

**PRESS NOTICE**

**BACKGROUND  
27 APRIL PRELIMINARY HEARING**

On Wednesday, 27 April the Inquiry Chairman, Sir Christopher Pitchford, will hold a hearing regarding possible prosecutions stemming from evidence given to the Inquiry.

In any Inquiry, it is possible that people giving evidence could be asked questions which, if answered truthfully, could leave them open to prosecution or implicate others. The Chairman has no power to grant anyone giving evidence immunity from prosecution, but he can request an Undertaking from the Attorney General (who in conjunction with the Director of Public Prosecutions is responsible for overseeing the bringing of criminal prosecutions) limiting the use that can be made of evidence given to the Inquiry.

The hearing on 27 April is for the Chairman to consider arguments on how broad any Undertaking to be sought from the Attorney General should be.

The Chairman has already considered written submissions from the Inquiry's core participants on this issue, which are published on the Inquiry's website.

It is easy for anyone with an interest to engage with the Inquiry: a transcript of the hearing will be posted on the Inquiry's website as soon as possible after a hearing, and there is also space in the hearing room for those who may want to listen in person.

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editors:**

1. The hearing on 27 April 2016 is part of a series of preliminary hearings in the Inquiry into Undercover Policing.
2. Full reasons for the forthcoming hearing are available at: [www.ucpi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/160310-undertakings-directions.pdf](http://www.ucpi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/160310-undertakings-directions.pdf) and <https://www.ucpi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/160303-undertakings-Chairmans-minded-to-note.pdf>

3. The hearing will commence at 10.30 am at Court 76, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the East Block at the Royal Courts of Justice and is a Public Inquiry hearing; it is not a court case.
4. Counsel to the Inquiry's note on the law in respect of Undertakings can be found here <https://www.ucpi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/160108-undertakings-note.pdf>
5. Details of any written submissions received by the Inquiry are to be found at <https://www.ucpi.org.uk/witness-statements-and-submissions/>

For further information, please contact the Inquiry's press officer, Mike Wicksteed.

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