

**TRIBUNAL OF INQUIRY INTO ISSUES RELATING TO THE COMPLAINTS PROCESS IN
THE DEFENCE FORCES AND THE CULTURE SURROUNDING THE MAKING OF
COMPLAINTS**

FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY DÁIL ÉIREANN AND SEANAD ÉIREANN

**ESTABLISHED BY INSTRUMENT MADE BY THE TÁINAISTE AND MINISTER FOR
DEFENCE UNDER THE TRIBUNALS OF INQUIRY (EVIDENCE) ACTS 1921 TO 2011,
ON 20 JUNE 2024**

**ORDER RESTRICTING THE REPORTING OF INFORMATION LIKELY TO LEAD TO THE
IDENTIFICATION OF A PERSON AGAINST WHOM AN ALLEGATION OF ABUSE HAS
BEEN MADE**



UPON ESTABLISHMENT by Instrument dated the 20th day of June 2024 (S.I. 304 of 2024)
the Tribunal of Inquiry into Issues Relating to the Complaints Processes in the Defence
Forces in respect of Complaints of Abuse and Complaints of Hazardous Chemicals and
to the Culture Surrounding the Making of Complaints of Abuse (hereinafter '**the
Tribunal**') charged with investigating the matters provided for in its Terms of
Reference from the 1st day of January 1983 to the 20th day of June 2024; and

WHEREAS the Oireachtas has determined that the matters which the Tribunal has
been charged with investigating are definite matters of urgent public importance; and

WHEREAS the Tribunal has received information from several witnesses whose evidence
to the Tribunal includes allegations of Abuse (as defined in the Tribunal's Terms of
Reference) allegedly suffered whilst serving as members of the Defence Forces; and

WHEREAS the Tribunal considers that the evidence of such witnesses as are called to
testify before the Tribunal is necessary for and relevant to its consideration of the matters
that are set out in the Tribunal's Terms of Reference (i) to (v) inclusive; and

NOTING THAT THE TRIBUNAL in the context of its investigation into Terms of Reference (i) to (v), may permit evidence of Abuse and the consequences of Abuse to be led, but is precluded from investigating into, or making findings of fact upon any matters that would, if established in a court of law, be criminal in nature; and

FURTHER NOTING the Tribunal's obligation to ensure that constitutional justice and fair procedures are observed in all proceedings before the Tribunal; and

BEARING IN MIND that section 1(1) of the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Acts 1921-2011 vests in the Tribunal all powers, rights, and privileges as are vested in the High Court in respect of certain matters including the examination of witnesses; and

RECALLING that pursuant to Section 4 of the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) (Amendment) Act 1979 the Tribunal may make such orders as it considers necessary for the purposes of its functions; and

THE TRIBUNAL BEING SATISFIED that it is both necessary and proportionate for it to make this Order;

HEREBY ORDERS that no report of the proceedings of the Tribunal held on the 19th day of June 2026 containing material or information likely to lead members of the public to identify a person as an alleged perpetrator of abuse, or likely to lead members of the public to identify a person as a person against whom a complaint of abuse has been made, shall be published in a written publication available to the public or be broadcast in any format by members of the media or media organisations or by any other person or persons.

This Order is made without prejudice to the powers conferred upon the Tribunal by section 2(2)(a) of the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Acts 1921-2011.

Signed: 
Lynn Heavey
Tribunal Registrar

Date of Perfection: 19th day of June 2026