

**Letter from the Chair of the Home Affairs Committee to
Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP, Home Secretary, 5 August 2016**

Thank you for your letter of 4 August informing me of the resignation of Justice Lowell Goddard as Chair of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

The Committee in the previous Parliament welcomed Justice Goddard's appointment, following the earlier serious problems in identifying a suitable Chair. It is clearly very disappointing that she has felt it necessary to resign after just over a year.

I agree that the priority now is maintaining confidence in the independent inquiry process and, in particular, providing victims with the level of assurance which they deserve that the Government's commitment to a rigorous and fully independent inquiry will be maintained.

We will question you in detail about progress towards appointing a new inquiry Chair, and the steps you have taken to maintain the momentum of and trust in the inquiry, when we take oral evidence from you at the session scheduled for the afternoon of Wednesday 7 September.