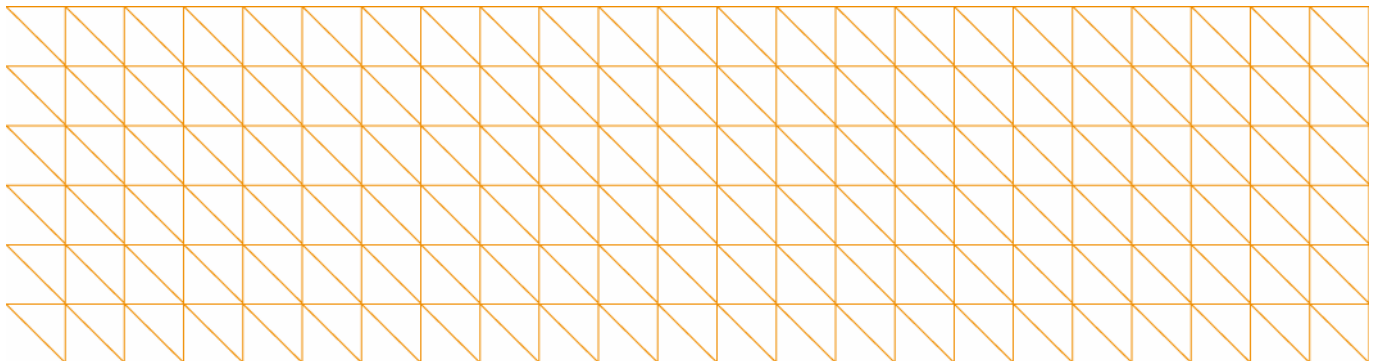




Sensitive reporting in coroners' courts – response to comments 2006–2008

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January 2009





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Foreword

By Bridget Prentice MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice

The Government's plans to reform the coroner system were first set out in detail in the draft Coroners Bill which was published in June 2006.

The draft Bill proposed a provision for coroners to impose reporting restrictions in inquests where there was no public interest, and in associated material cited as examples some child deaths and some apparent suicides where the matters being aired at the inquest were of an entirely private nature.

However, following extensive consultation in 2006 and 2007, and while recognising the fine balance between families' need to grieve privately and the public interest in coroners' inquests being transparent and open to scrutiny, the Government announced that the clause on imposing reporting restrictions would be removed from the draft Bill.

The Government sought views in spring 2008 on amending the Press Complaints Commission's code of practice to reflect the original intentions in the Bill for sensitivity, again particularly, but not exclusively, in cases of apparent suicide and cases involving child deaths.

At the same time we examined how the code might best be drawn to the attention of bereaved families, and at what point in the coroners' process it would be most effective to do so.

This document details the input that we have received to the various strands of consultation we have undertaken. It shows the path that has led the Government to resist requesting the Press Complaints Commission to revise its code for the time being, and alternatively focus raising awareness of its existence, and the protection it offers, amongst bereaved families.

The Government is publishing this document alongside the Coroners and Justice Bill. Improving awareness of the code both for the media and for members of the public who are bereaved is an important way in which we can support one of the key aims of the coroners' legislation. That aim is to improve the way that the coroner system meets the needs of the bereaved while also serving the public interest.

I am extremely grateful to everyone who has taken part in every part of the consultation process, in particular the bereaved families who have given up their time to relive what was, inevitably, a very difficult period in their lives.

Introduction and contact details

This document is a response to views the Government has received to extensive consultation on sensitive reporting in coroners' courts. It covers:

- responses to the reporting restrictions proposals in the 2006 draft Coroners Bill
- a workshop on reporting restrictions in July 2007
- responses to the discussion paper on sensitive reporting in coroners' courts issued in March 2008

Further copies of this document can be obtained by contacting the address below:

**Coroners and Burials Division
Ministry of Justice
2nd Floor, 102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ**

Telephone: 020 3334 6399

Email: Elizabeth.Knapp@justice.gsi.gov.uk

This document is also available on the Ministry's website: www.justice.gov.uk.

Alternative format versions of this publication can be requested from the Coroners and Burials Division.

