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**Your Ref:**

**Our Ref:** CJ/klb

**Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Dear David

Further to my letter of 12<sup>th</sup> March and our conversation earlier today, I write to you to formally request on behalf of the Council's leader Councillor Shaun Davies that the Government or Home Office commission an independent inquiry into cases of child sexual exploitation specifically in Telford.

The Council believes another Council-commissioned inquiry is not appropriate as its independence and scope could be called into question, hence the need for the Government to commission this in order to ensure public confidence.

There have already been a number of independent inquiries into CSE in Telford which identified the introduction by the Council and Police of the Children Abused Through Exploitation (CATE) Team in 2008 as the start of changes in practice which are now recognised regionally and nationally.

While we would have preferred any independent inquiry to be through IICSA, it appears that despite presenting the facts of the situation in Telford, there is now public appetite for an independent enquiry which I believe that only the Government can commission to ensure public expectations are met.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

Clive Jones  
**Director: Children's & Adult Services**

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