

Community Affairs Legislation Committee

INQUIRY INTO THE COMMONWEALTH REDRESS SCHEME FOR SURVIVORS OF INSTITUTIONAL CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE BILL 2017 AND RELATED BILL – 16 FEBRUARY 2018 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

Topic: \$150,000 monetary redress payment maximum amount

Question reference number: QON1_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Murray Watt

Type of question: Hansard page 67

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 02 March 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: [In relation to setting the \$150,000 limit] - Do you know whether other Departments were involved in that?

Answer: The monetary payment cap was a decision of Government. We are unable to advise whether other departments were involved as this information is part of deliberations of Cabinet.

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Department of Social Services

Topic: Figures and assumptions for modelling the average payment

Question reference number: QON2_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Murray Watt

Type of question: Hansard page 68

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 02 March 2018

Number of pages: 2

Question: Provide figures and assumptions that went into modelling the expected average payment.

Answer:

The Department procured PwC to undertake an analysis of the proposed monetary payment assessment matrix (matrix) and estimate the average monetary payment amount. The analysis included:

- modelling an indicative payment distribution by applying the matrix to Redress Western Australia assessment data
- extrapolating the payment distribution to the expected number of National Redress Scheme participants and conducting scenario analysis on the payment distribution
- applying abuse severity between residential and non-residential settings based on data from the Royal Commission private sessions.

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Department of Social Services

Topic: Cost of consultants for modelling average payment

Question reference number: QON3_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Murray Watt

Type of question: Hansard page 68

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 02 March 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: How much Finity Consulting have been paid for modelling the average payment?

Answer: Finity Consulting was not procured for modelling the average payment. They undertook work on estimated participant numbers in the Scheme. The modelling was done by PWC at a cost of \$94,106.

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Department of Social Services

Topic: Quantum of costs

Question reference number: QON4_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Murray Watt

Type of question: Hansard page 69

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 02 March 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: What is the overall quantum that is expected to be paid out and of that quantum, how much will be paid out separately by the Commonwealth, states, and territories?

Answer: The quantum to be paid out by responsible institutions will be dependent on a number of factors:

- which states, territories and non-government institutions opt into the Scheme
- how many eligible survivors will apply for the Scheme
- the final policy parameters of the Scheme.

Until a time where there is more clarity on these factors, the Department of Social Services cannot provide an accurate estimate on these figures.

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Department of Social Services

Topic: Workshopping of Bill with survivor groups

Question reference number: QON5_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Susan Lines

Type of question: Hansard page 71

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 02 March 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: Which survivor groups have DSS/ DHS workshopped with on the bill?

Answer: Survivor groups have informed the content of the Bill through the Independent Advisory Council on Redress, which included representatives from the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VIC), People with Disability (NSW), Alliance for Forgotten Australians (VIC), Uniting Care Queensland (QLD), Ballarat Centre for Sexual Assault (VIC), Blue Knot Foundation (NSW), Care Leavers Australasia Network (NSW) and Healing Foundation (QLD).

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Department of Social Services

Topic: Sharing of the Bill with organisations

Question reference number: QON6_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Susan Lines

Type of question: Hansard page 71

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 02 March 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: What dates were particular drafts of the bill shared with particular organisations?

Answer: The Independent Advisory Council on Redress, which included representatives from a number of different survivor groups, was sent the Commonwealth Redress Bill on 25 October 2017.

All state and territory governments were provided with copies of the draft National Redress Bill (which facilitates the participation of states) on 19 July 2017, 22 September 2017 and 7 February 2018. Key non-government organisations were provided with copies of the draft National Redress Bill on 22 September 2017.

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Department of Social Services

Topic: Consultation on the monetary payment assessment matrix

Question reference number: QON7_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Murray Watt

Type of question: Hansard page 71

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 02 March 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: Have any representatives of survivors of abuse have been consulted about the assessment matrix?

Answer: The Independent Advisory Council on Redress (IAC) was consulted on the structure and elements of the monetary payment assessment matrix for the Scheme. The IAC consisted of experts from a variety of backgrounds including survivors and advocates, such as the Alliance for Forgotten Australians, the Care Leavers Australasia Network and the Blueknot Foundation, as well as experts on legal, psychological and redress issues.

