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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

Nicole Black

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).

MARGARET AND JIM - FOSTER FAMILY

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.

1981

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.

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. 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 2. The box occupies most of the page area below the header.

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.

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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: Nicole Black
Date of Birth: 24/06/1980
Care Setting: MARGARET AND JIM - FOSTER FAMILY
Dates: 1981
Persons Involved:

Full Statement

I was placed into care at a very young age. Records state that I was taken into care because my biological mother had set fire to herself. However, I have since spoken directly with my mum, and she told me that this was not true. She explained that there had been an accident involving an electric fire, not an intentional act. Knowing this now has had a profound impact on me, as it means I was taken away from my family for no valid reason. I believe I was failed by the system and removed from what should have been a happy and healthy home.

I was then placed into foster care with Margaret and Jim when I was around 2 to 3 years old. This was the only foster home I lived in before being adopted, and it is where I experienced severe neglect. I have been told that when I arrived there at around 3 years old, I was unable to speak. The only thing I had was a toy can that I would play with repeatedly. It later took my adoptive parents significant time, care, and patience to help me learn how to speak properly.

During my time in that foster home, I was forced to wear clothes and shoes that were far too small for me, which caused me both physical pain and long-term damage. I was not potty trained and was still made to wear nappies at the age of 3. I was also made to sleep in a cot, which was not appropriate for my age. This level of neglect has deeply affected me, both physically and emotionally. I still suffer to this day with serious bunions and ongoing foot pain, which I believe is a direct result of being forced to wear shoes that did not fit me properly.

I do not remember the name of the area or the family name of where I was living at the time, but I clearly remember the fear and confusion I experienced. I was constantly wetting myself because I had never been taught how to use the toilet. This would cause me extreme panic and distress. I did not understand what was happening to me or what I was doing wrong. My adoptive parents later told me they could see how terrified I was, especially around using the toilet. I would scream and cry uncontrollably when I needed to go, as I associated it with fear and punishment.

This fear followed me into later childhood. When I was invited to birthday parties, I would become extremely

distressed and frightened at the thought of needing to use the toilet. I would refuse to go out or attend social events because of this overwhelming fear. I was also deeply afraid that I might somehow be tricked into going back into that foster home, which caused me constant anxiety and mistrust. The experience changed my life in a way that has never left me.

I was also told that I would frequently flinch and appear frightened, especially around adults and particularly around Margaret and Jim. I lived in a constant state of fear. There was no sense of safety, comfort, or care. I do not remember experiencing any kindness, fun, or empathy during that time. Instead, I remember feeling alone, distressed, and mentally overwhelmed, as though I was “going crazy” with no one there to help me.

I understand that even the social workers involved had concerns about the care I was receiving. I was told that a social worker would become extremely angry and confront Margaret and Jim, asking them what they had done with the money that was meant for my care, but they did not provide answers. This raises serious concerns about how I was treated and neglected during that period.

I remained in that environment for approximately a year before I was finally removed and adopted. My adoptive parents have always expressed how disgusted and shocked they were that I had been left in those conditions for so long. They immediately recognised that I had been badly neglected and left without proper care, attention, or support.

When I went to live with my adoptive parents, it was clear how severely affected I was. I was an extremely anxious and worried child. I did not know how to use the toilet properly, and I had no basic early education or developmental support. I struggled significantly in all areas of my early development. My adoptive parents worked hard to support me, especially as I have since been diagnosed with autism and dyslexia. I firmly believe that the neglect and trauma I experienced at the hands of Margaret and Jim contributed significantly to these difficulties and made my challenges far worse.

The impact of what I went through has stayed with me for my entire life. I struggle deeply with trust and find it very difficult to rely on anyone. I often feel isolated and alone, as though I cannot form safe or secure attachments to others. This has affected my relationships, my sense of safety in the world, and my overall wellbeing.

At the age of 14, I was groomed by a 25-year-old man. Looking back, I now understand that I did not know right from wrong in the way I should have at that age. I was vulnerable, and I trusted too easily because I was desperate for someone to show me love and make me feel cared for. This vulnerability is directly linked to the neglect and lack of affection I experienced in early childhood.

I have suffered for my entire life as a result of what happened to me in care. I continue to live with anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and it feels like a never-ending cycle. The trauma I experienced has shaped who I am today, affecting my mental health, my physical health, my relationships, and my ability to feel safe and secure in the world. The impact has been lifelong, and I continue to struggle with the consequences every day.