



INDEPENDENT INQUIRY CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION CORE PARTICIPANT APPLICATION

1. On 2 May 2019 the Inquiry invited anyone who wished to be designated a core participant in the investigation into Child Protection in Religious Organisations and Settings to make an application to the Solicitor to the Inquiry by 13 June 2019.
2. On 17 June 2019 an application was made by **Amina Lone** for core participant status in this investigation.
3. I made a provisional ruling declining Ms Lone's application on 5 July 2019. Ms Lone was provided with an opportunity to renew the application. Ms Lone did not renew the application. Accordingly, this notice sets out my final determination of the application.
4. The Inquiry has published a [definition of scope](#) of investigation and an [update note](#) which provides further information about the themes that will be examined and structure of the investigation. This investigation will be thematic in nature and examine the nature and adequacy of current child protection policies, practices and procedures within religious organisations and settings within England and Wales.
5. Applications for core participant status are considered under Rule 5 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 which provides:

(1) The chairman may designate a person as a core participant at any time during the course of the inquiry, provided that person consents to being so designated.

(2) In deciding whether to designate a person as a core participant, the chairman must in particular consider whether –

a. The person played, or may have played, a direct and significant role in relation to the matters to which the inquiry relates;

b. The person has a significant interest in an important aspect of the matters to which the inquiry relates; or



INDEPENDENT INQUIRY CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

c. The person may be subject to explicit or significant criticism during the inquiry proceedings or in the report, or in any interim report.

(3) A person ceases to be a core participant on –

a. the date specified by the chairman in writing; or

b. the end of the inquiry.

6. In determining the application, the matters listed in Rule 5(2) must be considered, but the list is not exhaustive and I may also take into account other relevant matters.
7. This application has been lodged two working days after the deadline for core participant applications in this investigation. However I have a discretion pursuant to Rule 5(1) to designate a core participant “at any time” during the course of the Inquiry. In light of the short length of the delay, I am satisfied that the delay should not stand in the way of my considering the application
8. The application describes Ms Lone as a policy analyst, campaigner and researcher working on issues relating to fundamentalism, misogyny and sexual violence in Muslim communities, who has supported victims and survivors of abuse within faith settings. Ms Lone is currently the Director of the Social Action and Research Foundation (SARF).
9. The application is put on the basis that Ms Lone has played a significant role and has a significant interest in the matters to which the Inquiry relates by working on behalf of victims and survivors of child sexual abuse within Islamic religious settings, and by researching and campaigning on their behalf.
10. I consider that Ms Lone’s application does not meet the criteria set out in Rule 5(2)(a) or (b) for designation as a core participant in this investigation. The update note explains that the Inquiry will focus on obtaining information from groups that work with victims and survivors of sexual abuse within religious organisations and settings. Whilst I appreciate that Ms Lone has some experience of working with victims and survivors, it is not clear that the think tank organisation she currently works for



INDEPENDENT INQUIRY CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

(SARF) has a particular focus on issues relating to child sexual abuse. Accordingly, I am not satisfied that Ms Lone's interest in the matters to which this investigation relates is "significant".

11. I should make clear that it is not necessary for an individual or organisation to be a core participant in order to provide evidence to the Inquiry. Ms Lone may have relevant information to give in relation to the themes being considered in this investigation and the Inquiry will consider in due course whether it wishes to make a formal request for witness evidence from Ms Lone.

12. I will keep the scope of the investigation and the designation of core participants under review as the Inquiry progresses and further invitations to apply for core participant status may be made as the investigation proceeds. My decision not to designate Ms Lone as a core participant in this particular investigation does not preclude her from making a future application in respect of any investigation. I will consider any future application which Ms Lone wishes to make on its merits.

Professor Alexis Jay OBE
Chair, Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse

7 August 2019