

PROTOCOL No.1

INTERESTED PARTIES PROTOCOL

1. Interested Party Status

- 1.1 Interested Party status is afforded to the families of Adam, Claire, Lucy, Raychel and Conor
- 1.2 Interested Party status may be afforded to:
 - 1.2.1 Any person¹ who the Inquiry considers played or should have played a direct and substantial role in the care and treatment of Adam, Claire, Raychel and Conor in the circumstances referred to in the Revised Terms of Reference, a copy of which can be viewed at the Inquiry website at www.ihrdni.org.
 - 1.2.2 Any person who the Inquiry considers was concerned in the events, procedures, investigations and provision of information that followed the deaths of Adam, Claire, Lucy, Raychel and Conor
 - 1.2.3 Any person who the Inquiry considers may be subject to explicit or significant criticism during the proceedings or in the Report
 - 1.2.4 Any person who the Inquiry considers played or should have played a direct and substantial role in the provision of explanations to the families of Adam, Claire and Raychel as to what happened to their children and why they died

2. Application for Interested Party Status

- 2.1 Any person who considers that they meet the definition of an Interested Party is entitled to apply to the Chairman to be afforded that status.

3. Grant of Interested Party Status

- 3.1 The Chairman may grant Interested Party status to any person for which such status is appropriate having regard to the Revised Terms of Reference of the Inquiry and their particular circumstances. In doing so the Inquiry shall be at liberty to determine which of the entitlements of

¹ The term 'Person' is given the widest interpretation including an individual, any organisation, body or statutory authority

Interested Party status shall be afforded to them and the areas of the Inquiry's work for which they should be granted that status.

4. The Consequences of Interested Party Status

Any person who has Interested Party status will be entitled to:

- 4.1 Receive DVDs and one hard copy of the written evidence
- 4.2 Receive a list of those from whom witness statements have been sought
- 4.3 Access to the witness statements received by the Inquiry
- 4.4 Suggest additional witnesses from whom witness statements should be sought and suggest additional witnesses to give evidence at the oral hearings
- 4.5 Have legal representation for the oral hearings, in which case they can either pay for it themselves or can apply to have it funded in accordance with the Costs Protocol
- 4.6 Have their Counsel make an opening statement at the appropriate part of the oral hearings
- 4.7 Suggest to Counsel to the Inquiry lines of questioning to be put to a witness at the oral hearings
- 4.8 Have their Counsel conduct re-examination of their evidence after Counsel to the Inquiry has cross-examined them subject to the consent of the Chairman
- 4.9 Have their Counsel make a closing statement and / or closing written submissions
- 4.10 Respond to an area of criticism or potential criticism by being recalled to give further evidence either during the oral hearings or during a reconvened oral hearing

5. Area of Likely Criticism

Where the Inquiry considers that an Interested Party may be subject to criticism then that person will be advised of the criticism and will be afforded an opportunity of dealing with it during the Oral Hearings.

6. Removal of Interested Party Status

- 6.1 The Inquiry retains the discretion to remove Interested Party status from any individual, body or organisation where such status is no longer appropriate having regard to the Revised Terms of Reference and the person's particular circumstances.
- 6.2 Any party may notify the Chairman that they no longer wish to avail of Interested Party status.