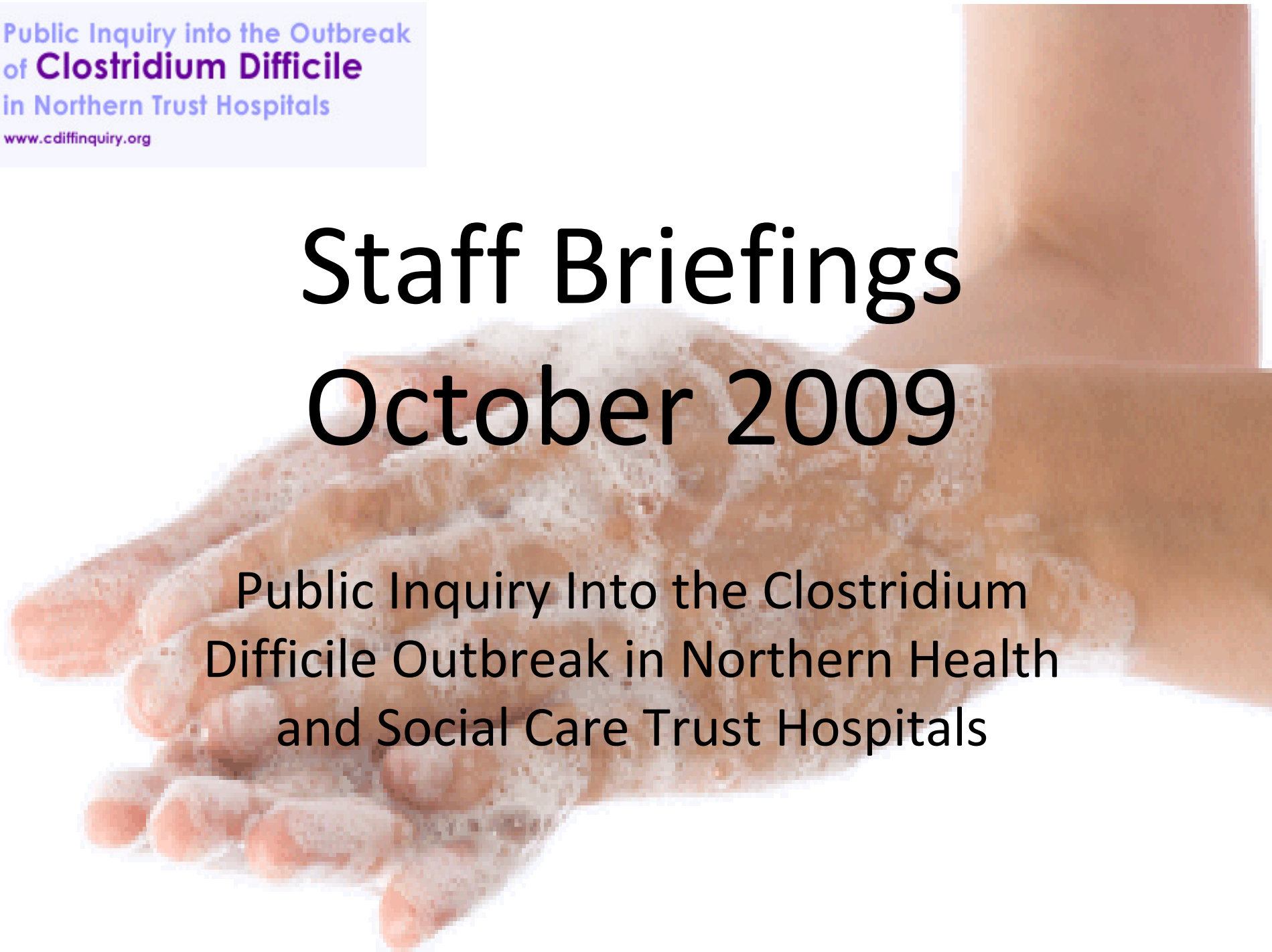


Public Inquiry into the Outbreak
of **Clostridium Difficile**
in Northern Trust Hospitals

