

Community Affairs Legislation Committee
INQUIRY INTO THE NATIONAL REDRESS SCHEME FOR INSTITUTIONAL
CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE BILL 2018 AND RELATED BILL
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

Topic: National Redress Scheme

Question reference number: 1

Senator: Senator Rachel Siewert

Type of question: Pre Hearing Question

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 12 June 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: The Catholic Church has announced an entity which will be the body to handle Redress - does this body include all Catholic organisations including the Christian Brothers?

Answer: The Department is working with the Catholic Church to finalise arrangements on how it will structure itself to participate in the Scheme. The Department does not yet have final advice from the Catholic Church on which organisations will be part of those arrangements.

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Department of Social Services

Topic: National Redress Scheme

Question reference number: 2

Senator: Senator Rachel Siewert

Type of question: Pre Hearing Question

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 12 June 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: Will people now overseas be able to apply?

Answer: There are no restrictions preventing a person from applying for redress if they live overseas. However, to be eligible for redress, a person must be an Australian citizen or a permanent resident at the time of their application.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

INQUIRY INTO THE NATIONAL REDRESS SCHEME FOR INSTITUTIONAL CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE BILL 2018 AND RELATED BILL ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

Topic: Prior payments.

Question reference number: 3

Senator: Senator Rachel Siewart

Type of question: Pre Hearing Question

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 6 June 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: When indexing past payments will any lawyer's fees paid be excluded from the indexation process?

Answer:

A relevant prior payment is one that was made by (or on behalf of) a responsible participating institution in recognition of the harm caused by child sexual and related non-sexual abuse that the institution is responsible for, or in recognition of such abuse itself.

Where a prior payment was broken down into monetary components (dollar amounts) to cover multiple purposes and only some of those purposes were in recognition of the harm or abuse for which the institution is responsible, each component will be treated as if it was a separate payment. Only those components paid in recognition of the harm or abuse will be adjusted for inflation and then deducted from the person's redress payment. If legal fees are specified as a separate component, the legal fees will not be adjusted for inflation and then deducted from the person's redress payment.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

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Department of Social Services

Topic: Redress for those that were not sexually abused.

Question reference number: 4

Senator: Senator Rachel Siewart

Type of question: Pre Hearing Question

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 6 June 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: Is the Government considering any scheme, redress for abuse of children in institutional settings that were not sexually abused? If so, what is the time line? If not, why not?

Answer: The National Redress Scheme aligns with the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to child sexual abuse. The Royal Commission did not make any recommendations about providing redress for non-sexual abuse that was not experienced in conjunction with institutional child sexual abuse.