

Scotland's Redress Scheme

Application form **Part 3**

For individually assessed payment applicants

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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

Donna Paton

Date of birth

Day

09

Month

09

Year

1975

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).

residential school – Perth fornethy house

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.

1984-1994

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.

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).

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.

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.

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: Donna Paton
Date of Birth: 09/09/1975
Care Setting: residential school – Perth fornethy house
Dates: 1984-1994
Persons Involved: Staff

Full Statement

I was around 9 years old when I was diagnosed with ADHD. At the time, I was attending Blackfriars School in Glasgow, and I had no idea that my life was about to change in a way that would stay with me forever.

The school told me and four other girls that we were going on a holiday over the school break. I remember how excited we all were. We believed them. We packed our things thinking it was going to be something fun. I can still picture us sitting on the bus, laughing and smiling, talking about what it would be like. We felt lucky. We felt special.

When we arrived at Perth Fornethy House Residential School, we ran off the bus full of excitement. We rushed to our rooms and saw our names written on the beds. I remember feeling happy in that moment. I thought this was going to be an adventure.

But everything changed the second the teachers from Blackfriars School left.

As soon as they walked out, the staff at Perth Fornethy House started screaming at us. They dragged us down into the sitting room. I remember my mood shifting instantly. The excitement disappeared and was replaced with fear. My stomach dropped. I didn't understand what was happening.

They shouted at us, asking if we thought this was a holiday. They screamed that we were not allowed to laugh. We were shocked and confused because we had been told it was a holiday. Panic set in immediately. We were only children. We didn't know where we were or why we were there.

Every time we tried to speak to the staff to ask what was going on, they would laugh at us, ignore us, and walk away. That made it worse. It made me feel small and powerless. We had no control.

The abuse started right away and became part of daily life.

The staff would push and prod us in the corridors. We weren't allowed to speak up

or defend ourselves. They called us names. They screamed at us constantly, often for no reason at all. I started to feel lost inside myself. I didn't understand what I had done wrong. My emotions became overwhelming, and I struggled to regulate them. That is when my anxiety began. I was always on edge, always waiting for someone to shout, grab, or humiliate me.

I witnessed staff physically beating the older children. I saw them being abused repeatedly. I was terrified that I would be next. Watching it happen to others was traumatising. I felt helpless and deeply distressed seeing other children being hurt.

There are many staff members whose faces I still remember clearly. But I will never forget the head at the time, Mrs Fletcher. She was in charge. She must have known what was happening. From my perspective, she turned a blind eye to the abuse.

One of the most humiliating parts of my time there was how they treated me because I was a bed wetter. Instead of helping me, they punished me. The staff would come into my room, make a huge scene, and drag me to a cold bath. They scrubbed my body as punishment. They always had to wash me in the bath when I wet the bed. It was degrading and traumatic. I felt exposed and ashamed.

They would hang my wet sheets up at my door or at the window so that other children walking past could see that I had wet the bed. They singled me out and laughed at me in front of the other children. I was humiliated daily. I felt terrorised. I felt worthless.

Food was another form of control and punishment. We didn't like the food, but we were forced to eat it. If we refused, we were made to sit at the table for hours. Sometimes we were left there until the food was gone. If we still refused, they would restrain us and force feed us with such force that it caused physical pain. Being restrained like that as a child was frightening and violent. I felt completely powerless in those moments.

We were never given privacy. If we had a phone call or wrote a letter home, staff would stand over us, assisting and reading everything. There was no way to ask for help safely. I was too scared to say anything. I knew if I spoke up, there would be consequences.

They didn't allow me to go on weekend visits. I remember one of my friend's mum had finally had enough and came to get her. I watched her leave. I wanted to cry out for help. I wanted to beg to go home. But I was frozen in fear. I was too scared to speak.

Sometimes we were punished by being made to stand alone in the dark, cold hall all night. Alone. As a 9-year-old child. The fear I felt in those moments is something I still struggle to describe. It was overwhelming and consuming.

We were shells of ourselves in that place. All the children were scared. We were beaten, bullied, shouted at, restrained, humiliated. There was no comfort. No safety. No kindness.

I was there for around six weeks. But those six weeks have stayed with me for a lifetime.

At the time, I became anxious, withdrawn, and emotionally overwhelmed. I felt confused and constantly frightened. I struggled to understand why this was happening to me. I had been told it was a holiday. Instead, I experienced abuse.

As I grew older, the impact became clearer. I have struggled with anxiety and depression for most of my life because of what happened there. I suffer from PTSD. I have sleepless nights. I experience flashbacks. I relive the screaming, the cold baths, the humiliation, the force feeding, the dark hallways. Certain sounds, smells, or situations trigger intense emotional responses.

I struggle with trust. I struggle with feeling safe. I often feel like I am still that 9-year-old child who doesn't understand why she was treated that way. I carry confusion and pain. I still ask myself: What happened? Why did it happen to me? Why was I not protected?

I feel that I was failed. Failed by the adults who were meant to protect me. Failed by the system. Failed by those who knew and did nothing.

What happened at Blackfriars School in Glasgow and at Perth Fornethy House Residential School has had a lifelong impact on my mental health. The abuse did not end when I left. It lives on inside me through anxiety, depression, PTSD, and sleepless nights.

I was only a child. And I deserved to be safe.