

SCOTTISH COVID-19 INQUIRY



Health and Social Care Impact Hearings

Supplementary Information for Attendees at Regus, 83 Princes Street, Edinburgh

Regus, Princes Street

The Inquiry is providing a large viewing room at Regus, Princes Street, Edinburgh, where proceedings will be broadcast in a comfortable room, laid out with a combination of theatre-style and soft seating. As a courtesy to others, please do not make telephone calls, or conduct meetings, in the viewing room.

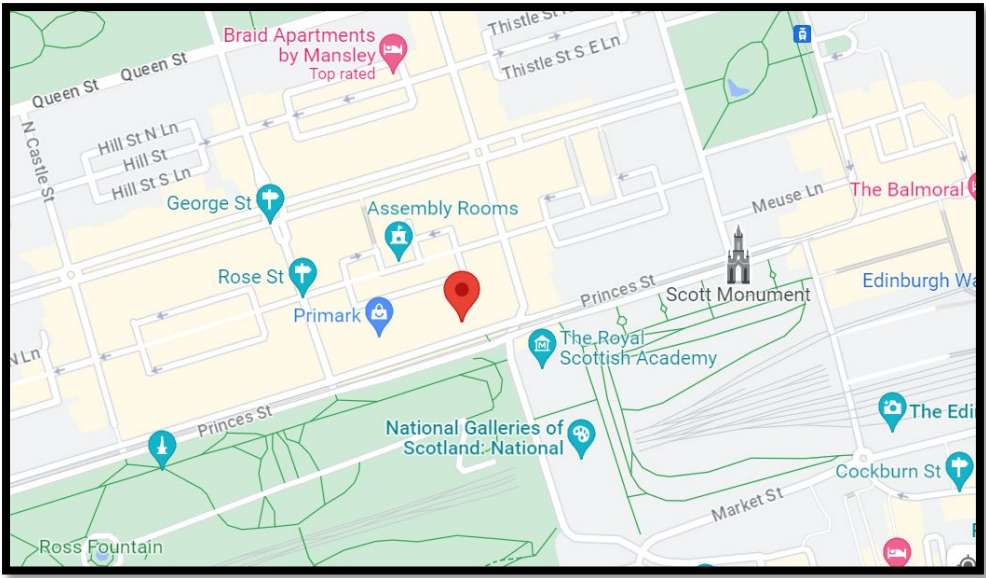
In addition, a separate room will be available for use by any attendees who are upset or distressed during the proceedings and need to take time out of the viewing room.

On a separate floor there is a small bookable consultation room for core participants' representatives to meet with their group members. This room has desk space and seating for up to eight people. To enquire about reserving this space, please email hearingsandwitnesses@scotland19inquiry.scot.

A designated room for accredited media to follow the hearings is also on this floor. All media enquiries should be sent to media@scotland19inquiry.scot.

Where is the venue?

Regus, 83 Princes Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2ER.



How do I get to the venue?

By train: Edinburgh city centre is serviced by two railway stations, Waverley, which is a 10-minute walk to the venue, and Haymarket, which is a 20-minute walk.

By bus: There are several bus stops on Princes Street, both eastbound and westbound. These stops service Lothian Buses, Lothian Country Buses, East Coast Buses and the Airlink 100. For more information and for bus timetables visit [Lothian Buses](#).

By tram: The closest tram stop for Regus is on Princes Street. This stop is directly in front of the venue. For more information and for tram timetables visit [Edinburgh Trams](#).

By car: The postcode for the venue is EH2 2ER.

Is there parking at the venue?

There is limited car parking available off Rose Street South Lane. Parking charges of £15 per day apply. The Inquiry cannot reserve parking for attendees.

There are a restricted number of pay-and-display parking spaces available on St Andrew’s Square and Queen Street. Parking on George Street has been suspended for the festive period. A temporary suspension of parking is in place at Charlotte Square for the first week of November 2023.

There is also multi-storey parking at Castle Terrace at the west end of Princes Street, or at St James Quarter at the east end, both of which are within a 15-minute walk from the venue.

Bike parking is available on Princes Street and George Street.

What will happen when I arrive at Regus?

Attendees will be able to access the venue between 9am and 5pm.

On arrival at the venue, a member of the Inquiry team will check your name against the list of registered attendees.

Please only attend if you have received confirmation from the Inquiry that a space is reserved for you.

Members of the media will be directed to the second floor, where they will be met by a member of the Inquiry communications team.

All other attendees will be accompanied to the viewing room on the third floor, where they will be issued a lanyard by a member of the Inquiry team.

You should display your lanyard at all times whilst in the building and return it at the end of the day.

Self-service tea, coffee and water will be available in the viewing room from 9am.

Before the hearing begins, a member of Inquiry staff will provide housekeeping information.

Security passes will be available from the Inquiry staff to access lavatory facilities on each floor. Passes must be returned to Inquiry staff after use.

How long will hearings last?

Ordinarily, hearings will begin at 10am and run until approximately 4pm. There may be occasions when hearings begin earlier than 10am. Please check the [hearings calendar](#) on the Inquiry's website for details. There will be breaks during proceedings, including at lunchtime.

Can I attend without having registered in advance?

Space in the viewing 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. The [Hearing schedule](#) is published on the Inquiry website and you can contact us at hearingsandwitnesses@covid19inquiry.scot to enquire if we have any places available. The Inquiry will notify people by email who have been allocated a seat.

What should I do if I have accessibility needs?

All floors in Regus are fully accessible from the Princes Street entrance via an internal lift. There is also an alternative accessible entrance via the parking area off Rose Street South Lane.

If you have any accessibility needs, please contact us via email at hearingsandwitnesses@covid19inquiry.scot, or by telephone on 0808 164 0222, and a member of the team will be happy to help.

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.

All spaces at Regus are ventilated by natural means. There is controllable heating in each room.

We ask that, in the event that you are feeling unwell, you please do not attend and follow the hearing via the broadcast on the Inquiry's [YouTube channel](#) if you are able to. Please also let us know if you can no longer attend so we can make arrangements to give your space to someone else.

Smoking

Smoking and vaping inside Regus are prohibited.

Can I bring a bag?

For security reasons, we advise that you do not bring a bag, though small bags (such as handbags and backpacks smaller than A4 size) 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.

The Inquiry cannot guarantee the security of any personal items.

Is wi-fi available at the venue?

Complimentary guest wi-fi is available throughout the Regus building, and each room has electrical sockets for charging devices.

Will emotional support be available during hearings?

Inquiry staff trained in trauma-informed practice will be available to provide emotional support and signposting to specialist support organisations. A [CRUSE Scotland](#) bereavement counsellor will also be available onsite.

Where can I purchase something to eat or drink?

Shops and cafes are located on Princes Street, George Street and Rose Street.

Self-service tea, coffee and water will be available in the viewing room throughout the hearings.

I am not able to attend or watch hearings on the day. Can I watch them later?

Yes, videos of each hearing will be available to watch on demand on the Inquiry's [YouTube channel](#). 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](#).