Yeah.

15 A. My daughter had him out for a walk, and it was taken 11:05  
16 last year. And it just shows a completely different  
17 Ciaran. He's just so happy, so content.

18 152 Q. And did he look more like that before he lost the  
19 weight in the photos you've shown us, or how did he  
20 look? 11:05

21 A. No. Probably didn't, no.

22 153 Q. No?

23 A. No. He was always a lot thinner.

24 154 Q. But he's got a smile on his face there?

25 A. Yeah, mm-hmm. And that's the way Ciaran is now all the 11:05  
26 time.

27 155 Q. He's happy?

28 A. Yeah.

29 156 Q. Well, I want to come on and ask you about that because

1 after ward M7B -- sorry, after the resettlement ward, I  
2 beg your pardon. So after the resettlement ward, he  
3 then moved to Cranfield ICU, isn't that right?

4 A. Yes.

5 157 Q. You described having a conference about him. 11:05

6 A. Yeah.

7 158 Q. And he moved to ICU. That's when he was diagnosed with  
8 schizophrenia, isn't that right?

9 A. Yes.

10 159 Q. And he started the Clozapine trial? 11:06

11 A. Yes.

12 160 Q. He was then in ICU for about a year to have that trial,  
13 isn't that right?

14 A. Yes.

15 161 Q. You described Clozapine as a miracle drug for Ciaran? 11:06

16 A. Yes.

17 162 Q. Can you tell the Panel a bit about what was so changing  
18 about it?

19 A. Well, it was a drug that -- as I said before, you know,  
20 every other drug had to be exhausted before they could 11:06  
21 go on this drug. And you had to join the Clozapine  
22 trials with it. So we had to sign, give consent and  
23 everything for it. But as soon as Ciaran went on it --  
24 well, not really, no. There was times that his  
25 behaviour was quite bad and he had to go into the ICU 11:06  
26 ward, and he would have been in seclusion and things.  
27 But over a period of time, Ciaran just started to show  
28 great improvement; his mental health started to settle  
29 down. As I say, it was like a miracle drug with

1           Ciaran. We thought, well, this is it now. We always  
2           thought all his other drugs would have, after six --  
3           you know, we were on a honeymoon period with them, they  
4           wouldn't work.

11:07

6           But this one did work with Ciaran. And it changed  
7           Ciaran's life, and it changed our life completely.

8   163   Q.   During his time in Cranfield, you said that that was  
9           quite good, is that right?

10          A.   Yes.

11:07

11   164   Q.   What did you think was good about that?

12          A.   He was still on one-to-one, and we were able to go up  
13           and visit Ciaran and, you know, be able to sit in his  
14           bedroom with him. Any length of time that we wanted to  
15           do, we could have took him out. Now, they would have  
16           give us an alarm to take him, and a couple of times  
17           Ciaran would have got agitated and we had to go home,  
18           but most of the time, no, everything was very good.

11:07

20          The staff, as far as I know, were quite good. There  
21           was one staff in there who was absolutely brilliant  
22           with him, and when Ciaran left Muckamore, she still  
23           would have sent him, on his birthday, presents.

11:08

24   165   Q.   Were you able to bring him home during that time at  
25           weekends?

11:08

26          A.   We were still able to bring Ciaran home, and we were  
27           able to go up as many times as we wanted to to visit  
28           him.

29   166   Q.   Then after about a year, you'd said it was proposed

1           that he moved wards?

2           A.    They said that Ciaran was well enough to be moved, you  
3           know, out of Cranfield, to go into another ward. We  
4           then -- we found that this other boy, that so-called  
5           abused Ciaran, you know, within that ward, they said to 11:08  
6           us that they would move him out of that ward. So we  
7           had time to go home and discuss it and we were going --  
8           we were driving up to the caravan, and we actually  
9           stopped the car and sat and had a discussion and we  
10          phoned up Muckamore to say no, we didn't want Ciaran 11:09  
11          going into that ward, we were going to take him home  
12          for good.

13

14          we had meetings about it. They thought this was the  
15          wrong thing to do with Ciaran. The doctor that is now 11:09  
16          over Ciaran, who is an absolutely brilliant doctor, he  
17          thought it was the wrong thing because Ciaran had no  
18          daycare, no respite in place. But against his advice,  
19          we took Ciaran home.

20 167 Q.    Why did you do that at that time? 11:09

21          A.    Because we thought Ciaran had been through enough in  
22          Muckamore without having to try to be settled in  
23          another ward.

24 168 Q.    Mm-hmm.

25          A.    We just thought the best thing was take Ciaran home, 11:09  
26          cope with Ciaran the best we could, provide a good life  
27          for Ciaran, and that was it.

