INDEPENDENT INQUIRY
CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse

@TruthProjectCSA

@InquiryCSA (#TruthProject, #InquiryCSA, #ResearchCSA)

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CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Last updated 18 May 2018
Version 1.5

Key facts

- Launched in 2015 by then Home Secretary, Theresa May
- Led by Chair, Professor Alexis Jay OBE and three Panel members
- Supported by Victims and Survivors' Consultative Panel
- Independent of government
- Published an Interim Report in April 2018, in which we made 18 recommendations, 15 new
- Published two investigation reports, Child Migrants Programme and Rochdale. The former made three recommendations
- We do not have the power to convict people of criminal offences, determine civil liability or award compensation
- Inquiry offices in London, Cardiff, Exeter, Liverpool, Darlington and Sheffield

Terms of Reference

The scope and purpose of the Inquiry is defined in its Terms of Reference, which state that it should:

- consider the extent to which **state and non-state institutions** have failed in their duty of care to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation
- consider the extent to which those failings have since been addressed
- identify **further action needed** to address any failings identified
- consider the steps which are necessary for state and non-state institutions to take in order to **protect children from such abuse in future**
- publish a report with recommendations

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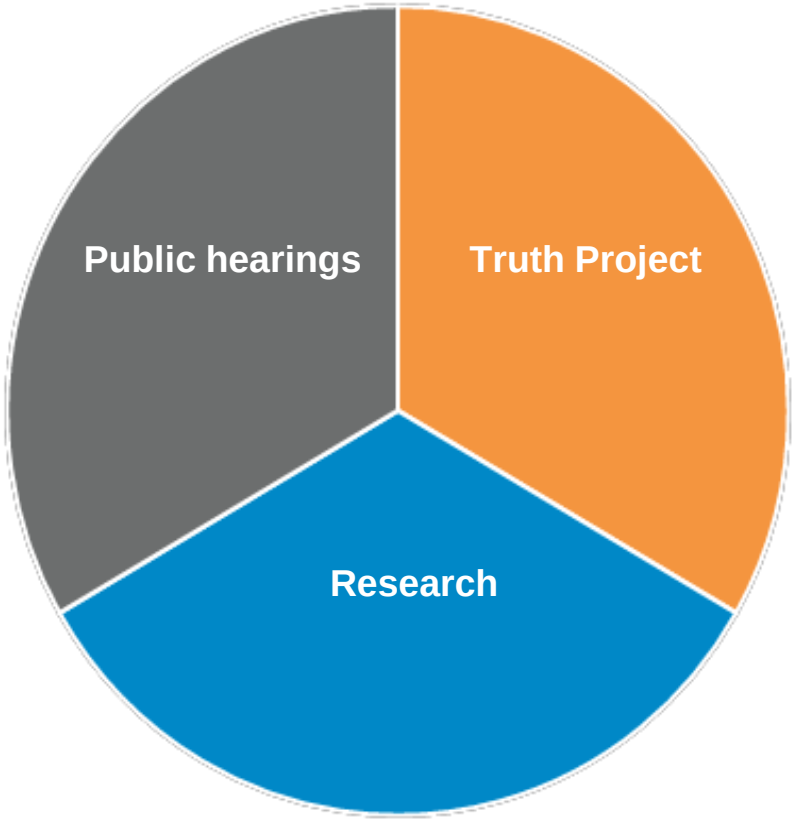
Three core workstreams



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Public hearings

The Inquiry has launched 13 investigations and associated case studies into a broad range of institutions, including:

Child Migration Programmes case study
Public hearings held in 2017 to examine evidence;
case study complete - part of Children Outside the UK investigation

Cambridge House, Knowl View and Rochdale
Public hearing took place 9 - 27 October 2017

The Roman Catholic Church
Public hearing took place 27 November - 15 December 2017

The Internet
Public hearing took place 22 January - 26 January 2018

The Anglican Church
Public hearing started 5 March 2018

In addition, the Inquiry is conducting a review of previous inquiries and reviews

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Investigations

- Accountability and Reparations
- Cambridge House / Knowl View / Rochdale Borough Council
- Children in Custodial Institutions
- Children outside the UK (including Child Migration Programmes Case Study)
- Child Sexual Exploitation by Organised Networks
- Institutional Responses to Allegations involving the late Lord Janner of Braunstone QC
- Lambeth Council
- Nottinghamshire Councils
- Residential Schools
- Child Sexual Abuse linked to Westminster
- The Anglican Church
- The Internet
- The Roman Catholic Church

Research

Research (*completed*)

- **Victim & survivor voices from the Truth Project (October 2017)**

Rapid Evidence Assessments:

- Learning from Best Practice Overseas (April 2017)
- The impacts of child sexual abuse (July 2017)
- Child sexual abuse within the Anglican and Catholic Churches (November 2017)
- Quantifying the extent of online-facilitated child sexual abuse (January 2018)
- Behaviour and characteristics of perpetrators of online-facilitated child sexual abuse and exploitation (January 2018)
- Characteristics and vulnerabilities of victims of online-facilitated child sexual abuse and exploitation (January 2018)
- Deflection, denial and disbelief: social and political discourses about child sexual abuse and their influence on institutional responses (February 2018)
- Child sexual abuse in custodial institutions (March 2018)

Research projects (*ongoing*)

- Experiences and perceptions of safeguarding in the youth secure estate in relation to child sexual abuse
- Understanding perpetrators of child sexual exploitation who operate in organised networks
- The role of residential schools in safeguarding children from sexual abuse
- Evaluating online safety education
- Truth project analysis

