

THE UROLOGY SERVICES INQUIRY

PROTOCOL FOR ASSESSOR(S)

The following applies in relation to the Inquiry Assessor, Mr Damian Hanbury, appointed by the Minister for Health and to any other person(s) appointed as assessor(s) by the Chair under section 11 of the Inquiries Act 2005

- [1] The Chair will announce publicly the appointment of any additional assessor.
- [2] An assessor will assist the Chair in dealing with a matter in which the assessor has expertise.
- [3] An assessor will take such part in the proceedings of the Inquiry as the Chair may request, and in particular the Chair may at any time request an assessor to:
 - (a) prepare a report for the Chair on any matter relevant to the Inquiry within the expertise of the assessor; and/or
 - (b) attend the whole or any part of the public hearings to advise the Chair on any such matter; and/or
 - (c) provide the Chair with advice on any matter relevant to the Inquiry within the expertise of the assessor.
- [4] If an assessor prepares a report for the Chair which the Chair intends to take into account, in whole or in part, in reaching her conclusions:
 - (a) the Chair will send a copy of the report, or such part(s) of it which he intends to take into account, to each of the Core Participants;
 - (b) the report, or the part(s) of it which the Chair intends to take into account, will be published as part of the evidence of the Inquiry;
 - (c) the Core Participants may, within seven days of receipt of the report or part(s) of it which the Chair intends to take into account, submit observations to the Inquiry about it; and
 - (d) the assessor will not be required to give oral evidence.
- [5] If the Chair receives advice from an assessor which is not included in such a report, the Chair will, if she considers it necessary for the fair and proportionate conduct of the Inquiry, arrange for a summary of such advice to be sent to each of the Core Participants and published. The Core Participants may, within seven days of receipt of the summary, submit observations to the Inquiry about it.