

The Rt Hon David Cameron, MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA



2 December 2015

Dear Mr Cameron,

Our petition has taken some time to reach more than 200,000 signatures not least because so few people realise there is no legal requirement to report known or suspected abuse of a child or vulnerable adult. Our enclosed press release explains that England and Wales are out of step with the rest of the world. As a result we now have the Independent Inquiry into Child Sex Abuse, which I believe will reveal the horrifying scale of child sex abuse in England and Wales.

Child abuse is a unique crime because often neither the perpetrator nor the victim want it discovered for starkly different reasons, and the people who might report suspicions often do not have the courage to be a whistleblower. As a result few concerns are reported to the local authority. It's why discovered abuse figures from the NSPCC are only 1 in 20 and from the more recent report by Children's Commissioner 1 in 8.

The evidence from Australia, following the introduction of mandatory reporting in their equivalent of Regulated Activities, is that more children are being placed into safety from fewer referrals to the 'agencies' than existed before the introduction of law.

Today, with my supportive MP Cheryl Gillan and others, I am presenting this petition to you Prime Minister. The status quo is not an option – and mandatory reporting works.

Yours Sincerely

Tom Perry
Founder MandateNow

Cc. The Rt Hon Cheryl Gillan MP