

INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF SUDESH AMMAN

DIRECTIONS – 18 JULY, 2021

Introduction

1. These Directions are made following the Pre-Inquest Review (“PIR”) Hearing on 2 July 2021.

Anonymity and Special Measures

2. Three sets of applications for anonymity and special measures are addressed below: an application for 12 police officers; applications for two individuals who acted as mentors for Sudesh Amman; and an application on behalf of members of the family of Sudesh Amman.

Applications by the Metropolitan Police Service on behalf of 12 Police Officers

3. Applications for anonymity and special measures have been made for 12 officers of the Metropolitan Police Service.
4. For the reasons set out in a written Ruling of the same date as these Directions, the following orders are made, subject to any further order of the Court:
 - a. The name and identifying details of each of the twelve officers shall be withheld from any disclosure of evidence within the Inquest. The twelve officers are those referred to by the ciphers HA6, BX69, BX75, BX76, BX86, BX87, BX89, BX113, BX114, BX174, S132 and DS51.
 - b. The above ciphers that are already in use shall continue to be used to identify the officers for the purposes of the Inquest.
 - c. When any of the officers is giving evidence, no question shall be asked which might lead to his/her identification.

- d. Pursuant to rule 18 of the Coroners (Inquests) Rules 2013 (“the Rules”), when any of the officers is giving evidence, he/she shall be screened from the public, representatives of the media and the Interested Persons (but not from the Coroner, the Inquest Legal Team, the jury or the lawyers representing Interested Persons).
- e. Interested Persons shall be at liberty to apply to vary the order for screening as it affects them.
- f. When any of the officers attends the Inquest to give evidence, he/she shall be permitted to enter and exit the hearing room by an appropriate non-public route, along with any other measures necessary to ensure that they are not seen by those in the hearing room who are not permitted to see them.
- g. Pursuant to section 11 of the Contempt of Court Act 1981 (“CCA”), publication of the names or any identifying details of the officers (including any image of them) in connection with the subject-matter of this Inquest shall be prohibited until further order of the Court.

Applications on behalf of the Mentors

5. Applications for anonymity and special measures have been made on behalf of Witness T and Witness M, two mentors who worked with Sudesh Amman through the Desistance and Disengagement Programme.
6. For the reasons set out in the written Ruling of the same date as these Directions, the following orders are made, subject to any further order of this Court:
 - a. The name and identifying details of each of the individuals referred to as Witness T and Witness M (“the Mentors”) shall be withheld from any disclosure of evidence within the Inquest.
 - b. The above ciphers that are already in use shall continue to be used to identify the Mentors for the purposes of the Inquest.

- c. When either of the Mentors is giving evidence, no question shall be asked which might lead to his identification.
- d. Pursuant to rule 18 of the Rules, when each of the Mentors is giving evidence, he shall be screened from the public (but not from the Coroner, the Inquest Legal Team, the jury, the Interested Persons, the lawyers representing Interested Persons or accredited journalists).
- e. When each of the Mentors attends the Inquest to give evidence, he shall be permitted to enter and exit the hearing room by an appropriate non-public route, along with any other measures necessary to ensure that he is not seen by those in the hearing room who are not permitted to see him.
- f. When each of the Mentors is giving evidence and his evidence is streamed via the internet to any place outside the court buildings, it shall be by way of an audio only link and no video stream shall be available to any such place.
- g. Pursuant to section 11 of the CCA, publication of the names or any identifying details of the Mentors (including any image of them) in connection with the subject-matter of this Inquest shall be prohibited until further order of the Court.

Applications on behalf of Sudesh Amman's family members

- 7. Applications were made for screening and special measures for Sudesh Amman's mother and her children who were under 18 years of age at the time of the death of Sudesh Amman. Those applications were later revised as set out in the written Ruling of the same date as these Directions.
- 8. For the reasons set out in the written Ruling of the same date as these Directions, the following orders are made, subject to any further order of this Court:
 - a. Pursuant to rule 18 of the Rules, when the mother of Sudesh Amman is giving evidence, she is to be screened from the public (but not from the Coroner, the Inquest Legal Team, the jury, the Interested Persons, the lawyers representing Interested Persons or accredited journalists).

- b. When the mother of Sudesh Amman attends the Inquest to give evidence, she shall be permitted to enter and exit the hearing room by an appropriate non-public route, along with any other measures necessary to ensure that she is not seen by those in the hearing room who are not permitted to see her.
- c. In the Inquest hearing, no reference shall be made to the names of any of the children of Sudesh Amman's mother, where those children were under the age of 18 at the time of Sudesh Amman's death, except with permission of the Court after application on notice to Interested Persons and the representatives of the Amman family.

“In Camera Disclosure” Process

- 9. A special procedure shall be adopted in respect of certain documents which the Government Legal Department identifies (by agreement with the Inquest Team, and with the approval of the Coroner) as containing information that is particularly sensitive, but in respect of which no application for public interest immunity is to be made:
 - a. For each such document, a public version and a confidential version are to be produced. The public version will be disclosed to all Interested Persons and its contents may be deployed in the Inquests hearings without prior warning. The confidential version will be disclosed to Interested Persons, subject to their agreeing to an “In Camera Undertaking”. Each confidential version of a document has some visible but shaded content which is redacted from the public version.
 - b. Public and confidential versions of documents will be clearly marked as such when disclosed to Interested Persons on the TMX system, and confidential versions will be placed in a specific section marked as containing confidential material.
 - c. Under the terms of the In Camera Undertaking, any Interested Person wishing to deploy in the Inquest hearing any content of a confidential version of a document which does not appear as visible in the public version must give notice, so that counsel for the Secretary of State for Justice or the Secretary of State for the Home Department (as appropriate) may decide whether or not to raise an objection or apply for a part of the hearing to be held in camera under rule 11(4) of the Rules

THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE HILLIARD

18 JULY, 2021