



*****EMBARGOED UNTIL 00:01, FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER*****

Elkan Abrahamson, head of major inquests and inquiries at law firm [Broudie Jackson Canter](#), acted for 20 families during the Hillsborough inquests and is one of the architects of the Public Authority (Accountability) Bill, often referred to as Hillsborough Law. He says: "This is a very welcome announcement and everyone working on the Hillsborough Law Now campaign is ready to assist the Labour Party in bringing this Bill into legislation. However, there is no need to wait for a general election. The Conservative Government have had almost five years since receiving recommendations from the then Bishop of Liverpool, Rev. James Jones on the lessons to be learnt from Hillsborough and have sat on their hands. It is within their gift to make this happen now."

"This is an issue of national importance. As the country awaits the start of the UK Covid-19 Inquiry, arguably the most extensive and far-reaching public inquiry this country has ever seen, the Bill's reintroduction could not be timelier, and would give the inquiry's core participants confidence in the Government's commitment to openness and honesty. Unfortunately, our early experience with the Covid-19 Inquiry is that bereaved families are already starting out at a disadvantage by being denied properly funded legal representation. At the same time, taxpayer funded bodies have access to all the support they need. That is why this legislation is so important. It would put an end to such David v Goliath type battles."

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