

Scotland's Redress Scheme

Application form **Part 2**

Additional statement pages

Name

Theresa McGinley

Date of birth

Day 18

Month 02

Year 1976

Your statement for additional care settings

In Part 1, you will have already provided information about the care settings you were abused in. By providing this information here, your case worker can join together the name of the care setting with your statement of abuse.

Q1 | What is the name or location of the relevant care setting you were abused in?

(For example, the name of the care home, or the city or region where you lived in foster care or while boarded out).

Children's Home Newlands

Do not worry if you are uncertain about dates or time. Please provide your best estimate.

Q2 | When were you abused?

For example: a single date, an age, or an approximate time or time range.

1991

You do not have to provide names, if you cannot remember or do not feel comfortable doing so. If you do provide a name it will be passed to Police Scotland.

Q3 | Who was involved in your abuse?

For example: a member of staff, a peer or someone outside the care setting.

The information you provide will be used by Redress Scotland to make a decision about your application. Redress Scotland will use the "Assessment framework" to help them do this, available on [gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot). Please be aware that it contains graphic descriptions of abuse.

Q4 | On the next page, please provide as much information as you can about:

- the abuse you experienced while living in this care setting
- what life was like for you during this time
- how the people responsible for your care and welfare failed to carry out that duty (within or beyond your care setting)

You can continue on additional pages if you need to.

Part 2 of the application form provides more information about what you may want to include.

Your statement for additional care settings

I was then placed in a children's home in Newlands. After everything that had already happened to me, I never settled there and never felt safe or comfortable. I eventually ran away from the home with my partner. I was only 15 years old at the time, while my partner was 21. I became pregnant by him while I was still only 15. Looking back, one of the things I find particularly difficult to understand is why more was not done to protect me. I was only 15 years old and was a child in their care, while my partner was a 21-year-old adult. The people responsible for my care knew that I was sexually active with him. They were also aware that he had been in and out of prison and, to my recollection, that he had schizophrenia.

I cannot understand how those responsible for safeguarding me could have known about these circumstances and yet allowed the situation to continue to the point where I ran away with him, became pregnant and married him while I was still only 15.

I was a vulnerable child who had already experienced instability and difficulties within my family and throughout my time in care. I believe the adults and professionals responsible for me should have recognised how vulnerable I was and taken appropriate steps to safeguard and protect me. I was not an adult making these decisions from a secure and stable position; I was a 15-year-old child who needed protection, guidance and support. This is something that has stayed with me throughout my life. I look back and question why there was not greater intervention when the people responsible for my care knew what was happening. I cannot know exactly how my life would have developed if I had received the protection and support I needed, but I strongly believe that things could have been very different. Instead, at an extremely young age, I became pregnant and married, and later developed a heroin addiction. I feel that the failure to properly safeguard and care for me had profound and lasting consequences for my life.