

LAMPARD INQUIRY DISCLOSURE UPDATE

January 2026

1. This is the Inquiry's third Disclosure Update. It reports on disclosure activity and related work undertaken by the Inquiry for the period 26 June 2025 to 22 January 2026.

Requests for Information

2. As of 22 January 2026, the Inquiry had issued a total of **583** requests for information, under either Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 or Section 21 of the Inquiries Act 2005. These requests were directed as follows:
 - a. **350** requests to organisations;
 - b. **228** requests to individuals and families; and
 - c. **5** Section 21 Notices to organisations
3. Requests issued during this period reflect:
 - a. Evidence and issues arising from hearings in July and October 2025;
 - b. Further investigative scoping undertaken by the Inquiry Team; and
 - c. The need to pursue clarification, completeness and assurance in respect of material already provided.
4. During this period, the Inquiry has also requested Data Assurances from Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust and the Care Quality Commission, to assist in understanding the scope, provenance and limitations of data supplied.

Section 21 Notices

5. The Inquiry has continued to consider the use of its statutory powers under section 21 of the Inquiries Act 2005 where necessary to secure relevant material.
6. In a number of instances, section 21 notices have been issued at the request of recipients of Rule 9 requests, where those organisations required a statutory notice in order to disclose information lawfully within their own governance, regulatory or operational frameworks.
7. In other instances, section 21 notices have been issued where the Chair had concerns about the timely delivery of requested material and where the Chair considered it necessary to ensure that disclosure could be progressed within a reasonable timeframe.
8. To date, the Inquiry has not encountered evidence of deliberate non-cooperation in response to its information requests. Where difficulties have arisen, these have related to challenges in identifying, processing or lawfully disclosing material within the timeframes sought, rather than an unwillingness to engage.

Facilitating Disclosure: Agreements and Information Sharing Arrangements.

9. During this period, the Inquiry has entered into, or progressed, a number of formal agreements and working arrangements designed to facilitate the lawful, timely, and effective sharing of information relevant to the Inquiry's Terms of Reference.

Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)

10. The Inquiry and the NMC are working towards a framework governing the ongoing sharing of information relevant to the Inquiry. The NMC has disclosed information relating to relevant referrals, investigations and outcomes, subject to limitations arising from record retention practices, restrictions on live regulatory processes, statutory or data protection constraints. The NMC will keep this disclosure under review and notify the Inquiry of any further relevant information identified, including future referrals falling within scope.

NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA)

11. A working agreement has been established between the Inquiry, NHSBSA and Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust to support the identification and contact of former staff where relevant to the Inquiry's investigation.
12. This process has assisted the Inquiry in progressing Rule 9 requests where individuals no longer work for relevant organisations and could not otherwise be traced through reasonable enquiries.

National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health (NCISH)

13. The Inquiry has agreed a staged process with NCISH for the provision of aggregate trust-level data relating to deaths by suicide under the care of mental health services in Essex between 2000 and 2023. This data will assist the Inquiry in understanding the coverage and limitations of the information it holds and in identifying further targeted disclosure requests.

Essex Coroner Service

14. An agreement has been reached between the Inquiry and the Essex Coroner Service which allows individuals and organisations engaged with the Inquiry to disclose to the Inquiry documents in their possession relating to inquests heard in the Essex coronial areas, without first needing to seek permission from the coroner. This agreement has facilitated more timely responses to Rule 9 requests and reduced procedural barriers to the provision of relevant inquest material.

Essex Police

15. The Inquiry has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Essex Police to support the effective sharing of information relevant to the Inquiry's Terms of Reference, while preserving the independence and integrity of any police investigations. This framework has assisted the Inquiry in prioritising disclosure requests while ensuring that sensitive material is handled lawfully and that the Inquiry's work does adversely impact ongoing or potential criminal investigations.

NHSE England Secure Data Environment

16. The Inquiry is working with NHS England to access data from the Mental Health Services Data Set (MHSDS) via NHS England's Secure Data Environment. This access will enable the Inquiry's Expert Health Statistician's team to analyse denominator data relating to patients admitted to relevant mental health wards during the Inquiry's Relevant Period, in order to identify patterns, risks and potential systemic issues in inpatient care, in line with the Inquiry's Terms of Reference. This analysis supports the development and validation of the Inquiry's List of

Deceased by placing individual deaths within the context of the wider patient population.

Continuing Disclosure Activity

17. The Inquiry continues to receive, assess and review material on an ongoing basis and to engage with recipients of requests to address issues of scope, completeness and delivery.
18. Further Rule 9 requests and where necessary, section 21 notices will continue to be issued where required to obtain material necessary to fulfil the Inquiry's Terms of Reference.
19. A further Disclosure Update will be provided in late June.