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Department of Social Services

Topic: Redress Support Services – Client transition arrangements

Question reference number: QON8_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Susan Lines

Type of question: Hansard page 72

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 02 March 2018

Number of pages: 2

Question: What advice has been provided to support services about transition arrangements for survivors?

Answer: The Department wrote to all Royal Commission Community Based Support Services in mid-January 2018 to provide advice about the cessation of the Royal Commission Support Services funding program on 30 June 2018. It noted the continued support that services should provide to survivors until this time, and noted the Department would assist with transitioning clients as required, from 1 July 2018 (Letter at **Attachment A**).

The Department also provides advice to Royal Commission Community Based Support Services during regular state-based meetings between providers and their local Grant Agreement Manager.

At the request of some current support services, the Department provided advice on transition pathways for people who will not be eligible for Redress. The Department also noted the many other Commonwealth services available to assist these people (for example, Find & Connect).

This advice was shared with service providers in meetings in early February in Queensland and Victoria.

The Department also reiterated that people who may be engaging with the Redress Scheme should continue to be supported.

The Department held a subsequent teleconference with all Royal Commission Support Services on 22 February 2018 to provide further information and support.

Dear

Royal Commission Community-Based Support Services program arrangements

Your organisation's current grant agreement is due to end on 30 June 2018. The Department of Social Services (the Department) would like to thank you for the assistance your organisation has provided to people engaging with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission).

Your Grant Agreement Manager will discuss with you, closer to June 2018, the wind down of the Royal Commission Community Based Support Services Activity and your proposed strategy to transition clients, as required, to alternate appropriate support services from 1 July 2018. Please note all Milestones in the Agreement for this Activity will continue as usual.

The Department would like to engage with you about new Redress Support Services the Australian Government has committed to as part of the Commonwealth Redress Scheme for survivors of institutional child sexual abuse (the Scheme). These community-based support services will be available to assist survivors during the Scheme application process and are expected to commence from 1 July 2018. We will be in touch shortly to provide details of a design workshop in Canberra in mid-February 2018.

The new Redress Support Services will be appointed through a grants selection process, details of which are currently being finalised. It is anticipated that further information about this process will be available to you by the end of March 2018.

We understand that the conclusion of the Royal Commission will bring mixed emotion for survivors, and that many are anxiously awaiting the commencement of the Redress Scheme. The support provided through Royal Commission Support Services will continue to be important over the coming months and we thank you for your continued support for survivors during this time.

If you have any questions please contact your, Grant Agreement Manager on email or phone. For further information about Redress please refer to the Department's website at www.dss.gov.au/redress.

Yours sincerely

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Department of Social Services

Topic: Redress Support Services – Design Workshops

Question reference number: QON9_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Susan Lines

Type of question: Hansard page 72

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 02 March 2018

Number of pages: 8

Question:

Can the Department provide the committee with the attendance list and agenda for the February Redress Support Services Design workshops.

Answer:

Workshop – Supporting Indigenous people to access Redress (15 February 2018)

On 15 February 2018, providers were invited to participate in a 2 hour workshop to focus on how Redress Support Services will support survivors who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Eight organisations attended the workshop –

- Link up (NSW) Aboriginal Corporation
- Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency
- Nunkuwarrin Yunti of South Australia Incorporated
- Relationships Australia (SA)
- Link Up (QLD)
- Kimberley Stolen Generation
- Yorgum
- Healing Foundation

Representatives from the Department of Social Services also attended the workshop.

No official agenda was distributed but the purpose of the workshop was outlined in the email invitation at **Attachment A**. The workshop offered an overview of the Draft Bill and Scheme, open discussion on issues, and discussion on the needs of survivors as they engage with the Redress Scheme.

Workshop – Redress Support Services Design Hub Workshop (16 February 2018)

On 16 February 2018, all current Royal Commission Community-Based Support Service providers were invited to attend a workshop at the Department of Human Services Design Hub to provide input into the design of Redress Support Services. An outline of the purpose of the workshop was provided in the email invitation at **Attachment B**.

