1	Thursday, 7 December 2023	1	details be withheld from publication for good reason.
2	(10.17 am)	2	It is also possible that I may be required to make
3	Opening remarks by the Chairman of the Inquiry	3	rulings which by their very nature cannot be published
4	THE CHAIRMAN: Good morning, everyone.	4	or revealed.
5	This is the first hearing of the official Inquiry	5	I hope to avoid revisiting the merits of decisions
6	into the murder on 18 February 2016 of Mr Jalal Uddin.	6	that have already been made in the context of the
7	I am the Chief Coroner and I have been appointed to	7	original inquest. Indeed, I should like, if possible,
8	chair the Inquiry. I am conscious that much of what	8	to move straight to the final evidential hearing which
9	I am about to say will be very familiar to everyone in	9	I will fix today as soon as can be managed, preferably
10	this room, but I think it's important to place it all on	10	without the need for any further case management
11	record and, in addition, Mr Uddin's family may well wish	11	hearings.
12	to read the transcript of this hearing in due course.	12	I was appointed as chairman just four weeks ago
13	I would like to begin by expressing my sincere	13	today on 9 November. I am determined to bring my
14	condolences to Mr Uddin's family. We were expecting his	14	investigation to a speedy conclusion. Those involved,
15	son, Mr Saleh, to join us by live link this morning, but	15	especially Mr Uddin's family, have already had to wait
16	pressing work commitments have made that impossible on	16	far too long for the answers they seek. That's
17	this occasion. I know that he's anxious to learn what	17	precisely why I listed this hearing as swiftly as I have
18	happened to his father and why it happened. He's	18	done.
19	already made it clear to the Inquiry that he's also	19	I have already designated a number of
20	concerned that as far as possible others should not have	20	core participants and will consider applications from
21 22	to go through what the family has endured since	21	other persons or organisations. The existing
	Mr Uddin's death.	22	core participants are the Secretary of State, Greater
23	If similar tragedies are to be avoided in future,	23 24	Manchester Police and West Yorkshire Police.
24 25	there has to be a thorough and fearless investigation	24	Mr Saleh clearly fulfils the criteria for core
23	into the circumstances in which Mr Uddin came by his	23	participant status in that he has a significant interest
	Page 1		Page 3
1	death. The criminal proceedings that have already taken	1	in an important aspect of the matters to which the
2	place establish that he was the victim of a brutal act	2	Inquiry relates, and has already consented in writing to
3	of murder, but were not able to explore the wider	3	such status. In the absence of any representations to
4	circumstances.	4	the contrary, I now formally designate him as a core
5	Normally, an investigation into an unnatural death	5	participant. That of course means that he will be able
6	takes the form of an inquest carried out in public, and	6	to participate in my investigation and, subject to legal
7	that of course is how these proceedings began. However,	7	restrictions, will be entitled to receive disclosure of
8	it has become clear in this case that for sound legal	8	relevant material. For reasons I have already
9	reasons an inquest would not be able to consider certain	9	explained, however, some material is likely to be too
10	material that is highly relevant to the scope of the	10	sensitive to be disclosed to him, and there are likely
11	investigation; any more, in fact, than the criminal	11	to be some hearings that neither the public nor he will
12	proceedings were able to do so.	12	be able to attend.
13	For that reason, and having particular regard to the	13	The Inquiry's purpose as set out in its formal terms
14	state's obligation to conduct an effective investigation	14	of reference mirrors the statutory remit of an inquest
15	in accordance with article 2 of the European Convention	15	and is as follows: to identity who the deceased was; to
16	on Human Rights. The Home Secretary has appointed me	16	establish how and in what circumstances he came by his
17	under section 4 of the Inquiries Act 2005 to conduct	17	death; to establish when he died; and to establish where
18	this independent Inquiry into the murder of Mr Uddin.	18	he came by his death and the particulars to be
19	That process will enable all the relevant material	19	registered concerning his death.
20	to be fully considered, something that, as I say, would	20	It is the second of those questions, namely how and
21	not have been possible had these proceedings taken the	21	in what circumstances Mr Uddin came by his death, that
22	conventional form of a public inquest. It does,	22	will occupy the bulk of the Inquiry's time and effort.
