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Section 1: Personal details

This information will be used to join together Part 1 and Part 3 of your application forms.

Name

Shona Halliday

Date of birth

Day Month Year

The next section asks you to write your statement of abuse.

Section 2: Your statement of abuse

Please refer to page 32 of the “Help to apply” guidance when filling in this form.

Please make sure that whatever way you provide your statement, you include all the information Redress Scotland needs to make a decision. You can find out more on page 35 of “Help to apply”.

You may find that writing this brings up feelings or memories. If you need support you can speak to a case worker who can refer you to further help:

- **Telephone:** 0808 175 0808 (freephone)
- **International:** +44 131 297 6500
Lines are open Monday to Thursday, from 10am to 4pm (except Scottish public holidays)
- **Email:** apply@redress-scheme.scot

Providing your statement of abuse

In Part 1, you will have provided information about any relevant care settings you were abused in.

In Part 3, you need to provide a statement about your abuse. You can choose how you want to provide your statement. You can complete Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4. Or you can:

- submit a previous statement (for example, a copy of a statement given to the police)
- write your statement in another format that is better suited to you

How to complete this section

You may have been abused in one relevant care setting, or in several different ones.

For this part of the application form, please provide a statement about each care setting you were abused in.

For example, if you were abused in 3 relevant care settings, please provide 3 statements.

You can do this in any order that makes sense to you.

There are pages for 4 care settings included in this form. If you need more copies, you can:

- contact a case worker
- make a copy yourself
- print additional pages from mygov.scot/redress

Please remember:

- **there are no wrong answers - if Redress Scotland needs more or different information, your case worker will get in touch with you and let you know**
- **do not worry about your spelling**
- **use as much or as little space as you need to give your information - you can continue on additional pages if you want to**

Your statement for Care setting 1

Please read page 32 of the “Help to apply” guidance before you begin.

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).

Howden Hall in Edinburgh

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.

1989

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.

Children and Staff

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.

Please read page 36 of “Help to apply” to find out more about what information you may want to include.

See Attached

Your statement for Care setting 2

Please read page 32 of the “Help to apply” guidance before you begin.

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).

Cruton Care Home

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.

1990

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 staff and children

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.

Please read page 36 of “Help to apply” to find out more about what information you may want to include.

See Attached

Your statement for Care setting 3

Please read page 32 of the “Help to apply” guidance before you begin.

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).

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.

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.

Please read page 36 of “Help to apply” to find out more about what information you may want to include.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin blue border, intended for the user to write their statement for Care setting 3. The box occupies most of the page area below the header.

Your statement for Care setting 4

Please read page 32 of the “Help to apply” guidance before you begin.

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).

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.

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.

Please read page 36 of “Help to apply” to find out more about what information you may want to include.



Do you want help
with this section?

If you want help before sending in the form, you can:

- read page 32 of the “Help to apply” guidance
- contact a case worker

The next section has questions about your supporting documents.

Section 3: Supporting documents

Please provide any supporting documents you have related to your abuse in care.

You can find out more about these types of documents on page 33 of the “Help to apply” guidance.

In some cases, it may be difficult to find supporting documents. To help with this part of the application, you can:

- include supporting documents when you send this part of the form, if you already have them
- send in your form without any supporting documents – your case worker will get in touch with you and have a conversation about what you can provide

Please tick which option you have chosen:

- I am including supporting documents with my form
- I am not including supporting documents
(if you tick this, a case worker will contact you)
- I am collecting my documents and will submit them a later date

Do you want help
with this section?

If you want help before sending in the form, you can:

- read page 33 of the “Help to apply” guidance
- contact a case worker

The next section has a declaration you must sign and details about how your information is kept and shared.

Section 4: Declaration and privacy notice

In this section, you must sign your form.

For information about how Scotland's Redress Scheme will record and protect your personal information, please read the Privacy Notice for Scotland's Redress Scheme. You can find this on mygov.scot/redress.

Before you send your application you must agree to these statements:

I confirm that the details and information I have given in this application form are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I understand that I must notify Scotland's Redress Scheme of changes in my circumstances that may affect my application.

I confirm that if any of the information I gave in Part 1, Section 8 (related to previous payments and convictions) changes, I must let my case worker know.

I confirm that any documents I have provided in support of my application are genuine and any copy is a true copy of the original. I understand that if I provide a document which is not genuine, I may be subject to court proceedings.

I understand that if I give false or misleading information in support of my application or make a fraudulent application I may:

- be subject to court proceedings
- have to re-pay any money I was not entitled to

I confirm I have read and understood the Privacy Notice for Scotland's Redress Scheme which explains how the information I provide will be lawfully used and stored.

Your signature

Date

Next steps

This is the end of Part 3. You do not need to submit your forms all at once. Once you are ready, you can submit your forms by email.