Of the 37 funded organisations, 33 attended the workshop (See **Attachment C**).

The workshop run sheet used by officials is provided at **Attachment D**.

From: RedressTaskforce

Sent: Thursday, 25 January 2018 5:41pm

Subject: RSVP Required: Redress Support Services Workshop – 15 and 16 February 2018

Dear Royal Commission Community-Based Support Services

As mentioned in our letter sent to you in mid-January 2018, the Department of Social Services in partnership with the Department of Human Services is holding a workshop with stakeholders on **Friday 16 February 2018** in Canberra to seek input into the design of Redress Support Services. The objectives of the proposed Redress Support Services (RSS) will be to provide free, trauma-informed, flexible and timely supports to all survivors of institutional child sexual abuse engaging with the Commonwealth Redress Scheme.

The Department would also like to hold a two-hour workshop to focus on how RSS will be able to support survivors who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. This workshop will take place on **Thursday 15 February 2018** at the DSS National Office in Canberra.

The Royal Commission Community Based Support services have been instrumental in supporting people engaging with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. As we are designing Redress Support Services, we are mindful that of the need to deliver culturally appropriate services. We recognise that over the last five years, your organisation has developed extensive knowledge and expertise in supporting Indigenous survivors of institutional child sexual abuse. Your insights in providing these services would be particularly valuable to inform the design of the new Redress Support Services.

Time/Location

We are writing to see if someone from your organisation would like to share their experiences in supporting Indigenous survivors in the following consultations:

Workshop – Supporting Indigenous people to access Redress

Date: Thursday 15 February, 3pm – 5pm

Location: DSS National Office, 71 Athllon Dr, Greenway (approx. 30 mins from airport)

Redress Support Services Design Workshop

Date: Friday 16 February, 9.30am – 4.30pm

Location: Department of Human Services Design Hub, The Department of Finance, 1 Canberra Ave, Forrest ACT 2603 (approx. 20 mins from airport)

Travel

Please email redresstaskforce@dss.gov.au the below travel details, and we will book flights and accommodation (if required) on your behalf at no cost. We will also cover the costs of transport to and from DSS National Office for the Indigenous RSS workshop on 15 February. Attendees will be required to cover all other costs (like transport to and from the airport).

Preferred flights will be booked only where the price is comparable to the cheapest fare of the day – otherwise cheaper flights leaving/arriving at similar times will be booked as per DSS Travel Policy. Accommodation within walking distance to the Design Hub will be booked

where there are no suitable flight to allow same day travel. The Department will not reimburse costs for flights or accommodation booked privately.

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided. For catering purposes, please advise if you have any dietary requirements.

Attendees details	
Name:	
Role:	
Contact Number:	
Email Address:	
Dietary requirements:	
Flight to Canberra	
Travelling from (city):	
Preferred Time:	
Frequent Flyer Number/s:	
Accommodation 15 Feb:	Yes / No
Return Flight	
Travelling to (city):	
Preferred Time:	

To enable us to confirm numbers and catering requirements, please RSVP and provide dietary and travel details by **Friday 2 February 2018**. If you have any questions or would like any further information, please contact us at redresstaskforce@dss.gov.au.

Kind regards

Redress Branch
Department of Social Services
E: redresstaskforce@dss.gov.au

From: RedressTaskforce

Sent: Thursday, 25 January 2018 5:38pm

Subject: RSVP Required: Redress Support Services Workshop – 16 February 2018

Dear Royal Commission Community-Based Support Services

As mentioned in our letter sent to you in mid-January 2018, the Department of Social Services in partnership with the Department of Human Services is holding a workshop with stakeholders on **Friday 16 February 2018** in Canberra to seek input into the design of Redress Support Services. The objectives of the proposed Redress Support Services will be to provide free, trauma-informed, flexible and timely supports to all survivors of institutional child sexual abuse engaging with the Commonwealth Redress Scheme.

The Royal Commission Community-Based Support services have been instrumental in supporting people engaging with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. We recognise that over the last five years, your organisation has developed extensive knowledge and expertise in supporting survivors of child sexual abuse. Your insights in providing these services would be particularly valuable to inform the design of the new Redress Support Services.

