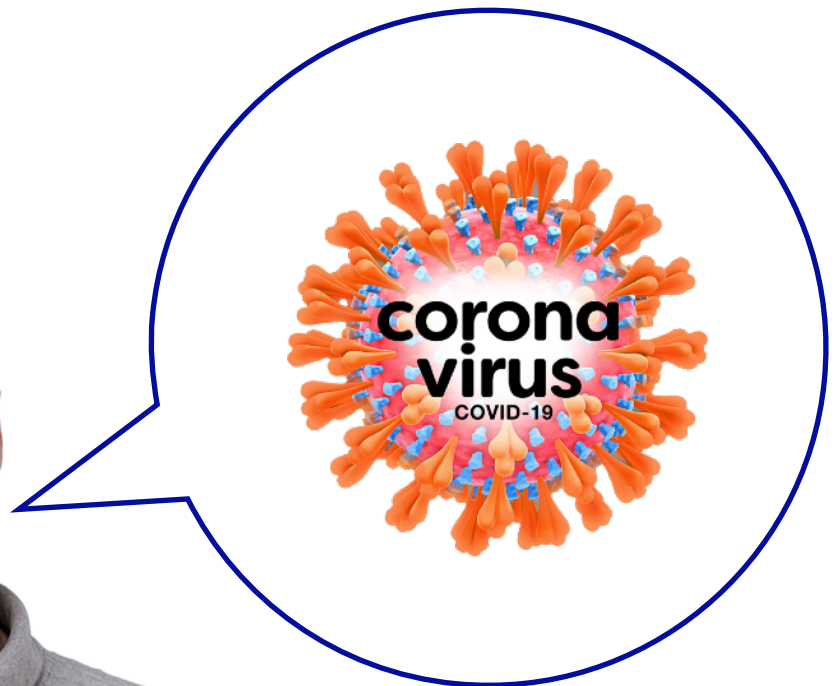




About 'Every Story Matters'

UK Covid-19 Inquiry



Easy
Read

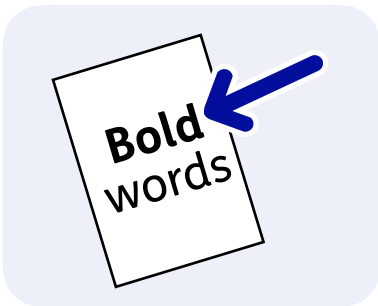
Easy Read



This is an Easy Read version of some hard information. It may not include all of the information but will tell you about the important parts.



This Easy Read information uses easier words and pictures. You may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker.



These are words that some people will find hard. When you see a bold word, we will explain it in the next sentence.



Blue and underlined words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

Contents

About the UK Covid-19 Inquiry.....	4
About ‘Every Story Matters’	5
What does the Inquiry want to know?	6
How can people take part in ‘Every Story Matters’?	8
How will you use my information?	10
I want to take part in ‘Every Story Matters’.....	12
If you need help.....	14
If you change your mind about sharing your story.....	15
If you live in Scotland.....	16

About the UK Covid-19 Inquiry



We are the independent group that has been set up to look at how the UK dealt with Covid-19.



An **Inquiry** is when a group of people look at what happened and tell everyone the facts about what happened.



The Inquiry will try to:

- Find answers to people's questions about the pandemic.

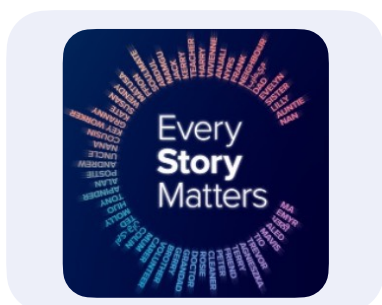


- Make sure that lessons are learned for the future.

About 'Every Story Matters'



The Inquiry has promised to listen to people's stories about the pandemic.



The Inquiry has started a project called 'Every Story Matters', so people from across the UK can share their stories with us.



These stories will help the Inquiry:

- To understand what happened to people during the pandemic.



- With its important legal work.



We want to hear from lots of people across the UK, including people whose loved ones died during the pandemic.

What does the Inquiry want to know?



The pandemic affected everybody in different ways.



Some changes have carried on and lasted for a long time.



