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28 November 2022

Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse

One month ago, after seven years of work, 2.5 million pages of evidence and witness statements from survivors, the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse published its final recommendations.

The testimony heard by the Inquiry has been shocking and sobering. The report called the nature and scale of abuse in England and Wales "horrific and deeply disturbing" and said institutions too often "were not doing their job as we are often told they were" and "institutional regulators above all duty bound to protect". It concluded that "child protection must be given a much greater priority in public life."

The report also called for a new national child protection authority to be established. The last Child Protection Review for England and Wales estimated that 2.1 million children had been sexually abused since 2007, with 1.5 million of those children being sexually abused in the last 10 years.

– charities, law enforcement, frontline public sector organisations, health bodies and other organisations large and small – to inspire a national mission to prevent child sexual abuse.

We are writing to underline our commitment to doing this and to call on you and your Government to ensure that the recommendations of this report are implemented across the country.

We believe this is a landmark moment for child protection. But that requires attention and attention in the wake of tragedies.

Particularly because a decade ago, victims and survivors courageously broke their silence to expose

trauma that we never have to hear another inquiry like this. Victim and survivors deserve our gratitude for their bravery and determination. They must be at the heart of lasting positive change now.

What has happened is a national scandal. We are now the custodians of this evidence and have a responsibility to act. An independent inquiry into child sexual abuse is an agreement that our organisations

need political leadership from you and your Government to translate the Inquiry's findings

searching questions about what needs to change, it is now vital that the Government responds effectively. We understand that it will take time to work through the Inquiry's detailed

There are, however, actions that can be taken straight away to demonstrate your Government is serious about implementing the findings from the Inquiry.

Firstly, it is vital to translating the recommendations in the final report into a robust system that truly keeps chil

You could, as recommended by the Inquiry, appoint a Cabinet-level Minister for Children.

Secondly, your Government can deliver Safety Bill and Online Safety Bill to Parliament as soon as

Thirdly, the Inquiry's work and the Truth Project in particular has underlined that victims and survivors of child sexual abuse need a way to get the help they need to rebuild their lives. The -named Victims Bill including delivery on the

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