



# 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 15 May 2019 an application was made by **James Lloyd Evans** for core participant status in this investigation.
3. I made a provisional ruling declining the application on 5 July 2019. Mr Evans was provided with an opportunity to renew his application at a preliminary hearing on 23 July 2019.
4. I have now had the opportunity to carefully consider the following:
  - a. The written application made by James Lloyd Evans for core participant status dated 15 May 2019;
  - b. Oral submissions made on his behalf by Richard Scorer on 23 July 2019.
5. I have reminded myself of the statutory criteria that govern the determination of core participant status, in Rule 5 of the Inquiry Rules 2006. Mr Evans relies on the provisions in Rule 5(2)(a) and (b), which direct me to consider whether a person has played a direct and significant role in matters to which the Inquiry relates or whether a person has a significant interest in an important aspect of the matters to which the Inquiry relates.
6. The application by Mr Evans is made on the basis that he is a former member and elder of the Jehovah's Witnesses, and is now a prominent campaigner, advocate, writer, documentary maker and activist who works with and supports former Jehovah's Witnesses, including those who have experienced child sexual abuse within the organisation.



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7. In his renewed application, it was submitted on Mr Evans' behalf that he is the only full-time ex-Jehovah's Witnesses advocate in the world who has researched, and written, extensively about that organisation and about its response to child sexual abuse. In that role he is required to ensure he is aware of developments in its policies and procedures on child sexual abuse.
8. On that basis, I have concluded that Mr Evans can be regarded as fulfilling the criteria in Rule 5 (2)(a) and (b) as having a significant interest in the matters the Inquiry is considering; and can play a significant role in the issues under investigation. I conclude, also, that it is proportionate to the needs of the Inquiry to hear from a range of core participants who can assist the Inquiry to understand the wider picture of abuse and the institutional responses to it.
9. Accordingly, I am satisfied that James Lloyd Evans should be designated as a core participant in the Child Protection in Religious Organisations and Settings investigation.
10. Applications for designation as the recognised legal representative of a core participant are governed by Rules 6 and 7 of the Inquiry Rules 2006, which provide as follows:

*6(1) Where -*

- (a) a core participant, other than a core participant referred to in rule 7; or*
- (b) any other person required or permitted to give evidence or produce documents during the course of the inquiry,*  
*has appointed a qualified lawyer to act on that person's behalf, the chairman must designate that lawyer as that person's recognised legal representative in respect of the inquiry proceedings.*

*7(1) This rule applies where there are two or more core participants, each of whom seeks to be legally represented, and the chairman considers that -*



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- (a) their interests in the outcome of the inquiry are similar;*
  - (b) the facts they are likely to rely on in the course of the inquiry are similar; and*
  - (c) it is fair and proper for them to be jointly represented.*
- (2) The chairman must direct that those core participants shall be represented by a single recognised legal representative, and the chairman may designate a qualified lawyer for that purpose.*
- (3) Subject to paragraph (4), any designation must be agreed by the core participants in question.*
- (4) If no agreement on a designation is forthcoming within a reasonable period, the chairman may designate an appropriate lawyer who, in his opinion, has sufficient knowledge and experience to act in this capacity.*

11. I am satisfied that James Lloyd Evans has appointed Richard Scorer of Slater & Gordon Solicitors as his qualified lawyer in relation to this investigation. I therefore designate Mr Scorer as Mr Evans' recognised legal representative in accordance with Rule 6(1) as I am required by that rule to do.

12. If Mr Evans wishes to make an application for an award under section 40(1)(b) of the Inquiries Act 2005 for expenses to be incurred in respect of legal representation, he should submit an application to the Solicitor to the Inquiry by 30 August 2019. Such applications will be determined in accordance with the Inquiry's Costs Protocol on Legal Representation at Public Expense.

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

**7 August 2019**