

**NOTE ON BEHALF OF THE HOME OFFICE:  
PRELIMINARY HEARING 25 SEPTEMBER 2026**

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1. The Home Office remains committed to assisting the Inquiry carry out its work and report its findings as quickly and effectively as possible, in fulfilment of the Inquiry's Terms of Reference.
2. The Home Office is continuing to liaise with the Inquiry to ensure that all outstanding requests for evidence and disclosure are completed, and that the Inquiry's recent requests and further queries are addressed.
3. The Home Office is making an anonymity application in respect of one witness. The Home Office will work with the Inquiry to ensure that the application is resolved as soon as possible, and does not consider that the application will cause any delay to the substantive hearings.
4. The Inquiry has stated that before scheduling hearing dates a number of unresolved matters need to be considered, including the possibility of seeking further expert evidence. The Home Office would wish to underline its hope that the substantive hearings can take place as soon as reasonably possible. It may assist the parties if the Inquiry was able to identify a rough, provisional timeframe in which the hearings might take place, or give an indication, for example, that they will not take place before a given date.
5. The Home Office does not intend to make oral submissions at the preliminary hearing.

**LOUIS MABLY KC**

**11 September 2026**