23	however, mean that there will be some important evidence	23	In particular the Inquiry will need to establish whether
24	that cannot be received in open session. Even where it	24	any failure took place in the gathering, handling or
25	can, particular circumstances may dictate that certain	25	assessment of intelligence that might have contributed
	Page 2		Page 4

1 (Pages 1 to 4)

7 December 2023

1	to the tragic outcome in this case. Because that is the	1	same time I will do everything I legitimately can to
2	very issue that engages article 2, thereby giving rise	2	ensure that core participants have a reasonable
3	to a need to examine sensitive material of a kind which	3	opportunity to play an active role. That will include
4	cannot be explored in public, it is inevitable that some	4	the making of opening statements to be timetabled by me
5	of the Inquiry's work will have to be conducted in	5	after consulting counsel, but I emphasise that it will
6	closed session.	6	be for the Inquiry itself to decide what evidence is to
7	In accordance with the presumption of openness,	7	be produced, which witnesses are to testify, and what
8	however, the Inquiry's default position is that hearings	8	matters they are to be asked about.
9	will be conducted in public except where a manifest need	9	In the interests of expedition, witnesses will only
10	to depart from that principle has been demonstrated.	10	be asked to attend whether remotely or in person where
11	While I recognise that it may become necessary to	11	I consider that the Inquiry cannot properly fulfil its
12	redact written submissions or applications in whole or	12	terms of reference without their attendance. In all
13	in part, such documents are normally public and	13	other cases relevant evidence will be read, summarised
14	therefore liable to be disclosed to other	14	or taken as read.
15	core participants. In certain circumstances they may be	15	In accordance with rule 10 of the Inquiry Rules
16	more widely disseminated by being uploaded to the	16	2006, it will be for Counsel to the Inquiry to call and
17	Inquiry's website.	17	test the evidence. While Counsel to the Inquiry will at
18	Where core participants consider that redactions are	18	all times remain neutral, I regard their duty as
19	necessary, it will be for the Inquiry, after receiving	19	encompassing a right to examine witnesses robustly and,
20	any representations, to decide whether they are	20	in appropriate cases, to challenge their evidence.
21	appropriate, so that the Inquiry can decide to what	21	Where core participants wish to explore particular
22	extent, if at all, they are justified.	22	aspects of the evidence, I will generally invite them to
23	I wish to emphasise that this Inquiry is	23	submit any relevant points in writing so as to enable
24	an independent investigation by me into the events that	24	Counsel to the Inquiry to cover them in the course of
25	led to Mr Uddin's death. Its purpose is to discover the	25	their investigation. I may nevertheless permit
	Page 5		Page 7
1	truth of what happened, and identify any lessons that	1	core participants through their advocates, where they
1 2	truth of what happened, and identify any lessons that may help to prevent a repetition. I remind everyone	1 2	core participants through their advocates, where they are legally represented, to question certain witnesses
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Page 10 Page 12	25	born on 24 January 1952. He was therefore 71 years old	25	sell his car. It's believed that Mr Kadir then fled to
		Page 10		Page 12

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		1	
1	Syria. He has not subsequently returned to the	1	invited to indicate whether they wished to lodge any
2	United Kingdom. A warrant for his arrest was issued on	2	claim to withhold disclosure, the lawful basis for such
3	3 March 2016.	3	a claim and whether such material, or some of it, could
4	The criminal proceedings. In the absence of	4	be disclosed in a redacted form or summarised. His
5	Mohammed Kadir from the jurisdiction, Mohammed Syeedy	5	Honour Judge Field also invited submissions on whether
6	stood trial for murdering Mr Uddin before the late	6	the enhanced investigative obligation in article 2
7	Mr Justice Maddison and a jury at Manchester Crown Court	7	applied to the inquest if it was resumed.
8	on 16 September 2016 he, Syeedy, was convicted.	8	I should say briefly that the law is that where the
9	Mr Justice Maddison sentenced him to life imprisonment	9	circumstances mean that article 2 of the European
10	with a minimum term of 24 years.	10	Convention on Human Rights is engaged, the inquest must
11	During that trial, evidence was called by the Crown	11	establish how and in what circumstances a person came by
12	that Mohammed Kadir and Mohammed Syeedy held extreme	12	their death, rather than simply how they came by their
13	views of Islam, including that the practice of taweez	13	death.