Purpose of this document

The Government's plans to reform the coroner system were set out in the draft Coroners Bill, which was published in June 2006. Extensive consultation since that time has helped to refine several policy areas – one such area concerns media reporting of inquests.

This document summarises the feedback the Government has received on policy proposals concerning the reporting of inquests since the draft Bill was published. It is intended to inform debate on the Bill during its Parliamentary passage.

Specifically, the document covers:

- responses to the reporting restrictions proposals in the 2006 draft Coroners Bill
- the workshop on reporting restrictions in July 2007
- responses to the discussion paper on sensitive reporting in coroners' courts issued in March 2008.

Background

Inquests are held in public, so the media may attend and report any details of the inquest they choose. The only exception is inquests where issues of national security are involved, where the coroner can direct that the public, including the media, be excluded from the inquest (rule 17 of the Coroners Rules 1984).

Coroners have powers to prohibit publication of the name of a child under the Child and Young Person's Act 1933, and will invariably do so in respect of child witnesses. With deceased children, however, as it is one of their functions to establish the identity of the person that has died, they will not do so.

Clause 30 of the draft Coroners Bill proposed to give coroners a new power to prevent publication of the name or any information that might identify the deceased person or any interested persons to the inquest. The intention was that this power should be used in particularly sensitive cases, such as (but not exclusively) apparent suicides or child deaths, when there was no public interest in the family being identified. The Bill did not propose any change to the status quo regarding public inquests.

We received strong views for and against the Bill's anonymity proposals. Whilst several groups representing the bereaved were supportive of the proposals, the media were opposed. Equally, there was no consensus of views amongst coroners. The distress that reporting at inquests can cause bereaved families was recognised, as was the need to balance this with consideration of the public interest, including the need for transparency of judicial proceedings.

In July 2007, we brought together a number of people with an interest – coroners, media organisations, and the voluntary sector – to hear their views and reach agreement on how to proceed. At the workshop it was agreed that clause 30 should be removed from the Bill on the basis that the proposal risked limiting the public scrutiny of the coroners' courts, and that it would unfairly lead families to believe that there was a genuine likelihood of reporting restrictions being applied when, in fact, the intention was that they would be applied only in exceptional circumstances.

As an alternative, and as recommended at the workshop, we considered how the current Press Complaints Commission (PCC) Code of Practice ("the Code") might be publicised (and drawn specifically to the attention of bereaved families) to ensure there is appropriate emphasis on the need for sensitive reporting of coroners cases. We have also considered whether to put forward suggestions to the Editor's Code Committee on possible changes to the Code.

A discussion paper was issued in March 2008 setting out some initial suggestions for possible additions and amendments to the Code. We also invited examples of current good practice about publicising the Code.

Response to proposals in the draft Coroners Bill

Overview

The Coroners Bill was issued for consultation in June 2006. The deadline for comments was September 2006 and 150 written responses were received. A response document was published in February 2007 and is available on the Ministry of Justice website.

41 of the 150 respondents commented on the reporting restrictions proposals in the Bill. A list of these respondents is attached at Annex A.

What did the draft Bill propose?

Clause 30 of the draft Coroners Bill proposed to give coroners a new power to prevent publication of the name of the deceased or any interested persons to the inquest, or any information that might identify them.

The intention was that coroners would be able to exercise this power at their own discretion, or more usually because an application was made for him or her to do so by the relatives or friends of the person who had died. The proposals did not mean that facts could not be reported, but rather that the deceased and certain persons connected with the case could not be named or otherwise identified. Decisions to impose or to not impose reporting restrictions would have been subject to appeal to the new Chief Coroner.