We want to understand how the pandemic made you feel.



We want to know what happened to you and why.



You can tell us about any part of your life that you like.



You can also tell us how the pandemic affected your friends, family and community.



If you choose to share your story with us, please do not include your name or phone number.



When you have finished telling us your story, we will ask for some general information like your gender, age and postcode.

You don't have to tell us if you don't want to.



But the information will help us to understand more about how the pandemic affected different groups of people.



If you tell us that someone is in danger, we may need to tell the police and other organisations such as social services.

How can people take part in ‘Every Story Matters’?



You can decide if you want to take part or not. Everybody has a choice.



You must be aged 18 or over to take part.



It does not matter if you had Covid or not during the pandemic.



Most people can share their story by filling in a form on our website.



You can also ask for a paper form. This will be sent to you in the post and you can fill it in with a pen and send it back to us.



We may invite you to come and speak to us more about the pandemic.



We will also have events across the country where people can tell us about their experiences.

How will you use my information?



The Inquiry will collect stories from lots of people across the UK.



We will use computers and people to study the stories.



We will find out if people had similar or different experiences.



We will look for patterns and find things that could be improved.



The Inquiry will use the information in our **legal hearings**.

A **legal hearing** is an official meeting in a court.

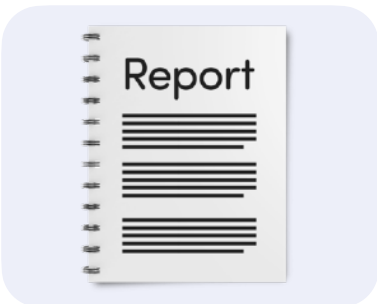
The information we collect will help us to do things in our legal hearings, like:



- Ask questions to the people who were in charge during the pandemic.



- Make recommendations so things can be better in the future.



We will make reports available to everyone, with information from all the collected stories.



The reports will not include any personal information about you if you shared your story. No one will know who you are.

I want to take part in ‘Every Story Matters’



If you want to share your story with us, it needs to be written on one of our forms.

Online form

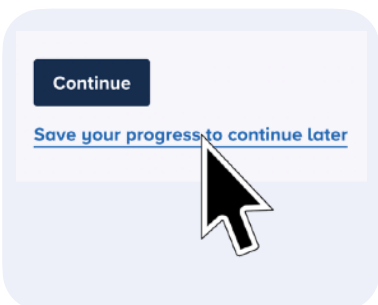
There is an online form you can fill in on our website at:



- everystorymatters.co.uk (English)



- maepobstoriobwys.co.uk (Cymraeg/Welsh)



You can save the form, so you can come back to it later on or finish filling it in at another time.

Paper form



If you want a paper form you can ask for one by emailing:

contact@covid19.public-inquiry.uk



Or by writing to us at:

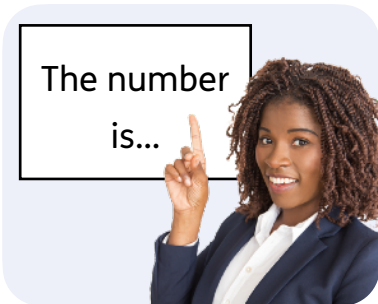
FREEPOST
UK Covid-19 Inquiry

You do not need a stamp.

Phone



We want to set up a phone line later in the year for people who need help with the form.



We will put the phone number on our website when it is ready, and add it to this information.



We will also share the phone number with groups that work with people with learning disabilities.

If you need help



You can ask a family member, a friend or another trusted person to help fill in the form.



People might have a lot of different feelings when filling in the form.



If you want to talk to someone about your feelings, here is a list of groups:
<https://www.covid19.public-inquiry.uk/support/>



These groups cannot help you to fill in the form.

If you change your mind about sharing your story



It is okay to change your mind about sharing your story.



You can stop filling in the form at any time.



If you have already sent the form, you can ask for it to be deleted. Some information may already have been used.



To ask for your form to be deleted, email:

contact@covid19.public-inquiry.uk

Your code

In your email, please include the code you were given when you sent your form.

If you live in Scotland

You can share your story with:



- Just the UK Covid-19 Inquiry.



- Just the Scottish COVID-19 Inquiry.



- Both the UK and Scottish inquiries.