

**Summary of matters which the Inquiry asked Michael Meadowcroft to address in a witness statement in accordance with Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006**

1. How he first come to know Cyril Smith.
2. His general impressions of Cyril Smith.
3. The process for selection as Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for the Liberal Party in the 1970s. His experience when contesting the seat of Leeds West in 1974.
4. The process of selection of Cyril Smith as PPC for Rochdale in 1970.
5. Details of what the Party knew about the Lancashire Police investigation in 1969-1970 while Smith was being considered for selection as a PPC and what Mr Meadowcroft himself knew.
6. Mr Meadowcroft told an investigating officer from Greater Manchester Police in an interview on 19 February 2015 that in 1970 the then-leader of the Liberal Party, Jeremy Thorpe, “*was very anxious for Smith to stand as he believed he was the only one who could win the seat in Rochdale.*” Confirmation of where he got this information from and Thorpe’s knowledge about any allegations made against Smith.
7. In 1976 Cyril Smith was investigated by the Metropolitan Police in relation to allegations made by a man named Name Redacted. What Mr Meadowcroft knew about this and what actions, if any, he took.
8. In 1979, the Rochdale Alternative Paper and Private Eye published allegations about Smith. Mr Meadowcroft stated publicly that he confronted Smith about the allegations at this time. Details of how this conversation (or conversations) came about and what was said and what action he took, if any.
9. Mr Meadowcroft’s working relationship with Cyril Smith between 1972 and 1992. His knowledge of any other allegations of child sexual abuse made against Smith whilst he was an MP. An explanation of Mr Meadowcroft’s remark to the Channel 4 *Dispatches* programme in 2013 that there were persistent rumours in the party that ‘Cyril liked boys’.
10. The Liberal Party’s reaction to Cyril Smith’s knighthood in 1988.
11. His understanding of the allegations against Cyril Smith when he wrote an obituary for him in *The Guardian* in September 2010, in which he noted “*Efforts by Private Eye to implicate Smith in scandalous activities with boys never stuck and appeared to have no effect on his electability.*”
12. Whether he was contacted by the Party or anyone else in or after November 2012, following statements made in Parliament by Simon Danczuk MP and Deputy Prime



Minister, Sir Nick Clegg about Cyril Smith.

13. His consideration of the detail of the allegations of child sexual abuse made against Cyril Smith.
14. His knowledge of any allegations of child sexual abuse made against other Liberal or Liberal Democrat MPs, officials or prominent members of the party.