Responses

41 respondents commented directly on the reporting restrictions proposal and gave strong opinions both for and against it. A number of individual respondents and voluntary groups welcomed the proposal as a measure to protect the interests of families in particularly sensitive cases, and several provided evidence of the distress that press intrusion and sensationalism can cause to the bereaved. For example, the **Childhood Bereavement Network** said *“Many families experience serious and persistent intrusion into their lives following the publication of details of a death in the press. Misrepresented or sensationalised details can be particularly difficult when families are trying to explain the circumstances of the death to a child or young person, which is known to be a critical process to aid healthy grieving.”*

Similarly, the **Child Bereavement Trust** welcomed the proposal for child deaths to be investigated without press intrusion and the **National Bereavement Partnership** said that in a small minority of tragic cases, untold damage has been done by the release of information about a person's identity in particularly sensitive deaths. The Partnership said that in relation to those types of deaths it is *“wholly appropriate to withhold the identity of the deceased where there is no question of any other person being implicated in the death.”*

Some respondents expressed their support for the proposals, though a number emphasised the need to balance the requirements of bereaved relatives with the issue of public education. The **Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL)** welcomed the proposal but argued that it should only be used when there is no public interest in the information. APIL suggested that a subsection should be added to the clause specifying that a coroner must always have regard to the public interest.

Dr Peter Dean (HM Coroner for Greater Suffolk and South East Essex) stated that “Public reporting can often be necessary and can itself be the essential route through which public education about unavoidable tragedies can be promoted, but this needs to be balanced against the interests of an individual family and can normally be accomplished equally well without adding to personal grief”. Similarly, another Coroner, **Nigel Meadows**, stated that he was very much in support of the draft legislation “but obviously it involves the exercise of discretion, a balancing exercise between the rights of access of the public and the media to court proceedings has to be weighted against the intrusion into private family grief and whether or not any lessons can be learned.”

Two other coroners welcomed the proposal but stressed that there were likely to be difficulties in imposing it. **Michael Singleton** stated that the reporting of many inquests in the local newspaper had represented an unnecessary intrusion into the private grief of many people. However, he anticipated that the vast majority of interested persons would seek directions prohibiting publication and there may be calls for a judicial review of these decisions. Similarly, **Dr Nigel Chapman** anticipated that the number of appeals could be ‘enormous’ and the wording would need to be thought about very carefully.

Several respondents offered mixed views on the subject. A common concern was the extent to which reporting restrictions might damage the way in which reports on public inquests could be used as a method of educating the public. For example, the **Merseyside Asbestos Victims Support Group** stated that whilst it fully understood why the measure had been proposed, it was concerned that the balance between the privacy of families and the right of the community to transparency in affairs of public interest might be in jeopardy.

Neil Cameron, a lawyer who practised in the coroners' courts, expressed similar reservations. Mr Cameron suggested that a subsection should be added to the clause stating that an order should only be made on application by an interested person who can show that there is real risk of unnecessary or gratuitous publicity which outweighs the argument for the information being made publicly available both in terms of public interest and the interest of any other interested parties. **Paul Balen** suggested that a better test of whether there should be reporting restrictions was whether there was public interest in the circumstances of the death, rather than whether another person was implicated.

Michael Johnston (Coroner for Western Dorset) did not agree that the coroner should have discretion in suicide cases as to whether the inquest was held in public, as he felt that this would lead to great pressures on coroners.

He suggested that the inquests should be held in public, but the inquiry should be limited to ascertaining how the death came about and not the reasons why the deceased chose to end their life. He believed that inquests into child deaths should be held in private but that the coroner should release to the media a précis of the findings and the verdict at the close of the inquest.

Media organisations in particular expressed strong opposition to the proposal. The **Press Complaints Commission, the Newspaper Society, the National Union of Journalists, BBC, ITN and the Society of Editors** all expressed their concern about the introduction of this clause. They felt strongly that the introduction of reporting restrictions would not be in the public interest and would be against the principle of open justice. **The Newspaper Society** stated that the provision would defeat the purpose of a formal inquiry, intended to establish matters surrounding a death for the public record, and could prevent matters of great public interest ever emerging. Similarly, the **BBC** said that deaths requiring investigation by the coroner are, by their very nature, matters of the highest public concern. It argued that *“...to impose reporting restrictions with a view to shielding bereaved families (and others) from publicity would in effect deprive the public of the ability to receive vital information about matters of serious concern within the community.”*

A further concern was that those who have vital information about the circumstances of a death may be prevented, as a result of a lack of publicity, from coming forward. **The Press Complaints Commission** said that the right of journalists to report on inquests is a key feature of an open society in which the public as a whole has a right to know what is going on and there are no cover ups of unusual or premature deaths.

