



SCOTTISH COVID-19 INQUIRY

Preliminary Hearing for Health & Social Care 28 August 2023

Supplementary Information

How long will the hearing last?

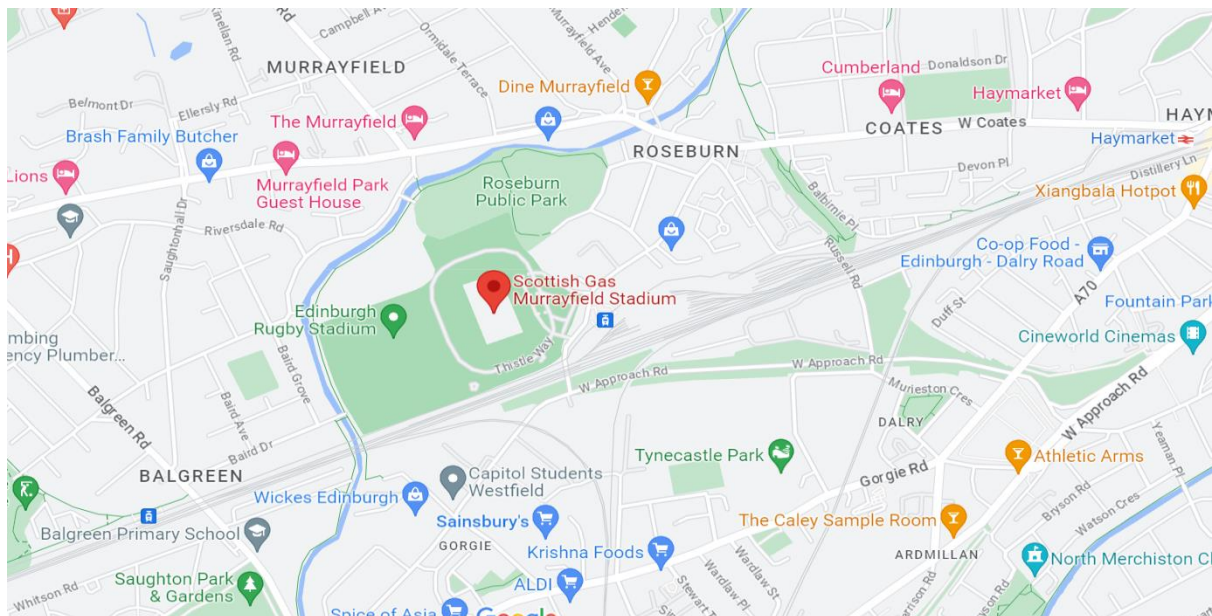
The hearing will begin at 10.00am and run until approximately 4.15pm. Tea and coffee will be available in the venue from 9.15am. All attendees should arrive by 9.45am. There will be breaks during proceedings, including at lunchtime.

Can I bring someone with me?

Spaces are only reserved for those who have requested to attend in advance. If you have not requested to attend in advance, please email us via contact@covid19inquiry.scot to enquire if we have any places available.

Where is the venue?

The hearing will take place in the **Thistle Suite, Murrayfield Stadium, Roseburn Street, Edinburgh**

