

*The Anthony Grainger Inquiry – publication of the Inquiry Report – an update*

I am very pleased to be able to inform you that the Chairman of the Inquiry yesterday received a letter from the Home Secretary, the Rt.Hon. Sajid Javid MP, inviting the Chairman, pursuant to s25(2)(b) of the Inquiries Act 2005 (“the 2005 Act”) to accept responsibility for arranging publication of the Inquiry Report.

This was very much the Chairman’s wish – he sought such an invitation from the Home Secretary. The Home Secretary agreed, noting “It is my view that the Inquiry’s independence would be most clearly demonstrated if responsibility for publication were to rest with you as Chairman”.

The Chairman therefore proposes to accept the Home Secretary’s invitation: accordingly, the Inquiry, and not Government, will arrange for publication of the Inquiry Report.

The Inquiry had, in advance of receipt of the Home Secretary’s letter, made plans so to be able to ensure compliance with s25(3) and (4) (read with (5) and (6)) of the 2005 Act in the event that it, the Inquiry, was invited to make arrangements for the publication of the Inquiry Report. Those plans will now be activated in the coming weeks (shortly after receipt of a final proof-read version of the report from professional proof-readers), after which time the Inquiry Report will be sent for type-setting and printing: it is understood that a printed report is likely to be returned within 6 – 8 weeks after that.

Accordingly, it remains the Inquiry’s intention to publish the Inquiry Report in the Spring, and before the Summer begins. Core Participants will, of course, appreciate that the speed of a number of the processes described above are not within the direct control of the Inquiry: they may be assured, however, that the Chairman of the Inquiry is absolutely committed to ensuring that the process is driven forwards as quickly as possible.