

IN THE MATTER OF THE INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO CHILD SEX ABUSE

**SUBMISSION BY SHIRLEY OAKS SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION
ON THE QUESTION OF BROADCASTING PROCEEDINGS**

1. Shirley Oaks Survivor's Association ("SOSA") represents a growing number of survivors who suffered horrific physical and sexual abuse whilst in the care of Lambeth Council.
2. SOSA fully endorses, as a minimum standard, paragraphs 4 (a) – (d) contained in the "Generic Submissions by Counsel to the Inquiry on the Question of Broadcasting Proceedings".
3. Those we represent continue to be sceptical that processes such as this Inquiry are designed to fully reveal what happened to them, how it happened and who covered it up. If those we represent know the Inquiry itself will be subject to public scrutiny that will help to remove one of the barriers to the giving of their best evidence.
4. The public interest must be balanced with what is in the best interests of any given witness. At this stage we do not make any detailed submissions on where the balance should be struck.
5. Decisions relating to special measures, and any other modifications to the principle of open justice, will be dealt with on a person specific basis and must be made well in advance of any date where a potential witness is to give evidence. We are sure the timetable to be set on 24 March 2016 will reflect that.

7. Lastly, we note the submissions made on behalf of the BBC, BSKYB and ITN on this issue. So far the broadcasting fraternity has been respectful of the issues, and people, involved with the appalling subject matter of the Inquiry. We are sure that the responsible reporting we have so far encountered will continue, and we thank them for their assistance in ensuring that the light of objective scrutiny does not diminish.

21st March 2016