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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

Kevin McGowan

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).

Kibble children's home paisley

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.

1999 2001

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. 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.

My time in this home began in fear and never truly got better. From the very first nights I arrived, I was restrained — for three consecutive nights. I had never experienced anything like it before in my life, and I was absolutely terrified. Being physically restrained, held down and overpowered, is a frightening experience for any person — but for a child encountering it for the first time, in an unfamiliar place, surrounded by strangers, it was overwhelming. I was so scared that I begged my mum to come and get me. I just wanted to go home. I wanted someone who loved me to come and take me away from that place. That desperation, that fear in those first few nights, set the tone for everything that followed.

During my time there, I tried on one occasion to help another person who was being restrained. I acted out of instinct, out of a basic human impulse to help someone who appeared to be in distress. It was not something I regret, because it came from a place of genuine care. But the environment I was in was one where even acts of compassion could lead to further pain and confusion.

There was also a young girl in the home who would touch my leg and touch me all over, and she continued to do this for the entire duration of my time there. It made me deeply uncomfortable and left me feeling confused and unsettled in a way that was very difficult to process, particularly given everything else I was already dealing with in that environment.

The staff used methods of control that were cruel and deliberately designed to remove any sense of freedom or agency I had. They took my trainers away so that I could not run away. That deliberate act — removing something as basic as my footwear to physically prevent me from leaving — made me feel completely trapped. When I did attempt to leave, they would stop me and drag me back. I was a child, and every avenue of escape had been closed off to me, both physically and emotionally.

What made the environment even more disturbing was that the staff would make me beat other people up. I want to be clear about what that means — I was not acting freely or out of my own will. I was being directed, pressured, and manipulated by adults into harming other children. The effect of being forced to hurt someone else, of being used in that way, is something that added a particular layer of shame and confusion to everything I was already carrying. It was another way in which the adults in that home stripped away my sense of self and my sense of right and wrong.

Children were locked in rooms regularly, and the fear and uncertainty that created was ever present. I remember one boy in particular who was locked in a room for four days. Four days. None of us knew what was happening to him. None of us knew whether he was alright. We did not know if he was alive. Living with that uncertainty — wondering whether the person locked behind that door was dead — is not something any child should ever have to experience. It created an atmosphere of fear that permeated everything, a constant undercurrent of dread that made every day feel deeply unsafe.

Throughout all of this, I carried a longing that I suspect never fully goes away — the longing for my mum to come and take me home, for someone who loved me to walk through that door and rescue me from what I was living through. That feeling of desperately needing someone and not being reached, of calling out and not being answered, is one of the most painful parts of everything I experienced. It is a feeling that has followed me long beyond those walls, and it is a reminder of just how alone I was during what should have been the years when I was most protected and most loved.

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).

St Johns Children’s Home, Glasgow

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.

2001 -2003

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. 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 man called Billy Davis was central to much of what I endured there. He was the one who forced us — children in a care home, children who were supposed to be protected — into a boxing ring with a Scottish Champion named Scott Harrison. We were made to fight him. We were not given a choice. We were put in that ring and we were beaten, while the adults around us watched. And not only did they watch — they placed bets against us. We were children being used as sport, being gambled on, being hurt for the entertainment and financial gain of the adults who were supposed to be keeping us safe. The humiliation of that, the feeling of being treated as less than human, as something to be used and wagered on, is something I have never been able to fully shake. I was powerless, physically outmatched, and utterly betrayed by every adult in that room.

Billy Davis did not stop there. He also forced us to sell drugs within the care home. Once again, there was no choice involved — this was not something I did freely or willingly. It was something I was made to do under threat. If we refused, or if we did not comply with what was demanded of us, we were beaten. I was a child being coerced into criminal activity by an adult in a position of authority over me, and I was punished physically when I fell short of what he expected. The fear that surrounded those demands was constant and suffocating, and it placed me in situations that no child should ever have been put in.

On top of all of this, I was restrained regularly within the home and beaten. My body bore the physical consequences of what was being done to me, but it was the internal damage — the damage to my sense of safety, my sense of worth, my ability to trust — that has proven the most lasting and the most difficult to live with. Being restrained repeatedly, being physically overpowered again and again, wore something down in me that has taken a very long time to begin to rebuild.

I want to be honest about the full extent of the impact all of this has had on my life, because I think it is important that it is understood. My whole life has been badly affected by what I experienced — not just in this home, but across everything I went through during my years in care. The damage is wide and it is deep. I have never been through any formal therapy. I have never sat with a professional and worked through what was done to me, because for so long the only way I knew how to cope was to block it all out — to push it down as far as it would go and try to keep moving forward without looking back. That has been my survival mechanism, and for a long time it felt like the only one available to me.

But blocking things out does not make them disappear. It simply means they find other ways to surface — in the way you relate to people, in the way you see yourself, in the way you move through the world carrying something heavy that you cannot always name. Everything I experienced in that home, everything that was done to me and forced upon me, has shaped the course of my life in ways I am still coming to understand. I did not deserve any of it. No child did. And it is only right that what happened there is spoken about honestly, recorded truthfully, and acknowledged for the serious and lasting harm that it caused.

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)