14	amounted to a form of black magic and needed to be	14	Following a delay caused by the onset of the COVID
15	stopped, and that following the discovery of books about	15	pandemic, on 20 November 2020 a pre-inquest review
16	taweez in the mosque at which Mr Uddin worshipped, the	16	hearing was held before His Honour Judge Field, and in
17	two men conducted surveillance of Mr Uddin because of	17	a ruling of 27 November 2020, His Honour Judge Field
18	a belief that he practised taweez and that they had	18	determined that there was sufficient reason to resume
19	developed a hatred of him. It was said that they	19	the inquest. In reaching that decision he summarised
20	referred to him as Voldemort in some exchanges between	20	evidence about the background to the murder of Mr Uddin.
21	each other, in a reference to the magic they believed	21	This included the following details.
22	him to have practised.	22	First, it was in August 2015 that the police were
23	In April 2017, Mohammed Syadul Hussain, S-Y-A-D-U-L	23	made aware of a number of extremist posts on Facebook by
24	H-U-S-S-A-I-N, was convicted of assisting Mohammed Kadir	24	somebody with the profile name Mohammed Kadz, K-A-D-Z.
25	flee from the United Kingdom. Evidence suggested that	25	The police commenced enquires with a view to identifying
	Page 13		Page 15
1	Syadul Hussain was also a member or a supporter of	1	Mohammed Kadz, and identifying the threat he posed to
2	Islamic State, that he had sought to obtain video of	2	the community. Mohammed Kadz was later identified as
3	Mr Uddin dying, that he had posted the following post,	3	Mohammed Kadir. Also in August 2015, an associate or
4	"One less shaitan [S-H-A-I-T-A-N] [devil] in England,	4	associates of Mohammed Kadir, Syeedy and Hussain, stole
5	init" in the wake of the murder and that he had given	5	from the Jalalia mosque in Rochdale items belonging to
6	Mohammed Kadir £600 in order that he, Kadir, might	6	Jalal Uddin that were related to his practise of Ruqyah.
7	escape the jurisdiction. He was sentenced to five	7	By early September 2015, Kadir had became aware of
8	years' imprisonment.	8	the theft, and on 5 September 2015 there was an exchange
9	Suspension of the inquest. Following Mr Uddin's	9	on Facebook that included views expressed by Kadir and
10	murder, the senior Coroner opened and adjourned an	10	others that demonstrated antipathy.
11	inquest into the death pursuant to schedule 1,	11	It was not until after the murder that the police
12	paragraph 2 of the 2009 Act; ie it was adjourned pending	12	became aware of evidence about the break-in at the
13	the outcome of the criminal trials of Syeedy and Syadul	13	Jalalia mosque and the Facebook post of 5 September