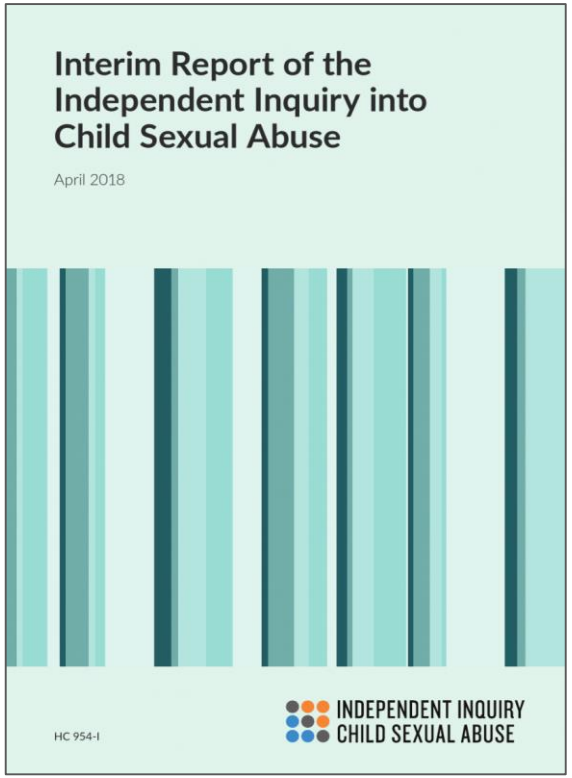
Seminars

Seminar programme

- The Civil Justice System (November /December 2016)
- Criminal Injuries Compensation (February 2017)
- Preventing and responding to child sexual abuse: Learning from Best Practice Overseas (April 2017)
- Victims and survivors' experiences: impacts, support services and redress (July 2017)
- The Health Sector (September 2017)
- The Criminal Justice System (November 2017)
- Social and political narratives about child sexual abuse (February 2018).

Interim report

- Published 25 April 2018
- The report provides an overview of the Inquiry's work to date, bringing together work from investigations, research, seminars, and the Truth Project.
- The report identifies our reluctance as a society to discuss child sexual abuse openly and frankly and calls for this to be addressed.
- It also identifies the lack of transparency by some leaders on the failure of their institutions to protect children from sexual abuse.
- In the report, we use the contributions of victims and survivors to provide clear accounts of child sexual abuse and the profound and lifelong impact that it can have.



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Recommendations in the Interim Report

The Interim Report includes 18 recommendations - including:

- Institutions involved in the child migration programmes who have not apologised for their role should give such apologies as soon as possible, not only through public apology but specifically those child migrants for whose migration they were responsible

- The Department for Education should ensure that care staff working in children's homes in England are professionally registered. This should be through an independent body that sets and maintains standards of training, and has enforcement powers.

- The Department for Health and Social Care and the Welsh Government should develop national policies on the training and use of chaperones in the treatment of children in healthcare services.

The Interim Report asks institutions to which the recommendations are addressed to publish the steps they will take in response within six months.

Emerging Themes

Cultural - the attitudes and behaviours that prevent institutions from responding effectively to Child Sexual Abuse

Professional & Political - the leadership, professional and practice issues for those working or volunteering in relevant institutions

Structural - the legislative, governance or organisational frameworks within and between institutions

Financial - the financial, funding and resource arrangements for relevant institutions and services

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Safeguarding and Support Team

The Inquiry has a Safeguarding and Support Team (SaS)

All the staff are Clinically or Social Work trained

SaS operates a duty system

The SaS team is responsible for safeguarding decision making across the Inquiry

Victim/Survivors have contacted with the Inquiry across a number of offers - the Inquiry Information Line, Stakeholder Events, Information Offices, Public Hearings and the Truth Project

The SaS team responds to all safeguarding inquiries, vulnerable adults and children, advises and can take action directly in response to safeguarding issues by referring to the appropriate agency, the police or Local Authority.

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Truth Project

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Truth Project

The Truth Project provides an opportunity to share your experience with the Inquiry by attending a private session or sharing your experience in writing

The participant tells us some basic information

We contact the participant to arrange the best way for them to share their experience

They share their experience at a private session or in writing

We take the experiences into account when we make recommendations

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Truth Project

- The Inquiry has so far sent out 5,377 invitations to those who have registered their interest in sharing with the Truth Project
- To date, 1,227 accounts have been shared through the Truth Project
- The Inquiry has now held 950 sessions, with many more scheduled to take place over the coming months
- In addition, the Inquiry has received over 277 written experiences from participants
- Some participants have chosen to share their experience both by attending a session and in writing, whilst others have opted for one or the other
- These figures were accurate on 4 May 2018

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What do we do with the experiences

- Anonymised summaries
- Operation Hydrant referrals
- Personal details will not be passed on without consent unless there is a child immediately at risk
- The accounts provided by victims and survivors will not be:
  - tested
  - challenged
  - contradicted
- It will assist us in piecing together a broader picture of the scale and nature of institutional child sexual abuse in England and Wales.

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Our ask of you…..

1. What can you do to help us to spread the word about the Truth Project in your communities and with clients and the people you support?

1. What else can we do to help you to manage the impacts of the Truth Project in your local settings?

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Contact us

Telephone: 0800 917 1000
(Open weekdays 8am-8pm, Saturdays 10am-12pm. Calls are free and do not show on your bill)

Email: contact@iicsa.org.uk

Address: FREEPOST IICSA INDEPENDENT INQUIRY

Website: www.iicsa.org.uk

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