

MUCKAMORE ABBEY HOSPITAL INQUIRY

**RESTRICTION ORDER
PURSUANT TO SECTION 19 OF THE INQUIRIES ACT 2005**

**Restriction Order No. 96
("Redaction of the statement of Jenny Porter")**

I have power under section 19(1)(b) of the Inquiries Act 2005 to make orders restricting disclosure or publication of evidence or documents given, produced or provided to the Inquiry.

This order relates to redaction of the statement of Jenny Porter (MAHI – STM – 334) dated 21 October 2024.

I have been asked by the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) and the Public Prosecution Service (PPS) to make a restriction order under section 19 of the Inquiries Act 2005 in relation to Exhibits 1, 2 and 5 of the statement of Jenny Porter dated 21 October 2024. There are already general restriction orders in relation to the naming of patients and members of staff, but I am asked to make this order to add a further level of protection.

The application is made on the basis that restriction of text contained within Exhibits 1, 2 and 5 is necessary to protect the integrity of the ongoing criminal investigations and prosecutions. I have had particular regard to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Inquiry, the PSNI and the PPS, in which I have undertaken to make every effort to ensure that the procedure and conduct of the Inquiry respects the integrity of the PSNI investigation and prosecutions.

The purpose of this order is to protect against any adverse impact on the criminal justice process in relation to the statement of Jenny Porter, and to preserve the integrity of and ensure consistency with other restriction orders made during this Inquiry.

I am satisfied that the Order is conducive to the Inquiry fulfilling its Terms of Reference and is necessary in the public interest having regard to the matters specified in section 19(4), and to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Inquiry, the PSNI and the PPS. This Order should be read in conjunction with Restriction Order No. 4 (Staff Identification).

Therefore, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Text contained in Exhibit 1, Exhibit 2 and Exhibit 5 shall be redacted.

2. This Order remains in force for the duration of the Inquiry and at all times thereafter, unless otherwise ordered.
3. I may vary or revoke this Order by making a further Order during the course of the Inquiry.

Any threat to break this Order, or any breach of it, can be certified to the High Court under section 36 of the Inquiries Act, which will deal with it as though the breach had occurred in proceedings before that Court.

Made by the Chair on 25 November 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom Kark', with a horizontal line underneath.

Tom Kark KC Chair