

Scotland's Redress Scheme

Application form **Part 2**

Additional statement pages

Name

Lyndsey Urquhart

Date of birth

Day 01

Month 02

Year 1977

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).

Highland Council

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 - 2005

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

When I was 12 I was placed with my father to live permanently. I was still involved with social services because I was unable to get on with my stepmother, who was emotionally and verbally abusive towards me. She constantly put me down, telling me that because I was dyslexic I would never amount to anything and that I would end up like my mother. If she wasn't giving me the silent treatment, she would be shouting at me with severe aggression. Living in that environment left me feeling worthless and completely alone.

The abuse became so overwhelming that I tried to take my own life while I was living there. Social services were aware of what was happening, but nothing was done to protect me. I find this even harder to understand because my stepmother had been deemed unfit to care for her own children, yet I was still expected to live in her care.

I felt abandoned by the very people who were supposed to help me. Social services effectively let go of me when I was 15, and one social worker even advised me to leave home when I turned 16. I did leave at 16, but I had no real support or guidance to help me build a safe and stable life.

By the age of 18, I had become involved with a predator. I often reflect on everything that happened and wonder whether my life would have been different if I had been protected and properly supported instead of being left in an abusive environment. I cannot help but question whether I would have ended up in the situations I faced after leaving care if I had received the care and protection I needed.