

**Letter from the Chair of the Home Affairs Committee to Hon Dame Lowell Goddard,  
former Chair of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse, 5 August 2016**

The Home Secretary wrote to me yesterday to inform me of your resignation from the post of Chair of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse. I have since seen your Statement on the IICSA website explaining your reasons for stepping down.

As you know, the Home Affairs Committee welcomed your appointment last year and it is very disappointing to us that you feel it necessary to resign.

I would like to thank you for the work you have done in your 16 months in post. The priority now is for the inquiry to proceed without delay or loss of momentum.

I was very interested to see that in your Statement you referred to the challenge presented by the magnitude of the task, and the difficulties caused by the Inquiry's "legacy of failure". You suggested that "with hindsight it would have been better to have started completely afresh".

It would be very helpful for the Committee to have an opportunity to explore these views in more detail with you, to assist us in our statutory function in scrutinising the ongoing Inquiry process and the appointment of a new Chair. I would therefore like to ask you to appear before us to give oral evidence at the House of Commons on the afternoon of **Wednesday 7 September 2016**.

Once you are able to confirm your attendance at the session, the committee secretariat will liaise with you about the arrangements.