www.cdifquiry.org

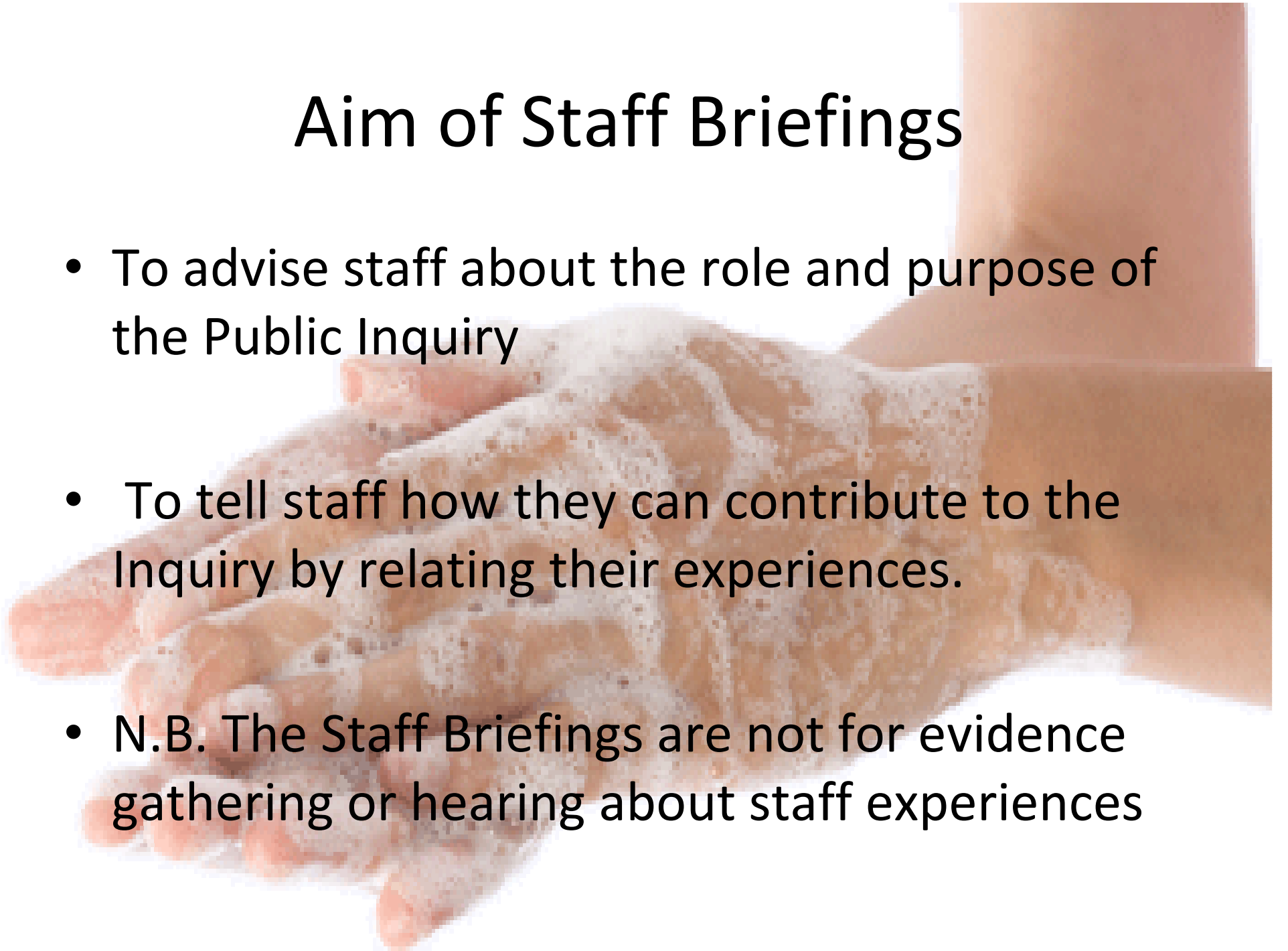
Staff Briefings October 2009

Public Inquiry Into the Clostridium
Difficile Outbreak in Northern Health
and Social Care Trust Hospitals



Aim of Staff Briefings

- To advise staff about the role and purpose of the Public Inquiry
- To tell staff how they can contribute to the Inquiry by relating their experiences.
- N.B. The Staff Briefings are not for evidence gathering or hearing about staff experiences



Terms of Reference

- To establish how many deaths occurred in N.H.S.C.T. Hospitals during the outbreak, for which C Diff was the underlying cause of death, or was a condition contributing to death- (16th June 2007- 31st August 2008)
- To examine and report on the experiences of patients and others who were affected directly by the outbreak, and to make recommendations accordingly.

Hospitals Involved

- Antrim Area Hospital
 - Braid Valley Hospital
 - Mid Ulster Hospital
 - Moyle Hospital
 - Whiteabbey Hospital
- Outbreak Period- 16th June 07- 31st August 08



Statement of Purpose

- The Inquiry Panel wish to:
- Hear the views of those who were affected
- Ensure the process is fair, inquisitorial and not adversarial in nature
- Contribute to increasing the confidence of the local communities served by the Trust
- Increase understanding of the risk infections pose in hospital care and challenge unnecessary or exaggerated apprehensions
- Make recommendations

Inquiry Phases

- Stage I – Awareness raising/ Press releases, Media, N.H.S.C.T. Bulletins, Staff Briefings
- Stage II- Information gathering- via mail, questionnaires. Invitation to give further evidence. Staff group meetings offered.
- Stage III- Formal Evidence Gathering - meetings with Patients/ Families and staff and taking of Written formal statements
- Stage IV- Formal Oral Hearings

Why do we need to hear from Staff?

