

Witness Name: Chris Dzikiti
Statement No.: 1
Exhibits: N/A
Dated: 9 December 2024

THIRLWALL INQUIRY

WITNESS STATEMENT OF CHRIS DZIKITI

I, Chris Dzikiti, will say as follows: -

1. I am employed by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) as Interim Chief Inspector of Healthcare, a post I started in May 2024. Prior to this I was CQC's Director of Mental Health, joining CQC in October 2022.
2. I have a background in Health Care, having qualified as a registered mental health nurse in 2002. Between 2002 and 2013 I worked and managed mental health services in London followed by working for a commissioning team at NHS England. In 2017 I joined an Integrated Care System in London leading on mental health transformation and returned to NHS England in 2019 as Deputy Director of national retention programme. Between 2017 and 2021 I also worked as a global healthcare consultant for Health Education England in India.
3. This statement is intended to provide the Inquiry with an update on CQC's position for providing oral evidence to the Inquiry, currently scheduled to take place in January 2025.

Provision of Statements to the Inquiry

4. On the 6 November 2023, CQC received a request from the Thirlwall Inquiry made under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006. In response to the request, two statements were submitted by Ian Trenholm, CQC's then Chief Executive. Those statements were dated 12 February 2024 and 4 April 2024.
5. On the 25 June 2024, Ian Trenholm announced he was to step down as Chief Executive for CQC at the end of June 2024. Since that point CQC has had two Interim Chief

Executives in Kate Terroni and James Bullion, until the arrival of our current Chief Executive Sir Julian Hartley on the 2 December 2024.

6. Further detail on CQC's change in leadership throughout this time was provided to the Inquiry via an additional statement dated 24 October 2024.
7. As a member of CQC's executive team, I have been briefed by colleagues across the organisation on our engagement with the Thirlwall Inquiry so far, including the matters discussed with witnesses during oral hearings on the 14 and 15 November 2024.
8. I have been briefed on Ian Trenholm's previous statements to the Inquiry and the content of these and will be familiarising myself further with those statements over the coming weeks.
9. I can confirm to the Inquiry that I am able to adopt the statements of Ian Trenholm and speak to the matters contained within those statements on behalf of CQC. Because I joined the CQC in October 2022, much of what is set out in these statements is based on the documentation available to me rather than being within my own direct knowledge.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief of its truth.

Signed:

Personal Data

Dated: 9 December 2024