Afterwards, a case worker will contact you to confirm:

- they have received your application
- if they have any follow up questions
- next steps

By email

Please submit your application and any relevant documents to:

[**apply@redress-scheme.scot**](mailto:apply@redress-scheme.scot)

If you would like to contact a case worker

Please use these details to contact a case worker:

- **Telephone:** 0808 175 0808 (freephone)
- **International:** +44 131 297 6500
Lines are open Monday to Thursday, from 10am to 4pm
(except Scottish public holidays)
- **Email:** [**apply@redress-scheme.scot**](mailto:apply@redress-scheme.scot)

Statement Addendum

Client Name: Shona Halliday
Date of Birth: 06/11/1975
Care Setting: Howden Hall in Edinburgh
Dates: 1989
Persons Involved: Children and Staff

Full Statement

In around 1989, when I was 14 years old, I was taken away from my family home and placed into the care of Midlothian, Scotland. I was sent to Howden Hall in Edinburgh. This period of my life became the worst and most traumatic time I have ever experienced, and the memories of it still affect me deeply even now.

From the moment I arrived at Howden Hall, I felt unsafe. I was a young teenager who had been removed from my home, frightened and confused, and no one explained properly what was happening or what my life would look like there. Instead of feeling supported, I felt immediately exposed and vulnerable. The staff often spoke to us in horrible and degrading ways. Their tone and behaviour made it clear that we were not treated as children who needed care, but as problems to be controlled.

Very quickly I realised that I did not feel safe living there. The atmosphere in the home was hostile and frightening. Other children were allowed to bully, threaten and physically attack me, and the staff did nothing to stop it. I was often targeted by other residents. They would pick on me, hit me, and threaten me. I lived in constant fear of them. Instead of protecting me, the staff ignored what was happening or acted as if it was normal.

Because I felt so unsafe, I ran away from the home several times. I was desperate to escape. On one occasion I was found by the police when I was very drunk at a young age and brought back to the home. When I returned, instead of being treated with care or concern, I was humiliated in a way that still haunts me today. A male and female member of staff stripped me naked, forced me into a shower, and then dragged me to bed. I was completely humiliated, embarrassed, and deeply upset. I was only a child, and the way they handled the situation was degrading and traumatic. I remember feeling completely powerless and ashamed, and it is something that still affects me emotionally when I think about it.

Although food was always technically provided, it was often food we did not want or could not eat. As a result, many of us would still go hungry. Punishments were common and often unfair. Pocket money was regularly taken away from us, sometimes for very small things or for reasons that were never properly explained.

My biggest fear at Howden Hall was the other children. They were often aggressive and unpredictable. I remember lying in bed at night in what was supposed to be my safe place, but even there I was threatened. One girl told me she was going to come into my room and beat me up during the night. I was terrified. I did not feel safe anywhere in that building.

One night when these threats were being made, I became so frightened that I had a panic attack. I ran into the kitchen and took a knife because I felt I had no other way to protect myself. I planned to keep it beside my bed the next night in case someone attacked me. The fact that a 14-year-old child felt she needed a weapon just to sleep shows how unsafe I felt. The staff knew about this situation, yet instead of speaking to me or trying to understand why I was so frightened, they simply sat outside my bedroom all night. They never once came in to ask if I was okay, what had happened, or how I was feeling. I felt completely ignored and abandoned.

The other children would often deliberately wind me up and torment me to try to provoke a reaction. The staff saw this happening and still did nothing to stop it. It was mentally exhausting and incredibly distressing. One incident that frightened me badly was when one of the residents set her room on fire. My room was next door. I remember the fear and panic that night. The environment in the home felt chaotic and dangerous. Many of the children behaved in ways that seemed completely out of control, and there was little real supervision or protection.

Family visits were supposed to happen on weekends, but I was often not allowed them. I remember one weekend when I stayed at a friend's house. It felt like the only moment of freedom I had experienced. However, I was forced to return to the home on the very first night. No one properly explained why, and I felt again like I had no control over my life. It left me feeling embarrassed, rejected and unwanted. I only stayed in Howden Hall for a few months, but those months left lasting scars. Eventually I returned home, but the damage had already been done.

Statement Addendum

Client Name: Shona Halliday
Date of Birth: 06/11/1975
Care Setting: Cruton Care Home
Dates: 1990
Persons Involved: The staff and children

Full Statement

In around 1990, when I was 15 years old, I was placed in Cruton Care Home in Billy Inrel. I remember arriving there feeling confused, frightened and alone. Nobody sat me down to explain where I was, what the rules were, or what was going to happen to me. There was no effort made to settle me in or make me feel safe. I was simply placed there and expected to cope.

Almost immediately I realised I had gone from one bad situation into another. There was one particular member of staff who was extremely aggressive and intimidating. The way she spoke to us was brutal. She screamed at us constantly and treated us like we were worthless. She would physically drag us or push us around and used her size and authority to frighten us.

She had a saying she repeated often. She would say that if we “farted, coughed or sneezed,” she would be “down on us like a ton of bricks.” That phrase stuck in my mind because it showed how little tolerance she had for us. It meant we were always living in fear that even the smallest thing would lead to punishment or humiliation.

