

Scotland's Redress Scheme

Application form **Part 2**

Additional statement pages

Name

Barbara Mcallan

Date of birth

Day 24

Month 03

Year 1979

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).

Scottish Borders 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.

1996

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 turned 16, I had to leave the children's home because I was considered too old to stay there. Social Services placed me in a flat on my own and simply left me to cope. I was still only a child myself and was nowhere near ready to live independently. When I turned 16, I was assigned a social worker called Vince Green. He did nothing to support or help me. Instead of preparing me for independent living or making sure I was coping, I felt completely abandoned. My mental health deteriorated rapidly. I fell into a deep depression and eventually attempted to take my own life. Even though I was still under the care of Social Services, they did absolutely nothing to protect me or provide me with the support I desperately needed. I felt they had failed me throughout my time in care, and they continued to fail me after I left. I was left alone in that flat for about a month. I was not well enough to be living by myself, but nobody seemed to care. After my suicide attempt, I was taken to hospital. When I was discharged, I was sent to Eyemouth, where I stayed with a supported landlady called Edith for around nine months. After that placement ended, I was moved into a homeless shelter until another flat became available.

Looking back, I believe Social Services set me up to fail. Rather than helping me build a future, they abandoned me at one of the most vulnerable points in my life. Being left to cope alone at just 16 destroyed my confidence, severely damaged my mental health, and left me feeling completely worthless. I believe this failure to support me had lifelong consequences. It robbed me of the chance of a stable future and contributed to me becoming trapped in an abusive relationship when I was just 18 years old. The way I was treated has had a lasting impact on my life and my mental health, and I continue to live with those consequences today.