14	Hussain.	14	2015. The Facebook post had been captured but had not
15	In the autumn of 2019, His Honour Judge	15	reviewed by any person before the murder.
16	Patrick Field KC was appointed as the nominated judge	16	His Honour Judge Field also referred to a gist or
17	coroner to conduct the coronial investigation into the	17	summary of other evidence that revealed that from
18	death of Mr Uddin. On 4 November 2019 he directed those	18	30 October 2015 Mohammed Kadir was assessed, and
19	interested in the inquest to provide written submissions	19	continued to be assessed, as a person who was of high
20	on whether there was a sufficient reason to resume the	20	risk and significant concern, and latterly as someone
21	inquest into Mr Uddin's death, and whether it was	21	who posed a risk of acting on his Islamist extremist
22	necessary to disclose documents in their possession	22	aspirations. On 7 December 2015 a request was made for
23	before he made a decision on whether there was	23	the appointment of a senior investigating officer,
24	a sufficient reason to resume the inquest.	24	an SIO, in respect of Mohammed Kadir. There is some
		1	
25	In determining the disclosure issues, parties were	25	uncertainty, said Judge Field, as to who had primary
25	*		uncertainty, said Judge Field, as to who had primary Page 16

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1	responsibility thereafter for the investigations	1	What led to the request, to the appointment of
2	involving Mohammed Kadir.	2	an SIO on 7 December 2015? Whether an SIO was appointed
3	Lastly, said Judge Field, that in January 2016	3	and what was done in the period after 7 December 2015 to
4	intelligence suggested that Mohammed Kadir had access to	4	appoint an SIO. If in fact an SIO was not appointed,
5	openly available extremist literature, including bomb	5	why was one not appointed in that period? And what
6	making manuals and other material providing instructions	6	positive preventative steps were nonetheless taken to
7	on how to undertake violent jihad.	7	protect members of the public in the period before
8	In the circumstances, and bringing into account the	8	Mr Uddin's death?
9	fact that the threshold test to resume an inquest was	9	In short, what investigative and preventative steps
10	only one of sufficiency, His Honour Judge Field	10	were taken by any person after 7 December 2015?
11	concluded that he was satisfied that the background	11	In the light of his ruling to resume the inquest,
12	facts and the information in the gist gave rise to	12	Judge Field made directions for disclosure. But before
13	a credible suggestion that Mohammed Kadir represented	13	a procedural hearing was able to be held to decide
14	a present and continuing risk to the lives of members of	14	issues concerning the disclosure of materials, His
15	society at large, that the authorities knew or ought to	15	Honour Judge Field recused himself from further hearing
16	have known of that risk and that they failed to take	16	the inquest.
17	measures to avoid it. It followed that the article 2	17	Following that recusal, in November 2021, you were
18	enhanced investigative duty was engaged and that there	18	appointed as Judge Coroner in this case. You adopted
19	was a requirement to resume the investigation into	19	the decisions previously made by Judge Field on the
20	Mr Uddin's death.	20	engagement of article 2 of the Convention, on the
21	The proposed scope of matters to be investigated in	21	resumption of the inquest and on the provisional scope
22	the inquest was set out in that same ruling. These	22	of the inquest. As a next step a private procedural
23	related to the assessment of Mr Kadir as being of high	23	hearing was listed for 16 to 18 May 2022 to consider
24	risk and of significant concern and of posing a high	24	disclosure issues arising from the decision to resume
25	risk of acting on his Islamist extremist aspirations.	25	the inquest. In particular the application of Public
	Page 17		Page 19
	1 420 17		
1	His Honour Judge Field concluded it was necessary to	1	Interest Immunity to relevant materials falling within
2	investigate the basis for each of these assessments, the	2	the scope of the inquest.
3	nature and extent of the risks and what was or was not	3	The procedural hearing in May 2022 was adjourned
4	done by the authorities in response to those risks and	4	part-heard so that further enquiries on matters you were
5	concerns.	5	concerned about relating to Public Interest Immunity
6	Other areas for proposed investigation included the	6	could be investigated, and a further private procedural
7	extent to which SMSs, videos and WhatsApp messages	7	hearing to consider the outcome of those investigations
8	disclosing antipathy by Kadir, Syeedy and Syadul Hussain		
		8	was held. After that, you made a decision.
9	towards those who practised Ruqyah and images of	8 9	8
9 10	towards those who practised Ruqyah and images of Jalal Uddin could have been discovered through the		was held. After that, you made a decision.
