

## Leeds hearings factsheet

Date: Tuesday 11 June to Friday 14 June and Tuesday 18 June to Friday 21 June 2019

**Timetable:** Registration will start from 10, when tea and coffee will be available. The hearings will begin at 10:30 (except for Thursday 20 June when they begin at 10:00) and finish mid-afternoon, depending on the number of witnesses speaking. Refreshments and sandwiches will be provided.

Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel, Wellington Street, Leeds, LS1 4DL

**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 <u>our</u> <u>website</u>. Details of how to claim expenses for attending can be found <u>here</u>. 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 watching the Inquiry is extremely important. The Chair understands that people may need to take a break from the main room at any point. Seating will be available in the Roundhay Lounge and the Mezzanine areas. 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 Leeds, 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 Crowne Plaza or outside. Media will be wearing yellow lanyards for identification.

**Privacy:** We request that no one should take photos or film inside the building to protect the identity and privacy of those attending.

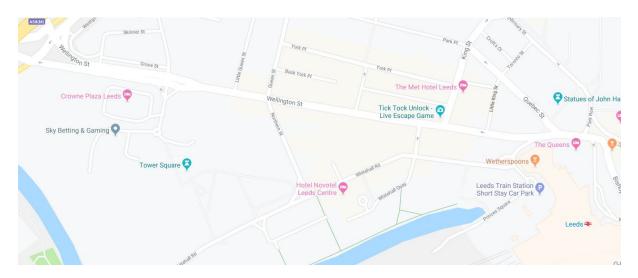
Luggage: Coats and luggage can be stored securely at the venue.

WiFi: WiFi will be available for public use.

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

**Website:** For anyone unable to attend, the hearings are being filmed and live-streamed on the Inquiry's website (<u>www.infectedbloodinquiry.org.uk</u>). They will also be available for viewing after the event with a full transcript.

**Map to venue:** The Crowne Plaza Hotel is around ten minutes' walk from Leeds train station. The entrance will be through the hotel's main entrance. The Inquiry reception will be on the 1st Floor Mezzanine.



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.