**Application for core participant status**

**Please fill in this form to apply to be a core participant.**

**At the end of the application form, there are Notes that set out the types of information that should be included in each of the sections of the form.**

|  |
| --- |
| **1. Your name, or the name of the group or organisation that you are applying on behalf of:** |
| **2. Your contact details:**  **Address:**  **Email:**  **Phone:**  **Your preferred way for the Royal Commission to contact you:** |
| **3. Contact details of your lawyer (if you have one):**  **Name:**  **Address (including name of firm or chambers):**  **Email:**  **Phone:** |
| **4. Reasons for seeking core participant status (see Notes below)** |

**Signature:**

**Printed name:**

**Date:**

**Please send this completed form:**

* by email to: counselassist@abuseincare.org.nz
* by post to: Royal Commission of Inquiry, PO Box 10071, The Terrace, Wellington, 6143.

**Notes for filling in the form**

For information about the process to apply to be a core participant and what being a core participant means, please the Minute 1 on the Procedural Hearing (2 July 2019), which can be found here: <https://www.abuseincare.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Documents/2ec92e7222/RCProceduralHearingMinute.pdf>

General information can also be found on the Abuse in Care website here: <https://www.abuseincare.org.nz/library/v/30/application-for-core-participant-status>

**Section 1 – your name**

Please give your full name if you are applying on your own behalf.

If you are applying on behalf of an organisation, group or body, please give its full name and any registered number. If the organisation is a company, we need to know the identity of all directors. If a charity, we need to know who the trustees are. For groups, we need to know who the office-bearers are.

**Section 2 – your status**

Use this box to tell us if you are applying on your own behalf or as a representative of an organisation, group or body.

**Section 3 – your contact details**

We will use your contact details if we need to discuss your application with you.

If the Inquiry decides you should be a core participant, we will use these contact details to stay in touch with you.

If you have a preferred way for us to contact you (for example, only by post), let us know.

**Section 4 – your lawyer**

A core participant can have a lawyer but doesn’t have to. A lawyer advises you and represents you at Inquiry hearings.

If you have a lawyer we will usually be in contact with them, rather than with you direct.

If you do not have a lawyer when you apply for core participant status, but you later appoint one, you can tell us their contact details later.

**Section 5 – reasons for seeking core participant status**

The law requires the Inquiry to decide who should be a core participant. You are asked in this paragraph for information to explain why you are applying. This will help the Inquiry to make the decision on whether you should be a core participant. The following questions are a guide to the information that can be provided in section 5 (where relevant):

* Why have you applied to be a core participant?
* What is your role in the subject matter of the Inquiry, or how are your experiences relevant to the Inquiry?
* Do you otherwise have a significant interest in matters to which the Inquiry relates?
* Do you think you may be the subject of allegations of abuse or neglect during the Inquiry or in its report? Please note that you may also wish to ask for more information about how the Inquiry may affect you by contacting the lawyers assisting the Royal Commission, who are called Counsel Assisting, by email at [counselassist@abuseincare.org.nz](mailto:counselassist@abuseincare.org.nz).

Please include all of your information on why you are applying for core participant status in section 5. Additional documentation is not required and will not be considered.

Please note that core participant status is primarily directed towards participation in a specific public hearing. You will soon be able to see more about what each hearing will focus on by reading the “scope document” that will be put on our website in advance of each hearing. The scope documents will help you to see if your experiences are relevant to each specific hearing.

There are various ways you can participate in the Commission and you do not need to be a core participant to be involved in them. The ways are:

* Have a private session with one of the five Commissioners
* Be called as a witness and give evidence in a public hearing
* Attend public hearings or follow them via livestreaming
* Contribute to round table meetings
* Attend marae hui, and/or
* Make a written or recorded submission to the Commission.

There is more information about all of these processes on our website: <https://www.abuseincare.org.nz/>.