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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

Wendy Lynch

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).

Burnside Childrens 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- 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.

Your statement for Care setting 1 continued

I was taken from my parents for no reason that I could understand at the time. I was very young, already upset and emotional, and I remember arriving here feeling terrified and fearing for my life. From the very beginning, there was no empathy, no care, and no understanding shown towards me. I felt completely alone, as if no one cared about me or what I was going through.

Not long after I arrived, the staff would scream and roar at us constantly. That was how they communicated with us—through shouting, intimidation, and fear. Even just hearing their voices would make me feel like my life was in danger. I was always on edge, always frightened, never feeling safe. Very quickly, they began to punish me by forcing me to do long stands. I would be made to stand for hours, often at night, while they mocked me and made fun of me. I was exhausted, humiliated, and terrified, but there was nothing I could do.

The abuse became physical as well. I was assaulted badly on multiple occasions. Staff would punch me, kick me, and slap me, all while laughing and trying to get a reaction out of me. I was just a child, and I did not understand why this was happening to me. I felt completely powerless and degraded.

They would often drag me to my room and seclude me there for hours at a time. I would be left alone, hungry, scared, and deeply upset. Those moments of isolation were some of the worst experiences of my life. I felt abandoned, worthless, and completely forgotten. There was no comfort, no reassurance—only fear and sadness.

They also allowed other children to pick on me and target me. Instead of protecting me, they let it happen, which made everything worse. I was being hurt not only by the staff but also by other children, and it made me feel like I had no one at all. I was suffering both mentally and physically, and it was clear that no one cared.

I clearly remember being physically restrained by four large staff members. This happened regularly, often over the smallest and most insignificant things. Each time, I would be left badly bruised and in pain. The force they used was excessive and frightening. I didn't understand the rules or the punishments, but I knew they were not right and that they were hurting me.

On top of the physical abuse, I was verbally abused daily. I was constantly shouted at, insulted, and made to feel worthless. Over time, I began to believe what they were saying about me. My body was always aching from the physical harm, and my mind was constantly overwhelmed with fear and distress. I was suffering like this for years.

Even after being moved away, I was later sent back there again, and the same abuse continued. It felt like there was no escape for me. No one ever stepped in to protect me, and no one showed me any care or concern. I truly believed that no one cared about me whatsoever.

The impact of everything I went through has stayed with me for my entire life. It has caused me severe anxiety and PTSD. I struggle every day with normal activities that others take for granted. I experience fear, distress, and emotional pain that I cannot easily control. The trauma I suffered as a child has affected my mental health deeply and continues to shape my life even now. I have carried this suffering with me for years, and it has had a lasting and damaging effect on my wellbeing, my relationships, and my ability to feel safe and secure in the world.

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).

Strathcaron childrens 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.

1986-1990

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.

Your statement for Care setting 2 continued

I was then moved to another place where the abuse continued. When I arrived here, I was already suffering deeply because of everything I had experienced before, but no one showed any care or concern for my feelings or my health. Instead of helping me, they made everything worse.

From the very beginning, they added to the mental abuse. Staff would call me names and deliberately torment me to try and get a reaction out of me. They allowed other children to target me as well. I was constantly being picked on, provoked, and physically bothered by other children—pulling my hair, prodding me, and trying to upset me. This happened all the time, and I felt completely exposed and unprotected.

The name-calling was constant. I was called nasty, horrible names throughout the day and was singled out repeatedly. It felt like I was being targeted on purpose, both by staff and other children. There was no escape from it, and it wore me down mentally.

The staff were also very physical when it came to restraining me. These restraints were extremely aggressive and frightening. They would bend my arms and legs back in painful positions, throw me around, and sit on me in a way that left me struggling to breathe. I remember feeling completely helpless and terrified during these incidents. I thought I was going to be seriously hurt. The force they used was overwhelming, and it caused me both physical pain and deep emotional trauma.

The level of mental abuse I experienced here was unbearable. I reached a point where I could not cope anymore. I began to feel suicidal because I saw no way out of what I was going through. I was overwhelmed by fear, distress, and hopelessness. I could not control my emotions because of everything that was happening to me and everything I had already been through.

What made it even worse was that I had no one to talk to. I had no support, no one I could trust, and no one I could cry out to for help. I felt completely alone and abandoned while I was suffering so badly. This experience had a severe impact on my mental health, and it is something that has stayed with me ever since.

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).

Carolina 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.

1989-2001

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.

Your statement for Care setting 3 continued

I was then placed into Carolina House to do life skills, but this was another place where I did not receive the help I needed. By this point, I was already struggling badly to move on with my life because I could not cope with everything that had happened to me before or understand how it had affected me. Instead of being supported, I felt like I was left to deal with everything on my own.

I did not learn anything meaningful there. I was not properly supported or educated, and I felt like I was just existing rather than being helped to develop or move forward. I remember on several occasions being physically restrained, but it did not feel like restraint—it felt like I was being assaulted. The way I was handled was aggressive, painful, and frightening, and it added even more trauma to what I had already experienced.

I have never seen my files from that time, and I would really want to see them. I would like to know what has been written about me and how my experiences were recorded, because from my perspective, I was not treated fairly or truthfully. I feel like I was used and mistreated repeatedly, rather than being cared for or supported.

The way I was treated in Carolina House has left a lasting impact on me. I feel like they took advantage of me and continued to hurt me over and over again. Because of everything I went through, I have lost faith in people and in humanity. The staff intimidated me, scared me, and were very physical when restraining me, which only reinforced the fear and trauma I was already carrying.

On a daily basis, I was made to feel worthless. I was made to feel like I had no value, and over time I began to believe that about myself. I also felt stupid because I was not properly educated or supported in learning basic life skills, which is what I was supposed to be there for. Instead of being built up, I was broken down further.

Looking back, I feel like I suffered everywhere I was placed and was failed by everyone in my life who was supposed to protect and support me. That sense of being let down has stayed with me.

Even to this day, I continue to suffer the effects of what I went through. I live with severe anxiety, depression, PTSD, and ongoing nightmares. These experiences have had such a deep impact on me that I am now largely housebound. I struggle every single day with trust, and I do not go out unless it is absolutely necessary. I do not feel safe in the world, and I do not feel like I have a normal life. The trauma I experienced has shaped my life in a lasting and very damaging way, and it continues to affect my ability to function, feel secure, and live freely.

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)