

Scotland's Redress Scheme

Application form **Part 2**

Additional statement pages

Name

Mr James George Thomson Morrison

Date of birth

Day 28

Month 04

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).

Netherthird Children's Home, East Ayrshire

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.

1985 - 1987

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 about nine years old when I was placed here. I remember being taken in the middle of the night by Social Services while my stepfather was taken to prison. He had regularly beaten me, and on at least one occasion the abuse was serious enough that I ended up in hospital. Despite what I had experienced, I was labelled a "bad kid" and made to feel as though I was the problem. I was blamed for my behaviour, but nobody seemed to ask why a nine-year-old child who had experienced abuse might be struggling. Nobody reassured me that I was just a child and that I should not have been blamed for what adults had done to me. While in care, I experienced further physical, verbal and emotional abuse. I was frequently restrained by staff in ways that were aggressive and painful. My arms would be twisted behind my back and forced upwards towards my neck, and I would sometimes be pinned to the floor. These experiences were frightening and distressing. I was also exposed to violence from other children. Fighting happened regularly, and although I was only nine, I remember fighting children as old as fifteen. Instead of feeling protected by the adults responsible for my care, I often felt I had to defend myself. There was also an incident involving a girl, a boy and me, all around the same age. We were children exploring things such as kissing. When staff found out, instead of dealing with the situation calmly and in an age-appropriate way, we were threatened with being charged for underage sex. To me, this reflected an environment where situations were dealt with through threats and punishment rather than understanding and support. I had already come from an abusive home and was extremely vulnerable. I needed safety, reassurance, patience and adults who understood what I had been through. Instead, I was exposed to violence, aggression, threats and situations that no child of my age should have had to experience or understand. These experiences inevitably affected how I behaved and responded to situations. Rather than recognising that I was a child reacting to trauma and an unsafe environment, I felt I was repeatedly blamed and punished. I was only nine years old. The adults responsible for my care should have protected me, helped me feel safe and understood what I had already been through. I should not have been made to carry the blame for what happened to me or for the ways I struggled to cope with it.