



## Belfast hearings factsheet

**Date:** Tuesday 21 May - Friday 24 May 2019

**Timetable:** Registration is at the Riverside Entrance overlooking the river. It will start from 10am on Tuesday, with the hearings beginning at 10.30am. Registration is at 9.30am on Wednesday and Thursday, with the hearings starting at 10am because there are more witnesses those days. Registration is at 10am on Friday, with the hearing starting at 10.30am. Tea and coffee will be available. The hearings are anticipated to finish mid-afternoon, depending on the number of witnesses speaking. Refreshments and sandwiches will be provided.

**Location:** The International Convention Centre Belfast (formerly called the Waterfront Hall) 2 Lanyon Place, Belfast, BT1 3WH

**Hearings:** The Chair of the Inquiry is Sir Brian Langstaff. Questioning of witnesses will be led by Jenni Richards QC and her colleague Sarah Fraser Butlin. The schedule of witnesses is on the Inquiry website.



**Registration and expenses:** Please register to attend before coming to the Inquiry via [our website](#). Details of how to claim expenses for attending can be found [here](#). The Inquiry team will be on hand during the hearings to help with claiming expenses as well as for any other queries. They will be wearing green lanyards for identification.

**Wellbeing:** The wellbeing of people following the Inquiry is extremely important. The Chair understands that people may need to take a break from the main room at any point, and the proceedings will be shown on screens in a separate room. Confidential psychological support will be available at the hearings from the Inquiry Red Cross team who have been working with the Inquiry since September. They will be wearing identifiable lanyards. Telephone support will also be available and can be accessed on 0800 458 9473 and 0203 417 0280.

**Memorial:** While the Inquiry is in Belfast, it will be possible to contribute to the memorial sculpture, made up of messages in small bottles about a loved one, yourself or whatever you

feel is most important. If you want to think about your message/s before you come to the hearing, the piece of paper is about 5 by 2 inches so it can be scrolled and put into a bottle, and you are welcome to write on both sides or keep your message private. If you are not able to attend a hearing but would like to contribute, you are welcome to contact the Inquiry team who will ensure your message is included.

**Media:** The Inquiry has arranged for the witness hearings to be filmed for broadcast. People attending will not be shown on camera. Broadcast and print media have been requested not to film people without their permission. They will not be filming individuals in the hearing room but they may conduct interviews in specific areas of the Waterfront Hall or outside. Media will be wearing yellow lanyards for identification.

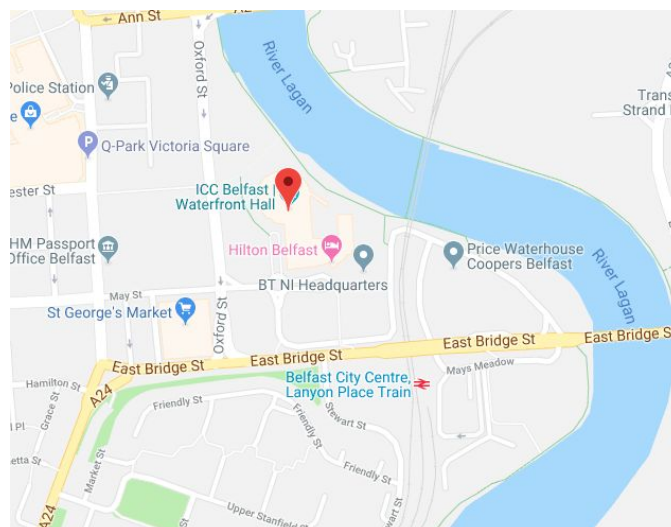
**Privacy:** We request that no one takes photos or films others to protect the identity and privacy of those attending.

**Luggage:** Coats and luggage can be stored securely at the venue.

**Hearing loop:** For those who require it, hearing loop devices are available at the Inquiry reception.

**Website:** The hearings are being filmed and live-streamed on the Inquiry's website ([www.infectedbloodinquiry.org.uk](http://www.infectedbloodinquiry.org.uk)). They will also be available for viewing after the event together with a full transcript.

**Map to venue:** Entrance is via the Inquiry reception at the riverside of the venue. It is a 5 minute walk along a vehicle free pathway from the taxi drop off point at the front of the building. There is ramp access.



For any further queries please contact the Infected Blood Inquiry Team on 0808 169 1377.

Further factsheets for hearings in other venues will follow in due course.