

MANCHESTER ARENA INQUIRY

RESTRICTION ORDER PURSUANT TO s.19 OF THE INQUIRIES ACT 2005 IN RELATION TO ANONYMITY AND SPECIAL MEASURES FOR WITNESS J FROM THE SECURITY SERVICE

This Order is made by the Chairman pursuant to section 19(1) of the Inquiries Act 2005. It remains in force indefinitely.

The Chairman of the Inquiry may vary or revoke this Order by making a further Order at any stage during the course of the Inquiry.

Any breach of this Order by any means whatsoever shall be notified in writing to the Inquiry immediately upon identification of the breach.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The name and identifying details of Witness J shall be withheld from all and any disclosure given by the Inquiry.
2. The name and identifying details of Witness J shall be withheld from all Inquiry personnel, save to the extent that the individual concerned holds Developed Vetted security clearance and requires the information for the effective discharge of their functions on behalf of the Inquiry.
3. The pseudonym 'Witness J' shall be used to identify the witness for the purposes of the Inquiry.
4. When Witness J is giving evidence to the Inquiry in OPEN session, no question may be asked which might lead to his identification.
5. When Witness J is giving evidence to the Inquiry in OPEN session, he shall be screened in such a manner that he may be seen only by:
 - a. the Chairman;
 - b. Counsel to the Inquiry, Paul Greaney QC;

- c. Solicitor to the Inquiry, Tim Suter; and
 - d. when questioning Witness J, the four lead advocates asking questions on behalf of the families (Duncan Atkinson QC, John Cooper QC, Pete Weatherby QC and Austin Welch) and counsel for the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sir James Eadie QC).
6. There shall be no live audio or video streaming or live transcription of the evidence Witness J gives to the Inquiry in OPEN session save by way of a sufficiently secure live feed to the specified locations provided by the Inquiry for those unable to attend the main hearing room. For the avoidance of doubt, the usual BlueJeans live feed is not sufficiently secure and will not be used.
7. When Witness J attends the Inquiry to give evidence in OPEN session he shall enter and exit the main hearing room by an appropriate non-public route, and the main hearing room shall be cleared, and the secure feed switched off, whilst he enters and exits.
8. During Witness J's evidence all electronic devices in the main hearing room, and any other location to which the evidence is streamed or broadcast, shall be turned off, save for:
 - a. The devices required for official transcription of Witness J's evidence; and
 - b. The devices required for the Inquiry's document management system to be operational and accessible as required for the purposes of the hearing.
9. There shall be no recording of any of Witness J's evidence save for the official Inquiry recording for the purposes of transcription.
10. The official transcription will be provided to Core Participants and the media as soon as possible, once approved by the Chairman, to allow for the press and others to report publicly on the proceedings. Handwritten notes may be taken by those present in the main hearing room or other locations with a secure live feed.

PENAL NOTICE:

- 11.If any person fails to comply with, or acts in breach of, the terms of this Restriction Order, the Chairman will certify the matter to the appropriate court, pursuant to s.36 of the Inquiries Act 2005.
- 12.The High Court and Court of Session have power to imprison or fine for any breach of this Order.

22 October 2021