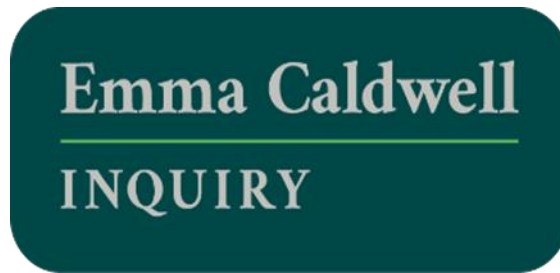


MEDIA RELEASE



9 DECEMBER 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INQUIRY LAUNCHES TODAY

The independent Public Inquiry into the investigation by Strathclyde Police of Emma Caldwell's murder, under the direction of the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, will "follow the evidence wherever it leads", its Chair has said.

Speaking in a video statement to mark the formal launch of the Inquiry, Lord Scott said the Inquiry would be concluded as quickly and efficiently as possible.

The Emma Caldwell Inquiry was set up following the 2024 conviction of Iain Packer for her murder, 19 years after the murder and an initial investigation by Strathclyde Police.

The Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Angela Constance, announced the Inquiry to the Scottish Parliament on 7 March 2024. Lord Scott, a high court judge, was appointed as Chair on 24 April 2024.

The terms of reference for the Inquiry were published by Scottish Ministers on 9 December 2025. They are available on the [Inquiry website](#), which is now live and will carry information and updates for the duration of the Inquiry.

In his statement, Lord Scott emphasised the impartiality and independence of the Inquiry.

He said: "The Inquiry is independent of government, the institutions being investigated and any other organisation. My team and I will follow the evidence wherever it leads. I want to stress to you that I will discharge my duties as Chair impartially and thoroughly."

Lord Scott added that the Inquiry would operate as transparently as possible, broadcasting hearings via YouTube, and that work was under way to finalise a hearing space.

He said: "I cannot say at this stage say when hearings will be held. I can say, however, that my team and I are conscious of the length of time Emma's family,

witnesses and others have waited. We will work with determination and focus to ensure the Inquiry is concluded as quickly and efficiently as possible.”

The formal setting up of the Inquiry means evidence can start to be considered. Those wishing to be designated as core participants can submit applications from today via the Inquiry website.

ENDS

Notes to editors

1. The Chair’s video statement is available at www.emmacaldwellinquiry.scot, alongside more information on the Inquiry and details of how to apply for core participant status.
2. No interviews will be undertaken by Lord Scott.
3. All media queries should be directed to the Inquiry communications team at media@emmacaldwellinquiry.scot