		9	was held. After that, you made a decision. The conclusion that you reached was that there was
10	Jalal Uddin could have been discovered through the	9 10	was held. After that, you made a decision. The conclusion that you reached was that there was a real and important public interest in bringing the
10 11	Jalal Uddin could have been discovered through the seizure and examination of mobile telephones.	9 10 11	was held. After that, you made a decision. The conclusion that you reached was that there was a real and important public interest in bringing the material over which Public Interest Immunity was claimed
10 11 12	Jalal Uddin could have been discovered through the seizure and examination of mobile telephones. The extent to which the fact that Mr Uddin had been	9 10 11 12	was held. After that, you made a decision. The conclusion that you reached was that there was a real and important public interest in bringing the material over which Public Interest Immunity was claimed into the public domain. It could assist with and be
10 11 12 13	Jalal Uddin could have been discovered through the seizure and examination of mobile telephones. The extent to which the fact that Mr Uddin had been targeted by August 2015, because it had been identified	9 10 11 12 13	was held. After that, you made a decision. The conclusion that you reached was that there was a real and important public interest in bringing the material over which Public Interest Immunity was claimed into the public domain. It could assist with and be vital to the understanding of the circumstances of
10 11 12 13 14	Jalal Uddin could have been discovered through the seizure and examination of mobile telephones. The extent to which the fact that Mr Uddin had been targeted by August 2015, because it had been identified that he practised Ruqyah, could have been discovered	9 10 11 12 13 14	was held. After that, you made a decision. The conclusion that you reached was that there was a real and important public interest in bringing the material over which Public Interest Immunity was claimed into the public domain. It could assist with and be vital to the understanding of the circumstances of Mr Uddin's murder. However, should such disclosure
10 11 12 13 14 15	Jalal Uddin could have been discovered through the seizure and examination of mobile telephones. The extent to which the fact that Mr Uddin had been targeted by August 2015, because it had been identified that he practised Ruqyah, could have been discovered through seizure and examination of mobile telephones.	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	was held. After that, you made a decision. The conclusion that you reached was that there was a real and important public interest in bringing the material over which Public Interest Immunity was claimed into the public domain. It could assist with and be vital to the understanding of the circumstances of Mr Uddin's murder. However, should such disclosure occur, it would bring about a real risk of serious harm
10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	Jalal Uddin could have been discovered through the seizure and examination of mobile telephones. The extent to which the fact that Mr Uddin had been targeted by August 2015, because it had been identified that he practised Ruqyah, could have been discovered through seizure and examination of mobile telephones. The extent to which the break-in at the Jalalia mosque	9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	 was held. After that, you made a decision. The conclusion that you reached was that there was a real and important public interest in bringing the material over which Public Interest Immunity was claimed into the public domain. It could assist with and be vital to the understanding of the circumstances of Mr Uddin's murder. However, should such disclosure occur, it would bring about a real risk of serious harm to an important public interest. You also concluded that more limited disclosure of the material would not allow the inquest to be a full,
10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	Jalal Uddin could have been discovered through the seizure and examination of mobile telephones. The extent to which the fact that Mr Uddin had been targeted by August 2015, because it had been identified that he practised Ruqyah, could have been discovered through seizure and examination of mobile telephones. The extent to which the break-in at the Jalalia mosque in Rochdale and the theft of Mr Uddin's religious	9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	 was held. After that, you made a decision. The conclusion that you reached was that there was a real and important public interest in bringing the material over which Public Interest Immunity was claimed into the public domain. It could assist with and be vital to the understanding of the circumstances of Mr Uddin's murder. However, should such disclosure occur, it would bring about a real risk of serious harm to an important public interest. You also concluded that more limited disclosure of the material would not allow the inquest to be a full, fair and fearless investigation of all of the matters
10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Jalal Uddin could have been discovered through the seizure and examination of mobile telephones. The extent to which the fact that Mr Uddin had been targeted by August 2015, because it had been identified that he practised Ruqyah, could have been discovered through seizure and examination of mobile telephones. The extent to which the break-in at the Jalalia mosque in Rochdale and the theft of Mr Uddin's religious materials from it was attributable to Syeedy and/or his associates and could have been discovered through the seizure and examination of mobile telephones. The	9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	 was held. After that, you made a decision. The conclusion that you reached was that there was a real and important public interest in bringing the material over which Public Interest Immunity was claimed into the public domain. It could assist with and be vital to the understanding of the circumstances of Mr Uddin's murder. However, should such disclosure occur, it would bring about a real risk of serious harm to an important public interest. You also concluded that more limited disclosure of the material would not allow the inquest to be a full, fair and fearless investigation of all of the matters within the provisional scope of the inquest. The
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1	hearings of evidence are not permissible, the effect of	1	explain that Mr Saleh, one of his sons, he has four
2	your ruling was that material of central importance to	2	brothers and two sisters.