The media was not alone in these views. **UNISON**, for example, expressed a particular view about the important role that the media played in publicising deaths at work. It asserted that media coverage may reverse the culture of belief that deaths at work are acceptable, which in turn assisted the Government's stated objective of reducing death and injury in the workplace. **INQUEST** also expressed concern about this clause *“...it will lead to important information as to the identities of interested persons being suppressed when the public interest requires disclosure of the same.”*

Many respondents felt that the imposition of reporting restrictions would be against the principle of freedom of expression. **ITN** said that *“...in an age where freedom of expression and information are now law, legislation should be pushing for more openness in the court process generally, not less”*. **Neil Ross**, a solicitor, said *“...the freedom of the press remains a vital freedom, anything that is done which fetters that freedom should be resisted.”*

Some respondents suggested that, occasionally, media reports can be helpful to families. The **Newspaper Society** highlighted examples from local newspaper editors where bereaved families were helped by reports in the media.

Many of the respondents from the media felt that the current situation worked perfectly well and commented that there are already codes of practice in place that were aimed at protecting the bereaved. The **Press Complaints Commission** provided some detail on this and the **BBC** gave details of the regulations that they follow.

Respondents also detailed some of the further help that was provided to families. For example, the **Coroners Courts Support Service** (CCSS) said that much could be done to ease the situation for families by making them aware of the potential media presence. The CCSS included information in its leaflets and advice is included in the training for their volunteers. The **Press Complaints Commission** believed much could be done through greater education of the bereaved on what to expect.

Several respondents commented on the difficulties they could foresee in the implementation of reporting restrictions. There is a general view that clearer guidelines were needed on how the proposal would be implemented. An opinion voiced by many was that it could lead to a vast number of appeals which could cause delays. There was also concern from the media that there would be no avenue of appeal for them and generally, that the definition of 'interested person' lacks clarity. For example, the **National Union of Journalists** stated that *"There is no allowance for the media to challenge the prohibition in the public interest, and a possibility is that the ban could be applied more widely than is necessary leading to a more general ban on naming"*.

In addition to the comments on reporting restrictions, a number of respondents referred to clause 41 of the draft Bill which stated that inquests should be held in public unless there are exceptional reasons for them being excluded. The majority of those that commented specifically on this clause agreed that it is preferable to hold inquests in public, apart from in exceptional circumstances. Several of those who commented on this issue were of the view that there should be a very narrow definition of exceptional circumstances.

Feedback at the reporting restrictions workshop

Overview

Following such a mixed response to the original consultation, the then Minister for coroners' policy, Harriet Harman, was keen to bring those with an interest together in order to reach a consensus about the best way forward.

On 12 July 2007 the Ministry of Justice held an independently facilitated event involving 16 representatives from the media, voluntary groups, coroners and the Department of Health. While not all individuals and groups that expressed views in the Bill consultation were present at the workshop, there was a broad spread of representatives present. These included participants with specific interests in suicides and child death cases, as well as those with a more general concern in dealing with the interests of the bereaved. A full list of attendees is attached as Annex B.

What was discussed at the workshop?

The workshop involved a discussion about the current rules on reporting restrictions, as well as the proposals that were contained within the draft Bill. The event also included a presentation and discussion of five possible policy options:

1. retain the then-current position in the draft Bill;
2. remove the clause on reporting restrictions entirely from the Bill;
3. retain the provision in the Bill but only apply it in the event of an application by an interested party;
4. retain the provision but subject it to a rigorous public interest test; or
5. alter the proposal so that restrictions only apply to particular details of the cases rather than anonymity of the individuals involved.

Officials emphasised that the five policy options should not necessarily be considered in isolation, and that a possible solution may incorporate some combination of these. It was also emphasised that they were only suggestions designed to initiate debate and that participants in the workshop were welcome to put forward any alternative ideas that they might have. Attendees were also provided with case study examples to allow them to consider how the various options might apply to specific situations.

