

IN THE BIRMINGHAM AND SOLIHULL CORONER'S COURT

HIS HONOUR RICHARD FOSTER

NOMINATED PURSUANT TO SCHEDULE 10 CJA 2009

**INQUESTS TOUCHING UPON THE DEATHS OF PATIENTS OF MR IAN PATERSON FOR
TREATMENT OF BREAST CANCER**

Further directions arising from the submissions on behalf of Mr Paterson's concerning bias

1. I refer to my previous directions dated 5th December 2024.
2. Since then I have received and considered:
 - (1) The submissions on behalf of Mr Paterson dated 13th December 2024
 - (2) The submissions on behalf of those families represented by Messrs Thompsons received on 16th December 2024
 - (3) The submissions by Counsel to the Inquests (CTI) dated 17th December 2024.
3. Although my previous directions allowed until 4pm today for submissions by Interested Persons (IPs) I am giving these further directions now so that parties are aware of the intentions regarding any hearing tomorrow.
4. I accept that it is in the interests of the integrity of the process for these Inquests that I hear detailed submissions and provide a final determination at this stage for the reasons set out in CTI's submissions. I also accept that a single day on the last sitting day before Christmas is inadequate for this purpose.
5. Accordingly, I direct as follows:
 - (1) The hearing fixed for tomorrow, Thursday 19th December 2024, is vacated.
 - (2) CTI and any IP wishing to make any or further written submissions on the issue of MDT bias, independence and objectivity to do so by 4pm on Monday 6th January 2025, such submissions to be circulated to all IPs
 - (3) Thursday 9th January 2025 and Friday 10th January 2025 (with Tuesday 14th January 2025 and Wednesday 15th January 2025 available if necessary) be set aside for oral submission.
 - (4) I will then provide a written determination in the week of 3rd February 2025
 - (5) The Inquests will be re-listed at 10am on Monday 10th February 2025 for any oral submissions and my final determination of the way forward.

HH RICHARD FOSTER

18th December 2024