

Core Participants Ruling 7

1. The Inquiry has received an application from N5, one of the police officers in category [C], that their designation as core participant in the Inquiry should be terminated. By rule 5(1) of the Inquiry Rules 2006 a person may be designated as a core participant “*provided that person consents to being so designated*”. By rule 5(3) a person ceases to be a core participant on the date specified by the chairman in writing or at the end of the inquiry. I shall therefore terminate N5’s designation as a core participant with effect from the date of this Ruling.
2. The Inquiry has received an application from Mr Peter Tatchell for designation as a core participant in the Inquiry. In the early 1990s Mr Tatchell was active in a group called Outrage! that campaigned for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality and respect for their human rights. In his application of 6 May 2016 Mr Tatchell says that in the early 1990s he was tipped off by a friendly police officer that he and Outrage! were under police surveillance. Mr Tatchell says that he was also informed anonymously that Outrage! had been infiltrated by an undercover police officer. He was later informed by activists in other groups that a person suspected by Outrage! had also been suspected by them.
3. No particulars are provided as to the role of the suspected officer, Mr Tatchell’s dealings with him or her, the duration of the suspected officer’s role and any adverse consequences that are suspected may have followed.
4. By rule 5(2) of the Inquiry Rules 2006, when considering whether to designate a person a core participant in the Inquiry, I am required to consider in particular whether: “(a) *the person played or may have played a 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.*” For reasons explained in my first core participant ruling dated 21 October 2015 (which can be located in the Inquiry’s website) I have given particular emphasis to rule 5(2)(a).
5. I conclude, upon the limited information that Mr Tatchell has been able to provide to the Inquiry, that he does not at present qualify for designation as a core participant in the Inquiry. In particular, a suspicion of police surveillance and infiltration does not alone demonstrate that a person played or may have played *a significant role* in matters to which the Inquiry relates. However, in common with several other

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applicants the Inquiry intends to follow up the information provided and to keep the application under review. The Inquiry will be in further contact with Mr Tatchell in due course.

25 May 2016

Sir Christopher Pitchford
Chairman, Undercover Policing Inquiry