Views expressed at the workshop

Most of the attendees agreed that retaining Clause 30 in the draft Bill would:

- raise the expectations of bereaved people that there was a genuine likelihood of reporting restrictions being applied in the generality of cases, when the policy intention was always that they were intended to apply only in exceptional circumstances;
- lead to a considerable number of appeals against a coroner's decision by bereaved people or by the media, depending on the nature of the decision, which could lead to significant delays; and
- limit the public scrutiny of the coroners' courts.

Some of the coroners present further felt that they would be subjected to undue pressure to impose reporting restrictions when there was no policy justification for doing so.

There was a general consensus that while the current system may have been flawed, it nonetheless allowed for cases to be subject to public scrutiny and was open, transparent and consistent. The distress caused by insensitive media reporting was recognised, and emphasised by representatives from the voluntary sector and the Department of Health. None of the attendees, however, felt that this distress outweighed the inherent problems that would exist if statutory reporting restrictions were introduced either as in the draft Bill or in an alternative formulation.

A strong view emerged from all attendees that the proposed Clause 30 of the draft Bill would have the potential to limit public scrutiny of the coroners' courts in a way which was never intended. Some attendees felt further that there are very few cases in the coroners' courts where there is no public interest. However, attendees that were not affiliated to the press put forward the argument that it may not be necessary to identify specific individuals in order for lessons to be learned from a case, and that this, along with establishing the cause of death was probably the most important function of a coroner.

Members of the press responded that stories have more of an impact if readers are able to identify with individuals involved, and that anonymity would detract from this. The press were also of the view that it would be very difficult for them to report a case that included no detail that could lead to the identification of the individual. They also expressed the view that as the reporting would only apply to the inquest, in some cases details including identification of the deceased may have already appeared in the media, so anonymous reporting at inquest stage would have a limited impact.

There was little support in the workshop for any of the alternative legislative options presented to the groups. Participants in the workshop generally felt that the alternative options overly complicated the issue, and that they would be both difficult to apply and ineffective in overcoming the inherent problems with the proposed policy. There was some support for option 5, altering the proposal so that restrictions only apply to particular details of the cases rather than anonymity of the individuals involved. Participants felt, however, that this would be difficult to implement and could lead to inconsistencies.

Conclusions from the workshop

There was a unanimous view at the end of the workshop that the most appropriate way forward would be to remove the draft clause from the Bill, and to work on an administrative alternative. Workshop participants that initially supported clause 30 had a change of mind after considering the issues and hearing the views expressed at the workshop.

There was also a consensus that instead of legislating on the issue it would be preferable to ensure that either existing codes of practice were amended or a new agreement or code put in place to better ensure that media reporting was sensitive toward the bereaved. The wider implications of media reporting such as the issue of 'copycat' suicides, were also considered. Workshop participants also agreed that more could be done to inform families of the Press Complaint's Commission's role, and that Coroners' Officers could play a greater role in advising families about media reporting of inquests.

Response to the discussion paper on sensitive reporting in coroners' courts

Overview

On 27 March 2008 the Ministry of Justice issued a discussion paper entitled "Sensitive Reporting in Coroners' Courts". This document set out some initial suggestions for amendments and additions to the Press Complaints Commission Code of Practice. These were intended to reflect the original intention of the reporting restrictions clause for sensitivity, which was removed from the draft Bill last October, especially in the cases of apparent suicide and cases involving children.

The deadline for views was 27 June 2008, and a total of 17 individuals and organisations responded to the discussion paper. A complete list of respondents is attached at Annex C.

What were the proposed amendments?

The suggested amendments to the Code of Practice included:

- an additional sentence in Clause 5 that reads "editors should be sensitive to the effects reports may have on those who are bereaved, including children";
- an additional sentence in Clause 6 that reads "editors should be particularly sensitive to the effects reports of the deaths of children may have on grieving family members";
- an additional sentence in Clause 6 that reads "editors should be sensitive to the effects on children when reporting the deaths of parents or other adult family members"; and
- an additional sentence in Clause 6 that reads "when reporting the evidence given by children at inquests, the press should, even if legally free to do so, think carefully before identifying them by name and consider, in particular, what effect the report may have on their private lives."

