

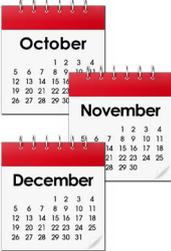


Welcome to our Autumn 2022 Easy Read newsletter. This tells you what has been happening with the Scottish **COVID-19 Inquiry**. The **COVID-19 Inquiry** is looking at what happened in Scotland during the pandemic.



SCOTTISH  
COVID-19  
INQUIRY

On 3 October Lady Poole said she was leaving the job of **Chair** for personal reasons. The **Chair** is the person leading the work on the Inquiry.



Lady Poole said she would keep helping with the Inquiry for up to three months. She also thanked everyone for their hard work.



Scottish Ministers are choosing a new Chair for the Inquiry.



We are carrying on with the work of the Inquiry as we wait for a new Chair.



Earlier in the year we asked for some research to be done to look at what happened during the pandemic.



You can read more about this research in our Easy Read Summer Newsletter: [www.covid19inquiry.scot/sites/default/files/2022-09/Easy%20Read%20-%20Summer%202022%20Newsletter.pdf](http://www.covid19inquiry.scot/sites/default/files/2022-09/Easy%20Read%20-%20Summer%202022%20Newsletter.pdf)



We have written rules and explained how we will get information as part of the Inquiry. You can see these on our website: [www.covid19inquiry.scot/protocols-and-notice](http://www.covid19inquiry.scot/protocols-and-notice)



There will be a lot of information to look at. We now have safe ways to work with and store information.



We are planning a listening project. We will ask people what the COVID-19 pandemic in Scotland was like for them.



We have sent **'do not destroy' letters** to some people and organisations in Scotland. **These letters** tell them that they must keep any information they have that may help with the Inquiry.



We are looking at who should be **core participants**. A **core participant** can be a person, a group, or an organisation.



**Core participants** are people who may have had a job which was important, or have an important interest in the work of the inquiry. They could be someone that the Inquiry Report says did something wrong.



Core participants help the Inquiry with its work. They may take part in **formal public hearings**.

**Formal public hearings** are where people tell us what happened and what they did during the pandemic.

# Core participants update



Lots of different people and organisations have asked to be core participants. Many of these people will have information that will be very useful in the Inquiry.



The new Chair will decide who will be the core participants soon.



When we know who the core participants are we will put a list on our website.

[www.covid19inquiry.scot](http://www.covid19inquiry.scot)



You can find out more about what a core participant is on this page of our website:

[www.covid19inquiry.scot/protocols-and-notice](http://www.covid19inquiry.scot/protocols-and-notice)



Everyone in Scotland can take part in the Inquiry even if they are not a core participant. You can:



Take part in the listening project and tell us what the pandemic was like for you.



Keep up-to-date with the Inquiry and read any of our reports on our website.



If we ask you for information that you have, you can send it to us.



If you are asked to give evidence at a public hearing. You can tell the Inquiry what it was like for you during the pandemic.



Watch what happens in public hearings on our website.



Read what people said in public hearings and any expert reports on our website.

# Getting information for our reports



When we write our reports for the Inquiry we have to think about 3 things:

1. The pandemic changed the lives of millions of people across Scotland. This means that there will be a lot of information.



2. The Inquiry will look at what happened to people in Scotland up to 31 December 2022.



3. We will be looking at some of the same things as the UK Covid-19 Inquiry. We are working together to share information.



We are working on getting the information we need so that we can start **formal public hearings**.



Once we have got enough information we will have formal public hearings.

We will get the information for the public hearings in different ways:



### **Our listening project**

The listening project will give you a chance to have your say if you want to.



We will test out our listening project at the end of this year. Everyone can join the listening project next year.



### **Research and reports by experts**

Specialists working in universities have been doing research for us.



### **Voluntary calls for evidence**

This is where we ask people to send us information that could help with the Inquiry.



### **Mandatory calls for evidence**

This is where we tell people to send us information.

# Working with the UK Covid-19 Inquiry



If you live in Scotland both the Scottish and UK Covid-19 inquiries are for you.



Our Inquiry can find out about the things that happened in Scotland. We can make recommendations for Scotland.



We are working with the UK inquiry to make a clear guide. This will help us work together in the best way.



We will put this information on our website when it is done. This will help you to know which inquiry is looking at each thing.