28 169 Q.    And you did take him home then in 2010?

29          A.    We did. We did take Ciaran home.

1 CHAIRPERSON: Can I just ask on that - sorry to  
2 interrupt - but was the doctor resistant to that  
3 because primarily because he was worried whether you  
4 could cope?  
5 THE WITNESS: Yes. Yeah. Yes. That was the reason. 11:10  
6 You know, that he didn't think we would maybe be able  
7 to cope with Ciaran being home full-time with no  
8 daycare or respite.  
9 CHAIRPERSON: Yes. Thank you.  
10 MS. KILEY: 11:10  
11 170 Q. And when you got him home, did you get any daycare or  
12 respite for him?  
13 A. Not until after a while. Our son, Aidan, he got the  
14 direct payments again and he helped us out. But then  
15 eventually he did get daycare. 11:10  
16 171 Q. Do you know how long that took?  
17 A. It would have took about three or four months for that.  
18 172 Q. And how did Ciaran react to moving from Muckamore to  
19 home?  
20 A. He was absolutely delighted. Absolutely delighted. 11:10  
21 173 Q. And he settled in at home okay?  
22 A. Settled in no problem.  
23 174 Q. You do say that he still requires 24-hour care, isn't  
24 that right?  
25 A. Ciaran still requires 24-hour care, yeah. 11:11  
26 175 Q. What help do you get with that?  
27 A. Well, our daughter, she does direct payments. She gets  
28 30 hours direct payments. Now, she does an awful lot  
29 more. She does our shopping, picks up prescriptions,

1 everything for us. We just couldn't do without her.  
2 Ciaran adores her. Ciaran adores our daughter. He  
3 adores her wee dog, sometimes. Just Ciaran has a very,  
4 very good life.

5 176 Q. Can you tell the Panel a bit more about the type of 11:11  
6 care that he requires?

7 A. Ciaran, we constantly have to watch Ciaran 24/7.  
8 Ciaran's routine is every morning, we get him up at  
9 half eight. We go up -- I just go upstairs, bring him  
10 his medication up, which he has still a cocktail of 11:12  
11 medication. Get him up, give him his medication. We  
12 get him to do a pee. He wears a pad at night. We get  
13 him to do a pee. He goes back into bed again and he  
14 will lie -- some mornings he will lie to about half  
15 ten. Gets up, "Cheerios, mum, Cheerios, mum, Cheerios, 11:12  
16 mum"; his breakfast, Cheerios. Gets his breakfast.  
17 His daddy showers him; then I dress him. I think  
18 Ciaran can do a lot more for himself than what he does.  
19 My daughter constantly tells me off about dressing him,  
20 but I dress him, and he let's me. 11:12

21  
22 We have to make all his food. Ciaran wouldn't have a  
23 clue about any food. He's no clue what time of the day  
24 it is. He goes to bed nine o'clock at night. His  
25 routine is he gets his cup of tea and whatever at 11:12  
26 night-time. His daddy brings it in on his wee table to  
27 him.

28  
29 Bedtime. He goes up. I do his bedtime. I do -- his

1 daddy does his night drugs, I do his morning drugs.  
2 Bring him up to bed. He does a pee, he gets a pad on  
3 him, gets into bed. I have to kiss him "Night-Night,  
4 honey bunny, love you. Night-night honey bunny, love  
5 you", until I go out through the door. And that's 11:13  
6 Ciaran to the morning.  
7  
8 Now, Ciaran would have an awful bother with  
9 constipation and can have an overflow, which he can  
10 wake up during the night. Our house would be like a 11:13  
11 war zone with him with this.  
12  
13 But Ciaran loves his DVDs, loves his music.  
14 177 Q. That is what I was going to ask you. What type of  
15 thing does he like to do? 11:13  
16 A. He loves his DVDs. He loves his music. He would sing  
17 to me all day. He loves his soaps. He doesn't follow  
18 them. But he knows a certain time when the news comes  
19 on, you are not allowed to touch the TV, the news comes  
20 on. It's time for his soaps, and he knows the minute 11:14  
21 the soaps are over; he says "I want my drugs, I want to  
22 go to bed". That would be Ciaran's day.  
23 178 Q. Yeah. And the final thing that I wanted to ask you  
24 about, Patricia, was Ciaran's memories of Muckamore,  
25 because you describe that in your statement -- 11:14  
26 A. Yes.  
27 179 Q. -- and how he talks about Muckamore?  
28 A. Yeah.  
29 180 Q. One of the things you said was that he doesn't have the

1 ability to talk about anything that happened?