Discussion paper responses

The 17 respondents fell into four categories as detailed below:

1. **Four** supported the suggested amendments;
2. **Four** made no specific comments in support of or opposed to the proposed amendments;
3. **Four** opposed the proposed amendments as they felt that they did not go far enough to ensure sensitive reporting; and

4. **Five** opposed the proposed amendments as they felt that an obligation to report sensitively is inherent within the current Code of Practice.

In support

Four respondents supported the suggested amendments (Medical Protection Society, Royal College of Pathologists, Baroness Finlay and the Childhood Bereavement Network).

While they supported the proposed amendments, the **Medical Protection Society** also noted their concern that the proposed changes might not go far enough to support grieving families, and asked that amendments to the Code be a starting point for further debate on the matter. **The Childhood Bereavement Network** supported the proposed amendments, but also noted their disappointment that clause 30 had been removed from the Bill.

No specific comments

Four respondents (**Death after Medical Negligence (DAMN)**, **Liverpool Law Society**, **BMA** and **PAPYRUS**) made no specific comments in support of or against the suggested amendments. For example, **DAMN** commented on reporting restrictions and the public interest in general but did not comment on the specific suggestions. **The Liverpool Law Society** made some drafting suggestions, but did not comment on the substance of the document.

Opposed to amendments as they do not go far enough

Four respondents were opposed to the suggested amendments as they felt that the amendments did not go far enough in terms of imposing restrictions on the media. These included two individuals who have had negative experiences with the media reporting, and argue that tighter media restrictions ought to be in place due to the distress they personally experienced.

One of the individuals noted his concern with the fact that at his son's inquest a medical expert read from his son's medical records and that these were subsequently reported on. He argued that this should not be able to occur as the records were not relevant to the cause of death and that medical records should remain confidential after death.

Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths (FSID) argued that while they were able to complain to the PCC after the reporting had occurred; this was after the fact and often too late in terms of causing distress to those affected by the report. **CRUSE** echoed this concern, and further argued that it was difficult for families to lay complaints at times of great distress and after "the damage has been done".

Opposed to proposed amendments for other reasons

Five respondents were opposed to the suggested amendments as they believed that the Code of Practice currently did enough in terms of media restrictions, and were opposed to restrictions on the media. This group included four members of the press (**the Press Association**, **the Newspaper**

Society, and the Editors' Code of Practice Committee and the Society of Editors) and one coroner (**Michael D Oakley**).

The Press Association, the Newspaper Society and the Society of Editors objected to the assumption that editors were not currently sensitive to children and the bereaved when reporting inquests, and further argued that aspects of the proposed amendments were unworkable. **The Newspaper Society** further noted that editors received practical help on the interpretation and application of the sensitivity provisions in the Code, and that the proposed amendments could be contrary to the statutory purpose of an inquest.

The **Editors' Code of Practice Committee** believed that the current Code already fulfilled the objective of ensuring sensitive reporting, and that amendments and additions to the Code were not the best means for the desired end. Instead, the Editors' Code of Practice Committee argued that a more effective next step could be producing guidance to manage the expectations of the bereaved in terms of the media reporting of inquests. They noted that they are not opposed to changing the Code of Practice in principle, but are resistant to constant "tinkering" as this can lead to inconsistency and confusion.

Both the **Editors' Code of Practice Committee** and the **Newspaper Society** note that the Code of Practice only deals with one aspect of the media. (Our attention has never been drawn to concerns about the reporting by other branches of the media.)

Drawing better attention to the Code of Practice

The discussion paper invited suggestions on how the Code might be best drawn to the attention of bereaved people, and at what point in the coroners' process it would be most effective to do so. Respondents to the discussion paper who commented on this parallel work were generally positive about the benefits to bereaved people – press reporting can be especially distressing when bereaved people are not fully aware that the press is free to attend inquests and report matters at their discretion.

Suggestions made by respondents included:

- leaflets in coroners' offices;
- guidance to coroners and coroners' officers about the Code; and
- information and leaflets given to voluntary groups to distribute.

