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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

Michelle Kirkland

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).

Flemington House

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.

1986

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.

I was abused in my family home from a very young age. Because of this, I was removed from my family and first placed at Flemington House, Uddingston. My gran worked there at the time but she was off sick. I was kept at Flemington House while my gran was off sick. I was only meant to be there for a few weeks. During this time, I felt safe there and believed I would be okay. I even went on holiday with them, and for the first time I felt happy and relieved to be away from my home situation.

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).

Wooden Dean Children's Home

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.

1986-1988

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.

At 13 years of age, I was taken away under the Section 21 Act. I was then placed in Wooden Dean Children's Home, Blantyre, where I stayed for around one year. This period was the worst time of my life. From the moment I arrived at Wooden Dean, I knew I was not safe. My elder brother had previously been placed there, and I already knew what to expect. The mental and sexual abuse began here. The environment was chaotic and frightening. The children were left to run wild, with no proper supervision. They were violent, feral, and unpredictable. I was regularly punched, picked on, called names, and beaten up, and I was constantly forced into fights. Although this was terrifying, it was something I felt I had to cope with because there was no protection or support. Most of the time, I was left completely on my own, unless the other children were stealing my clothes and belongings. There was clear neglect — we were expected to fend for ourselves, with no care or guidance. Punishments were extreme and inappropriate. My pocket money was taken, and I was locked in my room for long periods of time, isolated and distressed. Staff allowed and encouraged me to drink alcohol, and I became an alcoholic from a very young age. There was no help, no intervention, and no support. I was told I was destined for jail if I didn't stop drinking, but alcohol was the only way I knew how to block out the trauma and abuse I was experiencing. While in Wooden Dean, I became pregnant at the age of 15 by another child in the home. The adults knew what was happening and did nothing to stop it. I was groomed and sexually assaulted. Staff deliberately moved me from a single room to a room right next door to the boy who assaulted me, which was mentally and emotionally damaging. I had no understanding of right and wrong, no protection, and no guidance. I was a child and completely vulnerable. The food situation was also neglectful. When I first arrived, meals were cooked, but after that we were left to cook for ourselves. We had very little food, extremely small portions, and it was often inedible. It was either eat what was there or go hungry, which happened frequently. I witnessed staff behaving inappropriately towards other children. I was always aware and alert because I had experienced abuse from a young age. I recognised when adults or boys were being inappropriate. I tried to stand up for myself, but when I did, I was punished and secluded, rather than protected.

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).

Strathern

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.

1988

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.

Your statement for Care setting 3 continued

I was then taken to Strathern, where I was supposed to be assessed to return home. I wasn't even there for one night. When I arrived, I asked for food because I hadn't eaten all day. I was told no and ordered to go to bed hungry. I reacted because I was starving and in pain. Instead of helping me, they sent me straight back.

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).

Wooden Dean Children's Home

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.

1989

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.

I was then placed back into Wooden Dean until around 15 years of age. At this point, I was pregnant, drinking heavily, and completely unsupported. I felt my life was already ruined. I thought I had finally escaped Wooden Dean, but I was taken right back. I was terrified. I told them I had lost the baby and said I had a termination because I was desperate for help and didn't understand what was happening. I was young, scared, and confused. I was not allowed to go back to my family, and when I had to pretend I had a miscarriage, I only managed to go to my mum's for a few days. Throughout my time in care, I was constantly bullied and targeted by both staff and children. I lived in constant fear for my life. I witnessed staff sleeping with young girls in the unit. One male staff member in particular didn't like me because he knew I wouldn't stay quiet. I called him beastly and creepy. Staff allowed the boy who got me pregnant to bring other girls into the unit deliberately to provoke and hurt me. They also encouraged me to speak on the phone to a 19-year-old man in prison, which was completely inappropriate. I had no privacy at all — staff would kick the bathroom door open while I was in the bath, leaving me humiliated and violated. As a result of everything I experienced — the neglect, mental abuse, physical abuse, and sexual abuse, both at home and more severely while in care — I have suffered devastating long-term effects. I now live with severe anxiety and PTSD, experience nightmares, and carry deep trauma. I do not trust anyone. I have been diagnosed with bipolar disorder and schizophrenia. I am deeply frustrated and distressed by how I was treated as a child, and the damage caused has followed me throughout my life.

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

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