

**Stand with INQUEST,
bereaved families and
lawyers in our pursuit of
truth, justice,
and accountability**



GENERAL ELECTION 2019

INQUEST are working to end deaths caused by unsafe systems of detention, a lack of care, the use of force and by institutional failures.

We call on all political parties to commit to:

- 1. Legal Aid for Inquests:** Automatic non means tested legal aid funding for families' specialist legal representation immediately following a state related death to cover preparation and representation at the inquest and other legal processes. #LegalAidforInquests
- 2. A National Oversight Mechanism:** A new, independent, public body with a duty to collate, analyse and monitor recommendations and their implementation arising from post death investigations, inquiries and inquests.
- 3. The Public Authority (Accountability) Bill:** Re-introduce 'Hillsborough Law' to Parliament to establish a duty of candour on state authorities and officers and private entities whose activities impact on public safety.

INQUEST is the only charity providing expertise on state related deaths and their investigation to bereaved people, lawyers, advice and support agencies, the media and parliamentarians. Our work is grounded in the day to day experience of working with bereaved people.

Our campaign demands

Mental health & learning disability

- An independent body to investigate unnatural or unexpected deaths of mental health and learning disability patients.
- End the use of dangerous restraint techniques and ensure the implementation and monitoring of Seni's Law - the Mental Health Units (Use of Force) Act.
- Improved public reporting of deaths in mental health and learning disability settings.
- Investment in therapeutic mental health services.

Grenfell

- Ensure meaningful participation of bereaved families in the next phase of the Inquiry.
- Full and timely implementation of the official recommendations.

Our principles

- 1. Access to justice for bereaved families**
- 2. Visibility & transparency in all systems of care & detention**
- 3. An end to all institutionalised forms of discrimination**
- 4. Accountability for institutional failings and failures to act**

Prisons & detention

- Reduce the prison population, halt prison building and overhaul sentencing policy.
- Redirect resources to community alternatives outside of the criminal justice system including women's centres, housing, mental health and addiction services.
- End the unnecessary use of imprisonment and close prisons for women and children.
- End the use of immigration detention.

Policing

- Implement the recommendations of the Angiolini Review covering deaths and serious incidents in police custody, the use of force and restraint, institutional racism, mental health, family support, and the investigation and inquest system.
- Develop well-funded alternatives to policing.