

EXPLAINER - SCOPING EXERCISE KEY PEOPLE AND DATES
Announcement – 28.02.2026

<https://www.rte.ie/news/2026/0228/1560957-health-statutory-inquiries/>

Proposed **Start Date** of the Scoping Exercise– **02.03.2026**

Expected **Duration** of the Scoping Exercise – **16 Weeks**

Expected **Conclusion** of the Scoping Exercise – **30.06.2026**

Jennifer Carroll MacNeill - Minister of Health

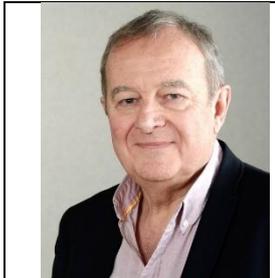
Fine Gael politician who has served as Minister for Health since January 2025. As Minister, she has sanctioned a Scoping Inquiry into the abuses of former surgeon Michael Shine and the failings of state institutions that dealt with this issue.


Lorcan E Staines - Senior Counsel – Scoping Inquiry Lead

A Senior Counsel Barrister who has experience representing victims of sexual abuse and who has previously worked on behalf of the government in leading a review into bail laws. He has now been appointed to lead this review and work alongside the victims and survivors and appointed experts re the Terms of Reference for a Statutory Public Inquiry.


Meave Lewis – Sexual Violence Expert

Qualified Psychotherapist and sector leader in Sexual Violence prevention and Child Protection Expert, and former Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of One in Four Sexual Abuse support and advocacy service. She has now been appointed as a lead expert to ensure a trauma-informed and victim-led scoping exercise.


Phil Scraton – Inquests & Inquiries Expert

Critical criminologist, academic, author and social researcher, known for his work on the Hillsborough Independent Panel and his work with the Truth Recovery Design Panel, which worked with survivors and victims of Mother and Baby Institutions in Northern Ireland. He has now been appointed as a lead expert in investigation processes and outcomes.


Adrienne Reilly – CEO of Dignity4Patients

Former Researcher at the Northern Ireland Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry and International Human Rights Law Specialist. Currently serving as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at Dignity4Patients, supporting and advocating for the rights of survivors and victims of Sexual Abuse by former surgeon Michael Shine.