

Scotland's Redress Scheme

Application form **Part 2**

Additional statement pages

Name

Brenda Mckay

Date of birth

Day 16

Month 09

Year 1970

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).

Foster Care

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.

1978

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

Me and my siblings were placed into foster care when we were young. My dad was in and out of a mental hospital at the time. I don't fully know why we were taken into care, but we were all split up. Me and my brother were placed together, while my two sisters were sent somewhere else. Being separated from them was devastating. I felt lonely and lost the comfort of having my siblings around me.

We were treated differently to the foster carers' own children. I remember not being allowed to wear my own clothes because the foster carer said I smelled. On one visit to see our mum, her daughter made comments about me smelling, which left me feeling embarrassed and ashamed.

There wasn't physical abuse, but there was constant emotional abuse. We were regularly made to feel like we were less important because we were the foster children. The foster carer would tell us, "You're not mine," and we were bullied because of our clothes and the condition of our mum's house. It made me feel unwanted and like I didn't matter.

When we returned home, my mum had a new partner and his children were living there. I remember feeling like a guest in my own home. The whole experience left me feeling isolated, rejected, and without a place where I truly belonged.

Before I was placed in foster care, I had already been sexually abused by my uncle, so I was carrying a lot of trauma at such a young age. I was only around 8 years old, and my mind was all over the place. When my trauma affected my behaviour or I acted out, the foster carers didn't show me any care, understanding, or support. Instead of recognising that I was a vulnerable child who needed help, they simply didn't seem to care, which left me feeling even more alone and neglected.

The whole time I was there, I just felt sad and unwanted. I felt abandoned because I never understood why I had been taken into care in the first place. One day, people came into my school and took me and my siblings away. No one explained what was happening, and I was left feeling confused, frightened, and wondering why I had been taken away from my family.