

Public hearings in the Westminster investigation

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse is holding three weeks of public hearings into allegations of child sexual abuse and exploitation involving people of public prominence associated with Westminster.

The Inquiry's three weeks of public hearings are taking place from 10.00am to 4.15pm from Monday 4 to Friday 29 March 2019 (NB: no hearings will take place w/c 18 March)

The hearings will consider evidence relating to:

- allegations of child sexual abuse committed by persons of public prominence associated with Westminster and how these came to light
- the findings of relevant investigations
- whether there is evidence of conspiracy, cover-up, interference or tolerance in relation to child sexual abuse committed by persons of public prominence associated with Westminster
- whether governmental, political and law enforcement institutions were aware of and took appropriate steps
- whether there are adequate safeguarding and child protection policies in place within political parties, government departments and agencies.

The hearings will be held at the the Inquiry's hearing centre, [18 Pocock Street, London SE1 0BW](#).

The timetable for the first week [can be found on our website](#).

For media guidance, the first day of hearings will consist of opening statements from Counsel to the Investigation and from lawyers representing core participants to this investigation.

Ends

To contact the press team please call: 0203 789 2114 or email pressoffice@iicsa.org.uk

Notes to Editors (if sending as an email - not needed for website)

- Public hearings resemble a conventional public inquiry, where witnesses give evidence on oath and are subject to questioning by Inquiry counsel. The Inquiry is

selecting investigations from a range of institutions that appear to illustrate a pattern of institutional failings.

- Transcripts will be available on our website after each hearing.
- Further dates for all hearings into the Inquiry's investigations will be announced in due course.
- Information on all preliminary and public hearings will continue to be posted on our website and our Twitter feed: @InquiryCSA