3	the inquest could not be deployed in such an inquest,	3	THE CHAIRMAN: Right.
4	excluding that material from the inquest would mean that	4	MR BEER: All of his siblings, bar one brother, live in
5	the inquest could not be article 2 compliant and you	5	Bangladesh, as does Mr Saleh's mother, ie Mr Uddin's
6	would not be able properly to ascertain by what means	6	wife.
7	and in what circumstances Mr Uddin came by his death.	7	THE CHAIRMAN: Widow.
8	Accordingly, on 7 November 2022, you wrote to the	8	MR BEER: Yes, widow. We understand that Mr Saleh attended
9	then Home Secretary asking that she establish without	9	every day of the murder trial and that he, Mr Saleh,
10	delay a public inquiry pursuant to the Inquiries Act	10	left the United Kingdom in about 2017. In our
11	2005. That would allow for evidence to be heard in	11	communications with him, it is apparent that he speaks
12	closed session on matters that were otherwise too	12	good English and is content to receive information in
13	sensitive to be made public. In that way,	13	English, ie nothing needs to be translated.
14	an independent judge-led investigation of the issues,	14	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
15	with some evidence heard in closed, could occur. This	15	MR BEER: He has, as you have said, indicated to Mr Suter
16	would be far more preferable to an open process that	16	that he wishes to be a core participant. Because he
17	could not consider or take into account important and	17	lives abroad, he cannot attend the hearings in person,
18	relevant sensitive materials at all, resulting in the	18	but would like to be able to follow them remotely so far
19	risk of an unfair, incomplete or inaccurate	19	as that is possible. The plan was that he did so to do
20	investigation.	20	but I am afraid work intervened.
21	A year later, on 9 November 2023, the Secretary of	21	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
22	State announced the establishment of the Inquiry and	22	MR BEER: We have drawn to his attention the provisions of
23	appointed you chair of it. As you said, sir, the terms	23	section 40 of the Inquiries Act not by saying there
24	of reference in broad terms require you to undertake	24	is this thing called section 40, by telling him what it
25	an investigation and to produce a report that answers to	25	means.
	D 01		D
	Page 21	<u> </u>	Page 23
1	precisely the same extent the questions that would arise	1	THE CHAIRMAN: What effect it has.
2	if this matter had remained an inquest.	2	MR BEER: Ie, the ability for public funding for legal
3	That's all I propose to say by way of narrative	3	representation. He has said that he is for the moment
4	background.	4	simply interested in following the evidence. We have
5	Turning to the matters arising and the directions	5	asked him to consult with other members of the family
6	sought, there are, by my reckoning, four issues to	6	about that. I think he did so with some other members
7	address. I will list them now and then make my	7	of the family and that remained his position. We will
8	submissions on each of them in turn, and then invite	8	continue to emphasise to him the facility to obtain
9	submissions from each of the legal representatives	9	legal representation at public expense.
10	present to make submissions as we go, ie deal with them	10	He's also spoken to other members of the family to
11	one by one.	11	see whether they wished to be the one who applied for CP
12	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.	12	status. As you said, sir, the answer came back no to
13	MR BEER: I have switched the items on the agenda between 1	13	that; he was content to be the family representative,
14	and 2 to make them 2 and 1.	14	essentially.
15	So firstly, applications for core participants	15	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
16	status; secondly, suspension of the inquest; thirdly,	16	MR BEER: As I understand it, that is all of the potential
17	an update to disclosure and applications for restriction	17	core participants identified and their applications
18	orders; and fourthly, directions taking us to	18	granted.