The Childhood Bereavement Network indicated that their organisation could promote the Code in conjunction with the Ministry of Justice. Their suggestions included developing an article for their newsletter, asking MoJ or PCC officials to deliver a speech at one of their conferences, or discussing the Code at their meetings with regional childhood bereavement practitioners.

Next steps

There will be no general provision on reporting restrictions in the coroners' legislation.

We will work with the Coroners Society, the Press Complaints Commission and others with a view to bringing the Editors Code of Practice to the attention of bereaved families at the point where it is known that an inquest is to take place.

A primary way of doing so will be by updating MoJ leaflets on the role of the coroner which most families receive, but other ways are under active consideration.

The legislation will, however, contain a narrow provision to protect the families of UK Special Forces deceased servicemen and women. This repays the undertaking of confidentiality which these soldiers, and their families, give. Families will, however, have the right to waive their anonymity if they wish.

Powers for coroners to impose anonymity orders on child witnesses, or witnesses whose identity may affect either their personal security or national security will remain.

Additionally, there are provisions in the Bill for parts of a very rare number of inquests to be held partly in private when matters that could damage national security or hamper crime prevention or detection are being discussed.

Annex A

Respondents to the consultation on the draft Coroners Bill who commented on the reporting restrictions proposals:

Coroners

1. Peter Dean
2. Nigel Meadows
3. Michael Singleton
4. Nigel Chapman
5. Tom Osbourne
6. Alan Crickmore
7. Michael Oakley
8. Michael Johnston

Individual respondents

9. Janet Dean MP
10. Helen Reeves
11. Elaine Isaacs
12. Neil Cameron
13. Paul Balen
14. Tom Luce
15. Erica Duggan
16. Holly Rushton
17. D Parker
18. Maire Kramer (Jessica Morden MP)
19. Neil Ross
20. Chris Rogers
21. Michael Hutin

Legal profession

22. The Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL)
23. The Law Society

Local authorities

24. Local Government Association

Press organisations

25. Press Complaints Commission
26. Newspaper Society
27. Society of Editors
28. National Union of Journalists
29. ITN
30. BBC
31. Newsquest (Regional Press – West London /Buckinghamshire)

Unions

32. UNISON

Voluntary organisations

33. Roadpeace
34. Child Bereavement Network
35. Child Bereavement Trust
36. National Bereavement Partnership
37. Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide
38. INQUEST
39. Action against Medical Accidents (AvMA)
40. Coroners Courts Support Service
41. Merseyside Asbestos Victims Support Group

Annex B

Participants in the sensitive reporting workshop 12 July 2007:

Coroners

1. Michael Howells
2. Paul Matthews
3. Michael Singleton
4. Michael Johnson

Press organisations

5. Santha Rassiah, The Newspaper Society
6. Philip Wheeler, BBC
7. Michael Dodd, Press Association
8. Bob Satchwell, Society of Editors
9. Stephen Abell, Press Complaints Commission

Government departments

10. Keith Foster, National Suicide Prevention Strategy Advisory Group
(Department of Health)

Voluntary organisations

11. Alison Cox, CRY
12. Helen Shaw, INQUEST
13. Brigitte Chaudhry, Road Peace
14. Ann Chalmers, Child Bereavement Trust
15. Jill Sanders, Cruse Bereavement Care
16. Linda Lee, Action against Medical Accidents (AvMA)

Annex C

Respondents to the sensitive reporting discussion paper:

Coroners

1. Michael D Oakley

Individual respondents

2. Michael Bloomstein
3. Anonymous

Members of Parliament

4. Baroness Finlay of Llandaff

Legal profession

5. Liverpool Law Society

Press organisations

6. The Press Association
7. The Editors' Code of Practice Committee
8. The Newspaper Society
9. Society of Editors

Medical Organisations

10. Medical Protection Society
11. British Medical Association
12. Royal College of Pathologists

Voluntary organisations

13. DAMN (Death after Medical Negligence)
14. FSID (Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths)
15. PAPYRUS (Prevention of Young Suicide)
16. Childhood Bereavement Network
17. Cruse Bereavement Care

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