

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

13 September 2016

## PRESS NOTICE

### **Ruling on applications for restriction orders by non-police, non-state core participants**

Sir Christopher Pitchford, the Chairman of the Undercover Policing Inquiry, has today issued a [Ruling](#) confirming that, in principle, he will grant anonymity to 23 non-police, non-state core participants. The associated restriction orders will be published in due course. One anonymity application was refused.

The reasons for the Chairman's decisions on the applications are detailed in the ['Minded to' note](#) dated 10 August 2016, and the legal principles upon which they were based are set out in the [Ruling](#) dated 3 May 2016. None of the Inquiry's other core participants objected to the proposed orders, and the Media<sup>1</sup> confirmed that they do not intend to challenge them at this time.

### **Background**

The non-police, non-state applications for anonymity were made up from people in the following groups:

- Families of police officers;
- Those who have had relationships with people who may have been undercover officers;
- Those concerned that their association with a protest would have a detrimental effect upon their private life;
- Those who thought their involvement with justice campaigns would put them at risk of harm if their identities were disclosed;
- Those who thought their involvement with political, environmental and other activism would have a detrimental effect on their private life if their identities were disclosed.

The purpose of the Undercover Policing Inquiry is to investigate and report on undercover police operations conducted by English and Welsh police forces in England and Wales since 1968. The Inquiry will examine the contribution undercover policing has made to tackling crime, how it was and is supervised and regulated, and its effect on individuals involved - both police officers and others who came into contact with them.

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<sup>1</sup> Guardian News and Media, acting on behalf of themselves, Times Newspapers Ltd, Associated Newspapers Ltd, the BBC, ITN, Sky News and the Press Association

## UNDERCOVER POLICING INQUIRY

The work of the Inquiry ranges across the full scope of undercover policing work and will look at the work of the Special Demonstration Squad, the National Public Order Intelligence Unit and police forces in England and Wales. The Inquiry will also examine whether people may have been wrongly convicted in cases involving undercover police officers, and refer any such cases to a separate panel for consideration.

The work of the Inquiry will fall into three modules:

1. Module one will look at what happened in the deployment of undercover officers in the past, their conduct, and the impact of their activities on themselves and others.
2. Module two will look at the management and oversight of undercover officers, including their selection, training, supervision and care after the end of an undercover deployment. This section will also look at the law and other rules covering undercover policing.
3. Module three will make recommendations about how undercover policing should be conducted in future.

**ENDS**

## NOTES TO EDITORS

1. This press notice does not form part of the Ruling on non-police, non-state anonymity applications and does not form part of its reasoning. The full Ruling is the only authoritative document and is available [here](#).
2. The Undercover Policing Inquiry is constituted under the Inquiries Act 2005.
3. The Inquiry's [terms of reference](#) were announced by the Home Secretary on 16 July 2015.
4. The reasons for the Chairman's decisions on the applications are detailed in the ['Minded to' note](#) dated 10 August 2016, and the legal principles up which they were based are set out in the Ruling dated [3 May 2016](#) (Restriction Orders: Legal Principles and Approach).
5. The Inquiry's ['frequently asked questions'](#) provide further information on the Inquiry more generally, as do [two published update notes](#).
6. The Inquiry's website is [www.ucpi.org.uk](http://www.ucpi.org.uk) and the Inquiry can be found on Twitter @ucpinquiry

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