19	a substantive hearing.	19	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
20	In relation to core participants, as you have	20	MR BEER: Namely there are four of them. I do not know
20	explained, sir, you have already made core participants	21	whether anyone else has any other submissions to make on
21	of Greater Manchester Police, West Yorkshire Police and	22	anyone else that they believe ought to be a core
22	the Home Secretary. Each of those organisations and	23	participant in this Inquiry.
23	individuals has been informed of that.	24	THE CHAIRMAN: So far Ms McGahey? No. Thank you very much.
25	So far as Mr Uddin's family is concerned, I should	25	MR BEER: Can I turn to the second thing then, suspension of
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	Page 22	1	Page 24
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6 (Pages 21 to 24)

1	the inquest.	1	The Secretary of State had suggested in her written
2	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.	2	submissions in his written submissions as he now is,
3	MR BEER: You will see I have examined in the written	3	I think I am keeping up with things. Yes, it is man
4	submissions the power to suspend the inquest. This is	4	now. The Secretary of State suggested in his written
5	about suspension because there has been an inquiry	5	submissions that in the applications that have been made
6	established.	6	in the inquest that certain material should not be made
7	THE CHAIRMAN: I have been in this situation before, yes.	7	public on PII grounds, should be read across to and
8	MR BEER: Yes. In short the power is paragraph 5 of	8	applied in the Inquiry.
9	schedule 1 to the 2009 Act and we submit that the	9	As your counsel, sir, we agree to that to an extent.
10	inquest should be suspended.	10	We say that this should be done just on an interim basis
11	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.	11	to cover off the position in the coming months whilst we
12	MR BEER: Because the terms of reference ask you to conduct	12	undertake further investigatory work in preparation for
13	yourself in a way that ensures that the requirements of	13	the hearings. That's because there needs to be some
14	section 5 of the Coroner's	14	regulation in the Inquiry of the material
15	THE CHAIRMAN: Coroners and Justice Act, yes.	15	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
16	MR BEER: is met. Ie, the four statutory questions as	16	MR BEER: making sure that it's handled appropriately and
17	expanded in this case by the article 2 investigative	17	not disclosed inappropriately. But it shouldn't be
18	obligation.	18	thought that that represents the settled position for
19	The cause of Mr Uddin's death is likely to be	19	all time.
20	adequately in fact more than adequately	20	THE CHAIRMAN: No.
21	investigated by this Inquiry. You are, sir, the	21	MR BEER: Relatedly, our investigatory work may put
22	Chief Coroner, you don't need reminding, of England and	22	a different complexion on the issue of disclosure. It
23	Wales, and the procedures available to this Inquiry will	23	may be that some things that led to the PII ruling are
24	promote a very full, indeed the fullest, investigation	24	themselves time limited
25	of the matters identified in the terms of reference. So	25	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
	Page 25		Page 27
1	I would invite you to suspend the inquest pending the	1	MR BEER: ie, their force may have diminished over time.
1 2	I would invite you to suspend the inquest pending the outcome of the Inquiry.	1 2	MR BEER: ie, their force may have diminished over time. So, sir, we will draw up an interim restriction
			MR BEER: ie, their force may have diminished over time. So, sir, we will draw up an interim restriction order and distribute it, but it should be interim
2	outcome of the Inquiry.	2	So, sir, we will draw up an interim restriction
2 3	outcome of the Inquiry. THE CHAIRMAN: Does anyone have any contrary submissions?	2 3	So, sir, we will draw up an interim restriction order and distribute it, but it should be interim
2 3 4	outcome of the Inquiry. THE CHAIRMAN: Does anyone have any contrary submissions? Thank you very much.	2 3 4	So, sir, we will draw up an interim restriction order and distribute it, but it should be interim only THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
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1	expected to respond to those requests within	1	MR BEER: But there is no fixed position on this.
2	a reasonable time. The date will be set out in the	2	THE CHAIRMAN: Right. Well, thank you very much.