2 A. No.

3 181 Q. Ciaran can talk, obviously?

4 A. Ciaran can talk.

5 182 Q. So what do you mean by him not having the ability to 11:14  
6 talk about what had happened?

7 A. Ciaran couldn't sit and have a conversation with you.  
8 You know, all he says is "who's such and a one, who's  
9 such and a one, who's such and a one"? You know, he  
10 just rhymes off these names. Still to this day, you 11:14  
11 know after Ciaran being out of Muckamore for so long,  
12 Ciaran still rhymes out these names. Now, I can sit  
13 and ignore him, and he knows when I ignore him and  
14 he'll stop. And then sometimes I'll say to him  
15 "Ciaran, we don't talk about these people any more", 11:15  
16 you know and "Muckamore", he'll say "knocked down".  
17 And I'll say "Yes, Muckamore was knocked down, we don't  
18 talk about this any more".  
19

20 And if we are out in the car, if we're driving and we 11:15  
21 go near a road that he associated with Muckamore, he  
22 would say "I'm not going to Muckamore. I'm not going  
23 to Muckamore".  
24

25 So he still has terrible memories about Muckamore. 11:15

26 183 Q. And when he's doing those things, you mention him  
27 rhyming off the names of staff members, what's his  
28 emotional state like when he does that?

29 A. His emotional state seems to be okay. You know, he

1 just rhymes off these names. I don't know whether he  
2 does it to annoy me or what it is, but he rhymes off  
3 these names. Most of the time, I'll ignore him. And  
4 I'll say, "Ciaran, do you know these people"? And he'll  
5 say "No, no, no, no". I'll say "Do you want to go and 11:15  
6 see these people"? "No, no, no".

7 184 Q. And what does he say about seclusion?  
8 A. Well, he'll sing a wee song about seclusion and ICU.  
9 He sings a song with Scooby-Doo. 'Scooby-Doo, where  
10 are you? Scooby-Doo, ICU'. He doesn't -- he'll just 11:16  
11 say "I don't want to go to seclusion, I don't want to  
12 go to seclusion". I'll say "Ciaran, you're not going  
13 to seclusion. There's no seclusion in our house.  
14 You're not going there".

15 185 Q. Whenever Ciaran was in Muckamore, were you informed of 11:16  
16 occasions when he had to be secluded?  
17 A. They would have told us that was going into seclusion.  
18 But I think when he went into the ICU unit of it, of  
19 Cranfield, that he would have been in the seclusion.  
20 But they would have told us it wouldn't have been for a 11:16  
21 long period of time. When he was in the ICU unit, we  
22 really weren't allowed into that part of the building.

23 186 Q. And how often would you have been informed that he was  
24 going into seclusion?  
25 A. Not very often. 11:16

26 MS. KILEY: Those are all the questions that I have for  
27 you, and thank you for answering my questions. Before  
28 I hand you over to the Panel, who may also have some  
29 questions for you, I just want to give you the

1 opportunity, Patricia, to tell the Panel anything else  
2 that you want to about your experience of Muckamore,  
3 Ciaran's experience; anything that we have not touched  
4 on.

5 A. I just think, you know, our experience with Muckamore, 11:17  
6 that it was hell for us. Really from the start to the  
7 finish, you know, it was a place where someone took our  
8 son and we had no control over him. And, you know,  
9 Ciaran is the love of our life. You know, I couldn't  
10 even express the love I have for Ciaran. And's one 11:17  
11 spoiled, big man that wants for nothing, absolutely  
12 nothing. He gets the best of everything.

13  
14 I just know our time, you know, between me and my  
15 husband, probably we could have been divorced by now 11:17  
16 but I think Ciaran kept us together, you know, what we  
17 went through, you know, having to drive Ciaran up there  
18 and leave him in that place. That was such a terrible,  
19 terrible place. M7A or M7B, whatever it was, was like  
20 a jail, all these bars on the window. It just was like 11:18  
21 a jail. It was a most horriblemest place that anybody  
22 ever seen.

23  
24 Like, when we talk about it now, we think, well, we  
25 left Ciaran there. You know, we were responsible for 11:18  
26 Ciaran and we left him there. But it was out of our  
27 control.

28 MS. KILEY: Okay. Thank you, Patricia. The Panel  
29 members might have some questions for you.

1 THE WITNESS WAS QUESTIONED BY THE INQUIRY PANEL  
2 AS FOLLOWS:

3  
4 CHAIRPERSON: I've only got this. I just want to  
5 understand about his initial period in Muckamore. When 11:18  
6 he first went in, he was very young, he was 12?

7 A. Yeah, mm-hmm.

8 187 Q. And you'd understood that he was going in for  
9 assessment?

