

Meetings to talk about redress



Easy Read



What is redress?



If you have suffered **abuse in care** you could get money from the Scottish Government.

Abuse means when one person hurts or treats another person badly.

The money is called **redress**.



Being **in care** means a child or young person has lived with and been cared for by someone other than their family at some point in their life

This could be:

- in a children's home
- in a foster home
- schools including **residential** schools where pupils live there
- in a **young offender's institution** – this is a prison for young people aged 16 to 21



You could also get an **apology** from the Scottish Government.



An **apology** means saying sorry for something that has happened.

A redress scheme has been set up to help you make a claim.



At Redress Scotland when we say an **in-person meeting** this can mean a meeting:

- in the same room
- **online** – this means on a computer, laptop, tablet or mobile phone
- or on the phone



The meeting is a way to meet with a group of people called **panel members** to talk about abuse that happened to you.

Panel members will decide what redress you should get.

Where does a meeting happen?

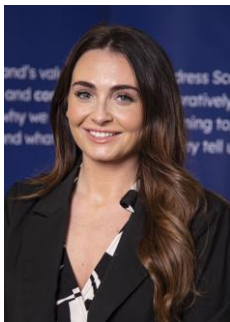


It is important that you feel comfortable at the meeting and can give the panel members as much information as you want.



Your caseworker will ask what will suit you best and arrange the meeting.

Or you can do this with the Redress Scotland Engagement Lead.



Her name is Rachael Boyle.



The meeting will be somewhere that suits you like:

- in a hotel
- in the office of your solicitor
- online
- or by telephone

Why might you be invited to a meeting?



The panel members may invite you to an meeting:

- to find out more about abuse that happened to you
- if they feel there is no other way for them to get more information



This will help them to make a decision.



The panel members will only invite you to an in-person meeting if they feel there is no other way for them to get more information.



The information you give must be true and correct.

Who comes to the meeting?



You, the panel members and Redress Scotland's Engagement Lead will be at the meeting.

You may also want your legal representative or a supporter to attend.



If you bring a trusted friend or family member with you for support, they can stay with you or wait for you outside the meeting room.

What happens on the day of the meeting?



Each meeting will be different.

Usually you will first meet the Engagement Lead who will:

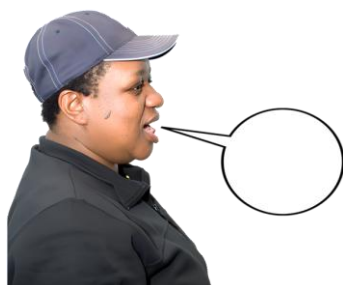
- go over what to expect and make sure that you are comfortable



- answer any questions you have about the meeting with the panel members
- help you at the meeting



When you feel comfortable you will meet the panel members.



You can choose to talk freely or the panel members will ask you some questions so that they are clear about what happened to you.



You do not have to answer any questions that you do not want to.

You do not have to give a reason for not answering any questions.



You can take a break or stop the meeting at any time.

How many panel members will be at the meeting?



Usually there is only 1 panel member at the meeting.

What happens after the meeting?



The Engagement Lead can speak with you before and after the meeting and arrange any support you need.

Your caseworker can arrange any help that you need in the weeks after the meeting.



You will get a copy of the note of the discussion.

When you are happy that the note is correct it will be added to your application and shared with the panel members.

Do you have to go to the meeting?



You do not have to go to the meeting.

If you do not go to the meeting then the panel will make a decision using the information that it has.

Will I have to pay to be at the meeting?



If you are meeting face to face your travel costs to attend the meeting and return home will be paid for you.

Contact your Scottish Government caseworker to arrange this.



There will be tea, coffee and biscuits at the meeting.

What if I cannot attend on the day?



You may not be able to make the date or you may decide that you do not want to attend anymore.

To suit you the meeting can be:

- **cancelled** – this means the meeting will not happen



- **postponed** – this means the meeting will happen on another date



- **paused** – this means the meeting will stop for a short time and then start again



Please let the Engagement Lead or your caseworker know as soon as possible what would suit you best.

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