3	rule 9 request.	3	I have made enquiries about the availability of
4	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.	4	space for an open hearing. What is the likely length?
5	MR BEER: But if they have in mind a couple of months now,	5	MR BEER: Sir, I think it would be no more than five days.
6	from then, that ought to give them a reasonable idea of	6	THE CHAIRMAN: Five days, so a working week. A week is
7	what they should be planning for.	7	available. One week is available in this building and
8	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.	8	this is a northern case so certainly the open aspect of
9	MR BEER: We judge, sir, that allowing time for those rule 9	9	the hearing should take place in the north-west: the
10	requests to be answered and to undertake further	10	week commencing Monday 23 September.
11	investigatory work and preparation for a final hearing,	11	Of course I will hear any receptions to the
12	the earliest that substantive hearings could commence	12	contrary, but it is far enough off, I would have
13	will be September 2024. Indeed, they should commence in	13	thought, for people to arrange their diaries and
14	September 2024. THE CHAIRMAN: I agree. That sounds realistic to me. Yes.	14 15	I intend to fix the open hearing for that date. Subject
15 16	MR BEER: It is very likely that there will have to be some	15	to any objections.
10		10	MR BEER: Thank you, sir. So a week on 23 September. THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
	open hearings	1	
18 19	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. MR BEER: and some closed hearings, given what I have	18 19	MR BEER: Then I think we will have to revert to you THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.
20	said about the ruling on Public Interest Immunity	20	MR BEER: on the closed hearings, because I think that
20	already. Nobody should be in any doubt that	20	does depend on court availability.
21	a substantial part of the hearing will be in closed.	21	
22	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.	22	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. And the question of location is not quite as set in stone.
23 24	MR BEER: We will ensure, as we have done on previous	23	MR BEER: No. We would certainly agree as your counsel that
24	occasions in other contexts, seek to ensure that as much	25	the open hearing should be held in the north-west.
23	occasions in other contexts, seek to ensure that as much	2.5	the open heating should be held in the hortin-west.
	Page 29		Page 31
1	material as can be disclosed in public is disclosed in	1	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. As I say, we can do that here and will
2	public. We will prepare gists of closed evidence or	2	do it starting on 23 September. We will have to explore
3	parts of closed evidence if that is possible.	3	dates and venues for the remainder.
4	So, sir, I would invite you to set a commencement	4	MR BEER: Sir, I don't know if there are any observations or
5	date for the open hearings	5	representations on that.
6	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, the open hearings should come first.	6	MS MCGAHEY: No, thank you.
7	MR BEER: I think there is a respectable view either way	7	MR BEER: That's all I intended to say, thank you.
8	round, sir.	8	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Mr Payne, do you want
9	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.	9	to raise anything that has not been mentioned?
10	MR BEER: That might depend on courtroom logistics. There	10	MR PAYNE: No, thank you.
11	is a respectable view of holding closed hearings first.	11	THE CHAIRMAN: Ms Checa-Dover?
12	We did it in the Grainger Inquiry.	12	MS CHECA-DOVER: No, thank you.
13	THE CHAIRMAN: Did we?	13	THE CHAIRMAN: Ms McGahey?
14	MR BEER: We did. Yes, two floors up.	14	MS MCGAHEY: No, thank you.
15	THE CHAIRMAN: Right, yes.	15	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, indeed. That, then, is
16	MR BEER: Because then we could see the product of the	16	the conclusion of this hearing.
17	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.	17	MR BEER: Yes, it is, sir. Thank you very much.
18	MR BEER: or the outcome of the closed hearings and that	18	(11.05 am)
19	could be deployed in the open hearings. In this case	19	(The hearing concluded)
20	I say there is a less of an imperative for that. My	20	
21	judgment would be that we are unlikely to be finding out	21	
22	things in the closed hearings that then could be put to	22	
23	witnesses in the open hearings. I think that is less	23	
24	likely here.	24	
25		25	
	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.	23	
	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. Page 30	23	Page 32

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