

## **Julie Etchingam (presenter)**

A three strong panel of experts appointed by the church to oversee how it handles such claims has in effect been sacked. There had already been disagreements between two of the panel and senior bishops. One panel member told us the church had frustrated their work at every level.

## **Chloe Keedy (reporter)**

Scrutiny of the Church of England's safeguarding practices is something it describes as urgent and indispensable, but it's just sacked the very people it appointed to give independent oversight of how it dealt with abuse. It says the board's relationship with senior bishops had broken down but Jasvinder Sanghera, one of three who sat on that board, says the church made it impossible for them to do their job.

## **Jasvinder Sanghera**

At every point they've tied our hands behind our back. For a national director to say we're too survivor focus is really concerning. And the way they communicated this demonstrates a lack of compassion. Absolutely, and they are the Church of England.

## **Chloe Keedy**

Little more than six weeks ago, the role of the Anglican Church was celebrated at the King's coronation. and its leader Archbishop Justin Welby played a central part He's now admitted that behind the scenes he was struggling to resolve an internal rift, something he hinted at during a discussion last week at the Religion and Media Festival.

## **Archbishop Justin Welby**

There will always be safeguarding challenges. There always have been. It's..the differences now that we're open about it. But until we have a fully independent central safeguarding system in the Church of England, we cannot hold our heads up.

## **Chloe Keedy**

In a joint statement today from the Archbishop of Canterbury and York they said that sacking the Independent Safeguarding Board was not a decision they had taken lightly. They said they knew that this was a serious setback, and that they bitterly regretted that things had come to this point. But added 'it is clear that there is no prospect of resolving the disagreement, and that it's getting in the way of the vital work of serving victims and survivors'. But one survivor we spoke to said it was the church that was getting in the way, and he praised the work of the board

## **Matt Ineson**

When you've being raped, when you've been abused, to trust, again, is extremely hard. And they have worked so hard. The church doesn't like it. The church doesn't like genuine independence, so they've pulled the rug from underneath them.

## **Chloe Keedy**

The church describes this as a reset of a crucial safeguarding system. But for survivors it is another reason that the church is somewhere they don't feel safe.