

## Independent Review into Child Sex Abuse Allegations in Football

On 6th December 2016, Clive Sheldon QC was asked to lead an independent Review into Child Sex Abuse Allegations in football. In accordance with the [Terms of Reference](#), *Sport Resolutions* has been appointed as secretariat to provide administrative support for Clive Sheldon QC in carrying out his Review. *Sport Resolutions* is an independent, not-for-profit, dispute resolution service for sport in the United Kingdom.

In carrying out the Review, Clive Sheldon QC will be assisted by a team of counsel from *11KBW* Chambers: David Bedenham, Katherine Eddy, Zoe Gannon and Leo Davidson. Clive Sheldon QC will also receive expert advice on child protection in sport from Dr Mike Hartill, Senior Lecturer in Sociology and Sport at Edge Hill University.

The Review will be carried out in private, and will involve a combination of document review and meetings with witnesses. The FA has been asked to provide all documents in its possession relating to allegations of child sexual abuse and child protection materials in the period covered by the review (1970 to 2005), and is in the process of making these available to the Review.

Early in the new year, the Review will be writing to all football clubs in England and Wales, asking for information about allegations of child sexual abuse during the period covered by the Review and their interaction at material times with the FA. Further details about the Review's progress will be published on [www.sportresolutions.co.uk/services/footballreview](http://www.sportresolutions.co.uk/services/footballreview).

The Review is keen to hear from anyone involved in the game from 1970 to 2005 who wishes to provide information about the way in which concerns of child sexual abuse were dealt with by clubs or the FA. Correspondence should be sent to [football@sportresolutions.co.uk](mailto:football@sportresolutions.co.uk).

This correspondence will be treated in confidence by the Review and in accordance with relevant data protection principles. However, any allegations of criminal behaviour will be forwarded to *Operation Hydrant*. Anyone who experienced sexual abuse as a young footballer is reminded of the helpline provided by the NSPCC: **0800 023 2642**.