

Following the announcement from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) that its final report will be published on October 20, the Bishop of Rochester Jonathan Gibbs, the Church of England's lead bishop for safeguarding, said:

"We note the announcement today from IICSA on the upcoming final report.

"As we said in our final submission to IICSA, despite the important steps that it has taken, the Church still has much more work to do to get safeguarding right.

"While there has been improvement in recent years, we wholeheartedly regret that in some areas, especially support for victims and survivors, progress has been too slow.

"We have learnt much from our three IICSA hearings and the subsequent reports and we will respond further following the publication in October of this final report and its recommendations."

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