10 A. Yes. 11:18

11 188 Q. But presumably his behaviour at that point was quite  
12 troublesome?

13 A. Yes, it was very bad.

14 189 Q. But even so, it wasn't thought at that stage he needed  
15 to be sectioned? 11:19

16 A. No. No. He was voluntary for...

17 190 Q. So he goes in for assessment. You weren't able to see  
18 the circumstances in which he was living; you couldn't  
19 see the ward he was on?

20 A. No. No. Well, we were able to see the ward. We could 11:19  
21 see all these patients just walking about the place.

22 191 Q. Right.

23 A. And they were all adults. I think there was one other  
24 child in it, so there was. A wee girl.

25 192 Q. And when he went in, did he take some home comforts 11:19  
26 with him or was that not possible?

27 A. No, it wasn't. We were advised not to let him bring  
28 anything with him.

29 193 Q. Then you discovered, later, that he was in fact

1 compulsorily detained, he was sectioned?

2 A. Yes.

3 194 Q. And Ms. Kiley has asked you, but you weren't given any  
4 information about what you could do about that?

5 A. No, he was sectioned under the Mental Health Act. 11:20

6 CHAIRPERSON: All right. That's all that I want to ask  
7 you.

8

9 Can I thank you very much indeed for coming along and  
10 telling us about Ciaran, it's been really useful. It's 11:20  
11 nice to hear that he's home and doing far better than  
12 he was.

13 THE WITNESS: Yes.

14 CHAIRPERSON: So thank you very much, to you both in  
15 fact, for coming along and helping us. All right. If 11:20  
16 you'd like to go with Jaclyn.

17 THE WITNESS: Right. Thank you.

18

19 THE WITNESS THEN WITHDREW

20

11:20

21 CHAIRPERSON: we'll take a short break. I've got a  
22 short announcement to make about sittings and timings  
23 but I'll do that in about ten minutes. Okay? we'll  
24 just take a ten minute break.

25

11:21

26 SHORT ADJOURNMENT

27

28 CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Right. So as you know, I  
29 made public my intention that we would finish evidence

1 relating to the patient experience, as far as possible,  
2 before the end of this year. That aspiration was  
3 because the Inquiry started hearing this area of  
4 evidence in June of this year, and it is important for  
5 any inquiry to make good, timely progress if it can. I 11:38  
6 wanted, if possible, to receive all of the evidence  
7 about the patient experience before starting evidence  
8 from organisations. Indeed, before hearing from  
9 individual members of staff, it will be necessary to  
10 complete the evidence of the patient experience in 11:38  
11 order that staff may be in a position to consider and  
12 respond to criticism that may be made of them.

13  
14 However, having heard some 37 witnesses, which includes  
15 today's witness in fact, so far this year, we will only 11:38  
16 be in a position to hear from around 12 more this year.  
17 That evidence will be heard over a two-week period -  
18 this is really for your diaries - between 22nd November  
19 and 1st December.

20 11:39  
21 Now, at this stage there are, unfortunately, no further  
22 witness statements available to enable the Inquiry to  
23 schedule the final phase of evidence relating to the  
24 patient experience. Those will almost exclusively be  
25 statements that are anticipated from individuals 11:39  
26 affiliated to Action for Muckamore, and the Society of  
27 Parents and Friends of Muckamore, who are, of course,  
28 core participants in this Inquiry.

1 There are ongoing issues relating to the receipt of  
2 those statements, and the Inquiry is liaising with  
3 their legal representatives with a view to achieving a  
4 resolution that will enable the evidence to be heard as  
5 soon as possible.

11:40

6  
7 But I want to underline how important it is that we do  
8 receive that evidence, and we have every intention of  
9 doing so. Realistically, however, it will not be  
10 possible to hear that evidence until 2023.

11:40

11  
12 In the meantime, while that evidence is being prepared,  
13 in the new year we intend to move on to organisational  
14 evidence of a general nature. There's a good deal of  
15 evidence that we, the Panel, need to hear relating to  
16 the legal and regulatory framework, the structure of  
17 various organisations, policies, methods and  
18 governance. We will be contacting several of our  
19 organisational core participants over the next few  
20 weeks to organise receipt of that evidence. Now, that  
21 is evidence of an informative nature. It will not be  
22 affected by evidence relating to the individual patient  
23 experience at the hospital.

11:40

11:40

24  
25 So, after the further two weeks in November of this  
26 year, we are unlikely to begin hearings again until  
27 late January or early February 2023. Of course, a  
28 further announcement will be made to all CPs once the  
29 dates are finalised.

11:41

