

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release 21 September 2009

### INQUEST RESUMES INTO DEATH OF 15 YEAR OLD LIAM MCMANUS IN HMYOI LANCASTER FARMS

11.00am Tuesday 22 September 2009

Before HM Coroner for Preston, North and South West Lancashire District, Dr James Adeley,  
Sitting at Lancaster Shire Hall, Castle Parade, Lancaster, LA1 1YJ

The inquest into the death of 15 year old Liam McManus resumes on 22 September 2009, having being adjourned for legal discussions last week, and is expected to last for seven weeks. The inquest will hear evidence on the first day from Liam's uncle.

Liam's family is represented by INQUEST Lawyers Group members Mark Scott of Bhatt Murphy Solicitors and barrister Colin Hutchinson of Garden Court Chambers.

#### Notes to editors:

INQUEST is the only organisation in England and Wales that provides a specialist, comprehensive advice service on contentious deaths and their investigation to bereaved people, lawyers, other advice and support agencies, the media, parliamentarians and the wider public. Its casework priorities are deaths in prison and in police custody, in immigration detention and in secure training centres. INQUEST develops policy proposals and undertakes research to campaign for changes to the inquest and investigation process, reduce the number of custodial deaths, and improve the treatment and care of those within the institutions where the deaths occur.

INQUEST is campaigning to ensure that the Coroners and Justice Bill 2009 results in fundamental reform of an inquest system currently hampered by delay, inconsistency of approach and lack of resources and unable to fulfil its vital function of preventing unnecessary deaths.

The government must also make changes to ensure that bereaved families can participate effectively in inquest hearings by having equal access, alongside the police and Prison Service, to non means-tested public funding for their legal representation. [INQUEST's briefing on the Coroners & Justice Bill](#)

Further Information	<a href="http://www.inquest.org.uk">www.inquest.org.uk</a>
<a href="#">Original press release about the opening of the inquest</a>	
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