Whenever we crossed paths in the corridors, she would push or prod me as she walked past. It felt deliberate, like she was trying to provoke me. I tried my best to stay away from her whenever I could, but that wasn't always possible in a place like that. What made it worse was that other staff members saw this behaviour and did nothing to stop it. They stood by and allowed it to continue.

During my time there, I was taken out with other residents to a shopping centre. One of the younger girls began shoplifting. When she was caught, she blamed me. I was taken to a local police station and placed in a police cell. Sitting alone in that cell was terrifying. I was only 15 years old and felt completely helpless. I had no adult there supporting me or standing up for me. I remember feeling like my life was completely out of control and that no one cared whether I was treated fairly or not.

After that incident, the staff at the home used the police as a way to threaten me. They would tell me they would have me arrested or sent to prison. They knew that being put in that cell had frightened me badly, and they used that fear against me. Whenever they mentioned the police, it sent me straight into panic mode. I lived with constant anxiety that I would be blamed for something again and taken away.

The same staff member who treated me badly also told me that I would end up in prison one day. What hurts me even more is that she said this to me on my 15th birthday. Instead of hearing something kind or supportive on my birthday, I was told I would end up in prison and called a “stupid bitch.” She rarely used my

name at all. Instead, she would call me things like “lady,” “Mrs.,” or simply insult me. The way she spoke to me made me feel like I was something dirty or disgusting.

I remember the way she looked at me as well. It was as if she had already decided I was a bad person, even though I was just a frightened child trying to survive in an environment I didn’t understand.

Food was always technically available, but it often wasn’t nice or something we could eat easily. Meals were unpleasant, and many of us would go hungry because we simply couldn’t eat what was provided.

The other children in the home were also allowed to treat me badly. They stole from me, and nothing was done about it. I was forced to share a bedroom with a girl who would try to attack me during the night. I remember having to physically kick her away from me just to protect myself. The staff knew this was happening, but they still made us share the same room. It felt like they were waiting for me to react so they could punish me.

One of the most disturbing experiences I went through there happened one night when a boy from the home came into my bedroom. I was lying in bed when he exposed himself and placed his penis on me. He asked me to perform a sexual act on him. I was shocked and terrified. I screamed and shouted, and he ran away. I remember feeling completely violated and frightened. It was one of the most horrific and humiliating moments of my life. I felt like nowhere in that place was safe, not even my own bed.

The environment in the home was chaotic and disturbing in other ways as well. I remember one of the girls there being only 14 years old and already pregnant by one of the boys in the home. That alone showed how little supervision and protection there really was.

I also witnessed other children being beaten and restrained by staff members. One boy in particular, who I believe may have been autistic, was often targeted because he was vulnerable. Staff would pin him down and sit on him until he struggled to breathe. Watching that happen was terrifying. I was too scared to speak out or get involved because I believed the same thing could easily happen to me.

Living in that environment made me feel like my life was completely hopeless. Every day I was scared. I didn’t trust the staff, I didn’t feel safe around the other children, and I felt completely alone.

I stayed there for only a few months, but those months felt endless. The fear and stress I experienced during that time have stayed with me for the rest of my life.

I’ve struggled with anxiety and depression for as long as I can remember. Trusting people doesn’t come easily to me—if it ever did, it’s long gone now. I suffer with it badly, every single day, and the scars of my past are something I carry with me constantly. I’ve been on antidepressants since I was eighteen, and even with them, the weight of what happened in my life never truly goes away.

Looking back, I can see just how much I was failed. The people who were supposed to care for me in the care system didn’t. Instead, I was picked at, belittled, and hurt—both physically and mentally. There were moments when I felt completely invisible, moments when the abuse was so relentless that I couldn’t see any way out. Every harsh word, every shove, every punishment left marks that went far deeper than skin-deep. I remember the fear in the evenings, the nights I lay awake feeling unsafe, alone, and utterly unheard. Those feelings of abandonment never truly left me—they only grew heavier as I got older.

The impact on my life has been profound. I struggle to let people in, always expecting disappointment or harm. I question my own worth constantly, and even now, I carry the echoes of being failed and picked on like a shadow that never fades. It’s something I’ll never fully understand or forget, no matter how much time passes or how much help I seek. The anxiety, the depression—they aren’t just moods. They’re reminders of a life where I was left to fend for myself, where my pain wasn’t seen, and where the world felt cold and unsafe.

I try to live my life, to move forward, but it's always there. The memories, the abuses, the neglect—they shape how I see myself and how I relate to others. I'm cautious, I'm guarded, and sometimes it feels like the hurt is stitched into the very fabric of who I am. Every decision, every relationship, every moment of vulnerability is weighed down by the echoes of my past. And yet, I survive. I endure. But the journey hasn't been fair, and it has left scars that will never truly disappear.