



Core Participant status granted to Medical Justice

The Chair of the Brook House Inquiry has issued a determination confirming that Medical Justice has been granted core participant status in the Inquiry. This decision follows a preliminary hearing on 25 September. Medical Justice will join the existing organisations and individuals who have previously been confirmed as Core Participant ([see list here](#)).

The independent Inquiry was set up to investigate the mistreatment of detainees at Brook House Immigration Removal Centre from April to August 2017 as depicted by the BBC's Panorama programme, *Under-Cover: Britain's Immigration Secrets* aired on 4 September 2017.

Medical Justice personnel had direct contact with detainees over the relevant period, and it had a specific role in relation to healthcare provision in Brook House and involvement with investigative and monitoring entities on clinical care in Brook House. The Inquiry's Terms of Reference specify the investigation of healthcare provision in Brook House.

Chair Kate Eves said:

"During the recent preliminary hearing I heard submissions from parties who had applied to be Core Participants in the inquiry but for whom my provisional decision had been not to grant that status. I carefully considered all of the submissions I received and I have now designated Medical Justice as a Core Participant."

Core participant status is not required for an interested organisation to make an effective contribution to the Inquiry and organisations whose Core Participant application has been declined can still make an important contribution to the Inquiry's work. All stakeholders have a critical role to play, particularly in identifying and supporting potential witnesses.

The Inquiry is still appealing to anyone who might have information on what happened at Brook House to come forward and share what they know, including any individuals or organisations with insights into the system at Brook House at that time, who may have supported or worked with detainees or employees.

Anyone who has information that might be of interest to the Inquiry, is being asked to get in touch either via the free telephone line: 0800 181 4363 or by email enquiries@BrookHouseInquiry.org. More information and support concerning the Inquiry is available in 17 different languages on the website: <https://brookhouseinquiry.org.uk/>. The Inquiry is committed to ensuring that witnesses can give their best evidence and translation and interpretation assistance is available to support this.