

**NOTICE OF DETERMINATION
CORE PARTICIPANT APPLICATION**

1. On 3 June 2016 the Inquiry invited anyone who wished to be designated as a core participant in the Accountability and Reparations investigation to make an application to the Solicitor to the Inquiry by 1 July 2016. Such applications are currently limited to participation in the four case studies.
2. An application was made by the Methodist Insurance PLC for core participant status in the Accountability and Reparations investigation.
3. I made a provisional ruling declining the application on 20 July 2016. The Methodist Insurance PLC were provided with an opportunity to renew their application at a preliminary hearing on 29 July 2016. They did not renew their application. Accordingly, this notice sets out my final determination of the application.
4. 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

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.

5. In determining each person's 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.
6. Having regard to the provisions of Rule 5(2), I am not satisfied that the Methodist Insurance PLC fulfils the criteria in Rule 5(2) or that there are other good reasons to designate it as core participant. Its application is put in terms of the provision of insurance cover, in particular for claims of child sexual abuse.
7. I am not currently satisfied that the Methodist Insurance PLC's interest is sufficient to justify its designation as a core participant in this investigation, at this stage. This core participant application window is specific to four institutional case studies: Forde Park Approved School, North Wales children's homes, St. Aidan's & St Vincent's children's homes and St Leonards children's home. On the information placed before me, it appears that the Methodist Insurance PLC was not an insurer for any of these institutions, in any capacity. For this reason I am not satisfied that the Methodist Insurance PLC played or may have played a direct and significant role in relation to those matters, or that they may have a significant interest. Accordingly, I decline the application to designate it as a core participant in this case studies investigation.
8. I will keep the scope of the investigation and the designation of core participants under review and further invitations to apply for core participant status may be made as the investigation proceeds. Therefore, depending on how the investigation progresses, it may also be possible for individuals and organisations, such as the Methodist Insurance PLC, who do not fall within the present case studies to still assist the Inquiry either as witnesses or as designated core participants in other aspects of the Accountability and Reparations investigation. In the meantime I will consider any future application which Methodist Insurance PLC wishes to make on its merits in relation to the four case studies currently underway.

Hon. Dame Lowell Goddard DNZM
Chair, Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse

29 July 2016