

THE LEVESON INQUIRY

RESTRICTION ORDER

UPON a confidential witness statement provided to the Inquiry by a prospective witness having been put into the public domain through its publication on the internet before its maker gave oral evidence to the Inquiry and without prior reference to the Inquiry;

AND UPON the Chairman considering his powers under s.19 Inquiries Act 2005;

AND UPON the Chairman noting the provisions of s.36 Inquiries Act 2005 which, inter alia, provide for the breach of an order made under s.19 Inquiries Act 2005 to be certified to the High Court;

AND UPON the Chairman considering that it is conducive to the fulfillment of his terms of reference and in the public interest that witness statements provided to the Inquiry should not be published before they are put into evidence by their maker at the Inquiry or, read into evidence, or summarised into evidence by a member of the Inquiry Team as the case may be without the express permission of the Chairman.

IT IS ORDERED that, until further order,

1. No witness statement provided to the Inquiry whether voluntarily or under compulsion, nor any exhibit to any such statement, nor any other document provided to the Inquiry shall be published or disclosed, whether in whole or in part, outside the confidentiality circle comprising of the Chairman, his assessors, the Inquiry Team, the Core Participants and their legal representatives prior to the maker of the statement giving oral evidence to the Inquiry or the statement being read into evidence, or summarised into evidence by a member of the Inquiry Team as the case may be without the express permission of the Chairman.

2. This order is made under s.19(2)(b) Inquiries Act 2005 and binds all persons including witnesses and core participants to the Inquiry and their legal representatives and companies whether acting personally or through their servants, agents, directors or officers or in any other way.
3. Any person (including any company) affected by this order may apply for it to be varied pursuant to s.20 Inquiries Act 2005.
4. In the case of any public authority restrictions specified in this order take effect subject to s.20(6) Inquiries Act 2005.

DATED the 28th day of November 2011

RT HON LORD JUSTICE LEVESON
INQUIRY CHAIRMAN