

SOUTHPORT INQUIRY

OPEN RULING BY THE CHAIR REGARDING ANONYMITY AND NON DISCLOSURE FOR CASE STUDIES A AND B

I make this ruling on the basis of information obtained by the Inquiry as part of the evidence gathering process for Phase 2. In order to fulfil its Terms of Reference, the Inquiry will examine a number of case studies.

CASE STUDY A

Case study A relates to a young person who in a number of respects fits the category of a violence fixated individual.

I consider that if the identity of the person who is the subject of Case Study A were to be published in connection with this Inquiry, there would be a material increase in relevant risks to third parties, including the risk of further offending behaviour with an associated risk of harm to the public.

I am satisfied that no measure short of anonymity would be able to mitigate this risk. I am therefore making a restriction order that the subject of Case Study A should be anonymised in this Inquiry and that material that would tend to identify the subject of Case Study A should not be disclosed.

It is not possible to give further details of the basis for this decision in an OPEN ruling without doing the harm which this ruling is intended to avoid.

Further reasons are set out in my CLOSED ruling.

CASE STUDY B

Case study B relates to a young person who in a number of respects fits the category of a violence fixated individual.

I consider that if the identity of the person who is the subject of Case Study B were to be published in connection with this Inquiry, there would be a material increase in relevant risks to third parties, including the risk of further offending behaviour with an associated risk of harm to the public.

I am satisfied that no measure short of anonymity would be able to mitigate this risk. I am therefore making a restriction order that the subject of Case Study B should be anonymised in this Inquiry and that material that would tend to identify the subject of Case Study B should not be disclosed.

It is not possible to give further details of the basis for this decision in an OPEN ruling without doing the harm which this ruling is intended to avoid.

Further reasons are set out in my CLOSED ruling.