- The Inquiry Panel need to understand:
- The impact of the outbreak on staff- as individuals and teams
- Staff views on what should be done differently when c diff infection occurs in a hospital



How to be Involved- Stage II

Informal

- Complete short questionnaire- on line or hard copy
- Write to the Panel
- In a group meeting

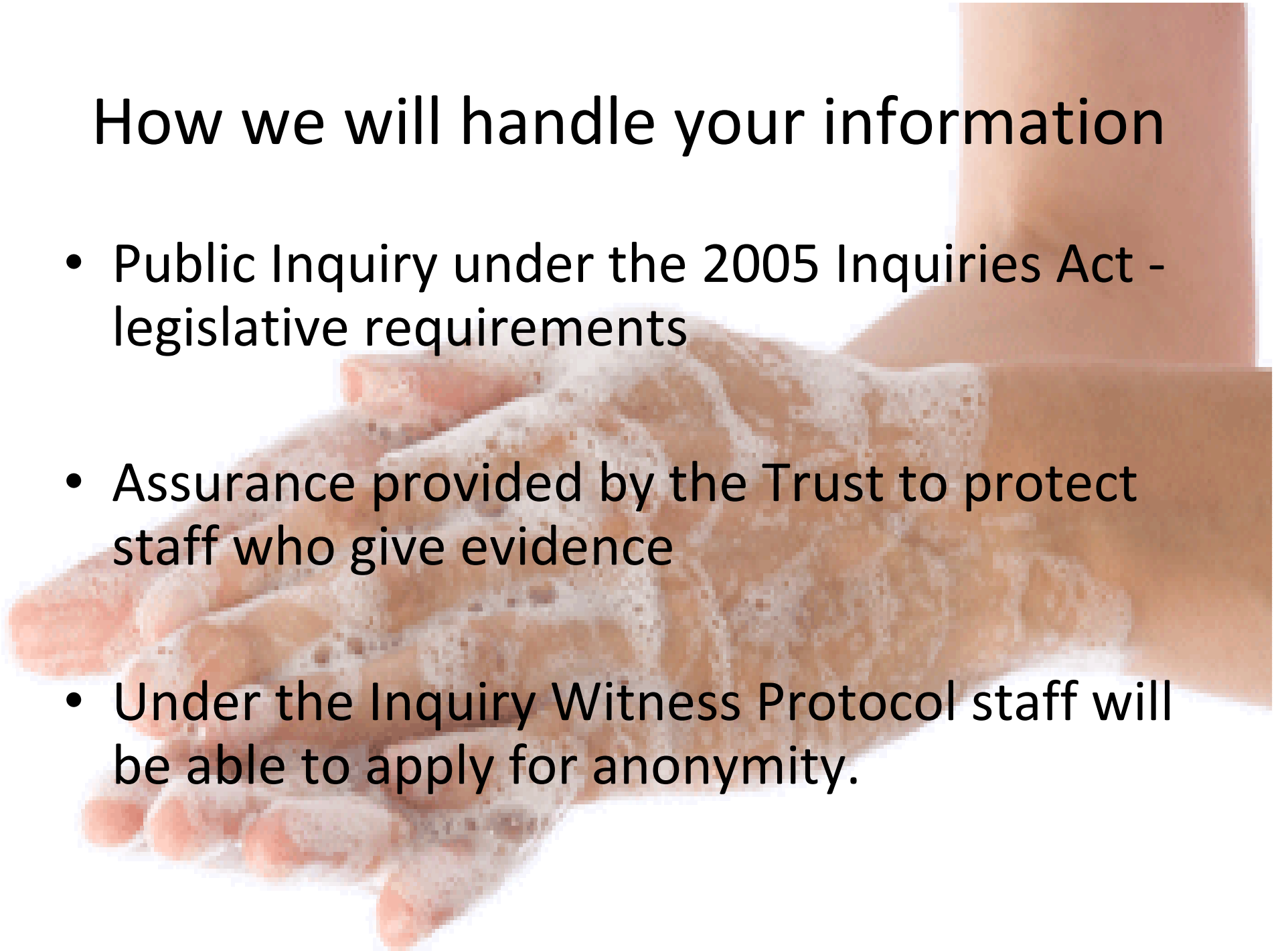


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How we will handle your information

- Public Inquiry under the 2005 Inquiries Act - legislative requirements
- Assurance provided by the Trust to protect staff who give evidence
- Under the Inquiry Witness Protocol staff will be able to apply for anonymity.



Inquiry Contact Details

- Website: www.cdiffinquiry.org – questionnaire and further information on the Inquiry
- E mail: inquiry@cdiffinquiry.org
- Telephone number: 028 9051 7250
 - Address: Premier Business Centre, 20 Adelaide Street, Belfast BT2 8GB
 - Contact Person- Kate McClements, Secretary to the Inquiry