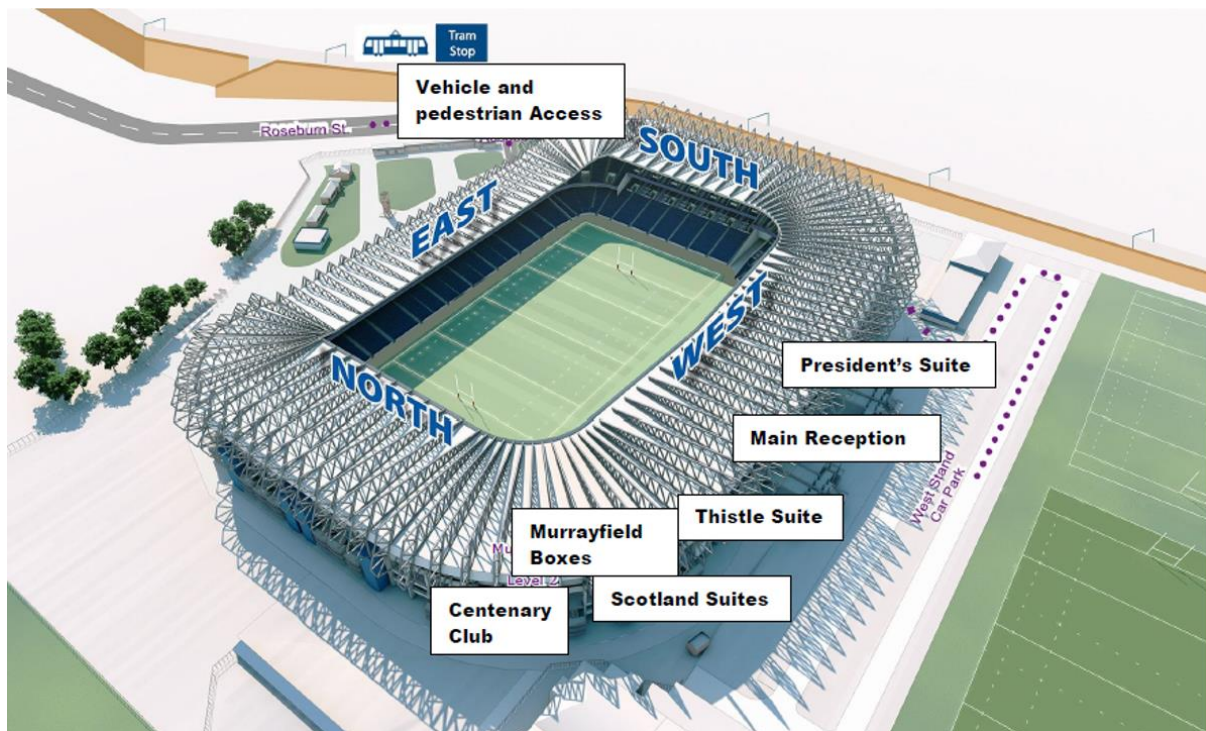


Attendees should enter Murrayfield Stadium via the Gatehouse, (labelled Vehicle and Pedestrian Access in the diagram below) off Roseburn Street. The access points are on the West Stand of the stadium.

Core participants and their representatives, along with members of the public, should enter via the Thistle Suite stairwell.

Members of the media must enter via the Scotland Suite stairwell.

The accessible entrance is via the Main Reception entrance.



How do I get to the venue?

By Train: Edinburgh is serviced by two railway stations, Waverley and Haymarket. The stadium is a 15-minute walk from Haymarket Station or three minutes on the tram. The trams can also be accessed from the Princes Street side of Waverley Station.

By Bus: Buses from Edinburgh City Centre to Murrayfield Stadium: 26 and 31. The closest bus stop is on Roseburn Terrace. Buses from Edinburgh Airport: Airlink 100 will take you to Ormidale Terrace, which is a 10-minute walk to the stadium.

By Tram: Murrayfield can be accessed directly via the Edinburgh Tram service from both Edinburgh City Centre and Edinburgh Airport, every eight minutes. For more information and for tram timetables visit <http://edinburghtrams.com/>

By Car: The postcode for the venue is EH12 5PJ. Complimentary parking is available.

Is there parking at the venue?

Yes. Entrance to the car park is via the Gatehouse, Vehicle and Pedestrian Access, off Roseburn Street.

What should I do if I have accessibility needs?

If you have any accessibility needs, please contact us via email at contact@covid19inquiry.scot and a member of the team will be happy to help.

What will happen when I arrive at the hearing?

Please only attend if you have pre-registered with the Inquiry.

On arrival at the Gatehouse, your name will be checked against the attendee list, and you will be directed to the appropriate entrance.

On arrival at the appropriate entrance, a member of the Inquiry team will again check your name against the list of registered attendees and issue a visitor pass.

You should display your pass at all times while attending the hearing and return it at the end of the day.

Tea and coffee will be available from 9.15am.

What COVID-19 measures are in place?

The health, safety, and wellbeing of all of those attending hearings is a priority for the Inquiry.

Hand sanitiser and disposable face coverings will be available for use by all attendees.

Ventilation in the venue is via mechanical means, supplemented with natural ventilation. The Inquiry has worked with the venue to ensure that the standard of ventilation recommended by the British Council for Offices (BCO) is provided.

We ask that in the event that you are feeling unwell, please do not attend and follow the hearing via a livestream on the Inquiry's [YouTube channel](#) if you are able to.

Can I bring a bag?

For security reasons we advise that you do not bring a bag, though small bags (such as handbags and small backpacks) are allowed. Bags may be subject to search on arrival.

There are no cloakroom facilities available at the venue and we recommend that you do not leave any personal belongings, papers, or documents unattended anywhere in the venue.

The Inquiry cannot guarantee the security of any personal items.

Can I take my phone into the hearing room?

Phones and electronic devices are allowed, though they should be on silent mode at all times while you are in the hearing room. You should not make or accept phone calls or take photographs, video, or audio recordings in the hearing room.

The hearing should proceed without disruption or interruptions. Anyone attempting to disrupt the hearing may be required to leave the venue.

What happens if I arrive late for the hearing?

In the event you arrive late for the hearing, you will be allowed into the room at an appropriate break in proceedings.

Can I eat or drink in the hearing room?

Eating and drinking is not allowed in the hearing room.

Who will be in the hearing room?

As well as the Chair and counsel to the Inquiry, there may be a variety of people present, including legal representatives, security staff, Inquiry staff, members of the public and journalists.

Can I attend without having registered in advance?

