

## Scottish COVID-19 Inquiry

### **Direction: Opening Statements at the Hearings on the impacts on Education and Certification, Business, Welfare and Finance commencing with Education and Certification on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

In terms of section 17 of the Inquiries Act 2005 and rule 10 of the Inquiries (Scotland) Rules 2007, Lord Brailsford (“the Chair”) of the Scottish COVID-19 Inquiry (“the Inquiry”) directs that:

1. Core participants with leave to appear at the hearings on the impacts on Education and Certification, due to commence on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 and the impacts on Business, Welfare and Finance following thereafter (“the hearings”), will not be invited to make opening statements either in written or oral form.
2. Counsel to the Inquiry will instead make an opening statement at the commencement of the hearing.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "L. Brailsford", with three dots below it.

Lord Brailsford – Chair to the Scottish COVID-19 Inquiry  
26 August 2024

## **NOTE**

The Chair considers that, having considered the requirement to act with fairness and the need to avoid unnecessary cost, core participants with leave to appear at the hearing diets commencing on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 will not be invited to make opening statements to the Inquiry. Counsel to the Inquiry will make an opening statement at the commencement of the hearing, to provide context to the oral evidence that will follow.

A direction in respect of closing statements will be issued separately.