Space in the hearing room is limited and it is recommended that members of the public who have not registered in advance follow the hearing via a livestream on the Inquiry's [YouTube channel](#) if you are able to. Media representatives wishing to attend in person should contact media@covid19inquiry.scot

Anyone wishing to attend in person should request a seat in advance. The Inquiry has notified people by email who have been allocated a seat. If you have not already requested to attend, please contact us at contact@covid19inquiry.scot to enquire if we have any places available.

Is Wi-Fi available at the venue?

Complimentary guest wi-fi is available (SRUguest). No password is required.

Will emotional support be available during the hearing?

A separate room will be available for use by any attendees who are upset or distressed during the proceedings and need to take time out of the hearing room.

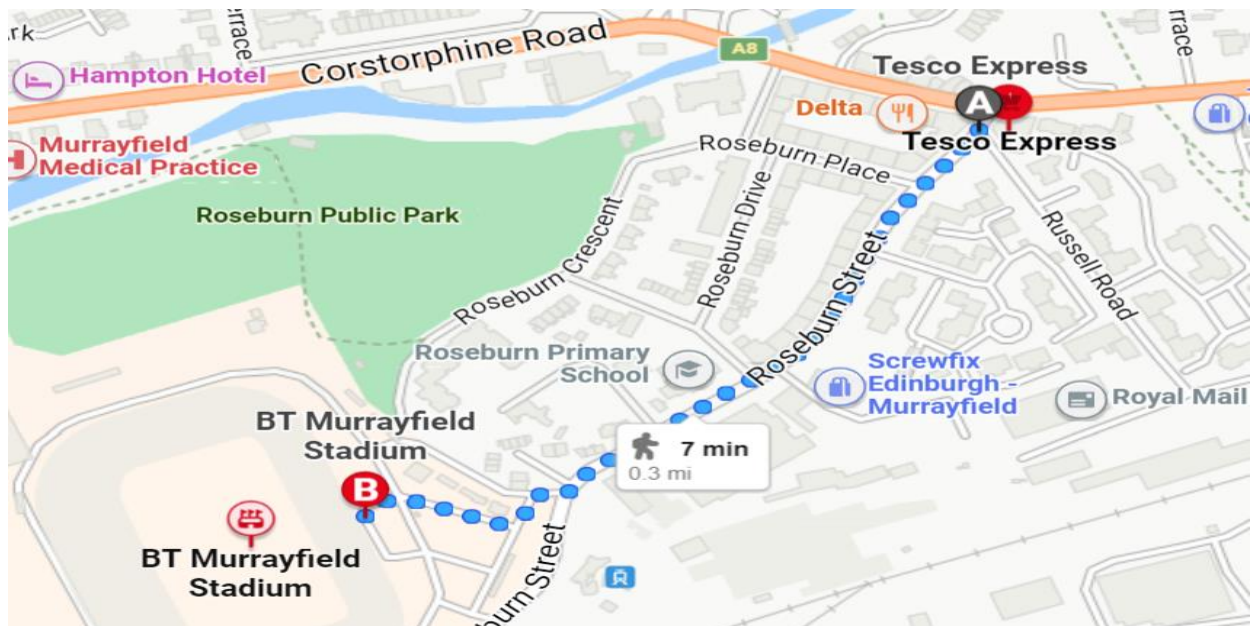
Inquiry staff trained in trauma-informed practice will be available to provide emotional support and signposting to specialist support organisations. A CRUSE bereavement counsellor will be available onsite at the Preliminary Hearing.

Where can I purchase something to eat or drink?

Refreshments (tea, coffee, water) will be available from 9.15am, and during morning and afternoon breaks.

A limited selection of sandwiches and snacks will be available to purchase at lunchtime in Murrayfield Stadium.

Shops and cafes are a seven-minute walk from Murrayfield Gatehouse, on Roseburn Terrace:



The hearing is being live streamed. Will I be filmed?

Cameras will be located at the front of the room and facing to the front. While it is unlikely attendees will be filmed you should be aware that you might be captured occasionally on wide angle or room overview camera shots.

Will there be opportunity for questions and interactions?

Core participants who wished to submit questions to the Chair have now done so. Responses to questions received will be provided in the course of

the hearing. There will be an opportunity for core participants' legal representatives to ask follow-up questions relating to the substance of the hearing on the day.

Please note, the Chair will not be inviting opening statements to be made during this hearing. These will instead feature as part of the substantive impact hearings beginning in October, and more information on this will follow in due course.

I am not able to attend or watch the hearing on the day. Can I watch it later?

Yes, a video of the hearing will be available on the Inquiry's [YouTube channel](#) for viewing on demand. The videos will be accessible via a link on the Inquiry's website.

How can I share my experience of COVID-19?

Let's Be Heard is the main channel for people to share their experiences of the pandemic and any lessons they believe should be learned from the response to the pandemic in Scotland.

Experiences shared with *Let's Be Heard* will help guide the Inquiry's investigations and inform its reports. This will include identifying any disproportionate or unequal impacts on particular groups or communities.

Further information on Let's Be Heard can be found at [Let's Be Heard | Sharing Scotland's COVID experience \(covid19inquiry.scot\)](#)