We are writing to see if someone from your organisation would like to participate in the Redress Support Services design workshop and share their experiences in supporting survivors of child sexual abuse.

Time/Location

Date: Friday 16 February, 9.30am – 4.30pm

Location: Department of Human Services Design Hub (approx. 20 mins from airport)
The Department of Finance Building, 1 Canberra Ave, Forrest ACT 2603

Travel

Please email redresstaskforce@dss.gov.au the below travel details, and we will book flights and accommodation (if required) on your behalf at no cost. Attendees will be required to cover all other costs (like transport to and from the airport).

Preferred flights will be booked only where the price is comparable to the cheapest fare of the day – otherwise cheaper flights leaving/arriving at similar times will be booked as per DSS Travel Policy. Accommodation within walking distance to the Design Hub will be booked where there are no suitable flight to allow same day travel. The Department will not reimburse costs for flights or accommodation booked privately.

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided. For catering purposes, please advise if you have any dietary requirements.

Attendees details	
Name:	
Role:	
Contact Number:	
Email Address:	

Dietary requirements:	
Flight to Canberra	
Travelling from (city):	
Preferred Time:	
Frequent Flyer Number/s:	
Return Flight	
Travelling to (city):	
Preferred Time:	

To enable us to confirm numbers and catering requirements, please RSVP and provide dietary and travel details by **Friday 2 February 2018**. If you have any questions or would like any further information, please contact us at redresstaskforce@dss.gov.au.

Kind regards

Redress Branch
Department of Social Services
E: redresstaskforce@dss.gov.au

Organisations that attended Redress Support Services Design Workshop (16 February 2018)

- Micah Projects
- The Corporation of the Synod of the Diocese of Brisbane
- Bravehearts
- Link-Up (QLD) Aboriginal Corporation
- Centre Against Sexual Assault
- Relationships Australia (QLD)
- Anglicare WA
- Relationships Australia WA
- Yorgum
- Kimberley Stolen Generation Aboriginal Corporation
- Relationships Australia NT
- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation
- People With Disability Australia Incorporated
- Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia Incorporated
- Interrelate
- Link-Up NSW
- Blue Knot Foundation
- Relationships Australia NSW
- Canberra Rape Crisis Centre
- Sexual Assault Support Service Inc (SASS)
- Relationships Australia TAS
- In Good Faith Foundation Ltd
- Berry Street Victoria Inc.
- Relationships Australia VIC
- Child Wise Limited
- Children and Young People with Disability Australia
- Drummond Street Services Inc.
- Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency
- Tzedek Inc
- Child Migrants Trust Inc
- Relationships Australia SA
- Victim Support Service Incorporated
- Nunkuwarrin Yunti of South Australia Incorporated
- Department of Social Services
- Department of Human Services

Commonwealth Redress Support Services workshop Agenda
16 February 2018

Time	Activity
9:30- 10:30	Intro to Hub, scope, objectives. Overview and background of Redress Scheme Q&A
10:30-10:45	Morning Tea
10:45- 11:25	Step into the shoes of the survivors and add characteristics known for this cohort of users.
11:25- 12:55	In groups work through the Redress survivor journey map from a survivor perspective. Discovery- Application- Assessment- Outcome. Thinking about their experience and support needs at the various stages. Identify how they will be supported and when.
12:55- 1:20	Lunch
1:20- 2:40	Join 2 personas and review what the similarities and differences are from a support services point of view- how different is the support they need? Teams highlight what the role of support services is and isn't when supporting survivors. Share findings with the whole group.
2:40- 2:55	Afternoon tea
2:55- 3:30	Develop Principles to guide the delivery of support for survivors in the scheme.
3:30- 3:55	Group discussion, next steps, wrap up

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Department of Social Services

Topic: Acceptance period for offers of redress

Question reference number: QON10_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Murray Watt

Type of question: Hansard pages 74

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 02 March 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: Was it a departmental recommendation to go with three months for timeframe of acceptance or was that a decision of government?

Answer: The 90-day acceptance timeframe was a decision of government made in consultation with states and territories.

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INQUIRY INTO THE COMMONWEALTH REDRESS SCHEME FOR SURVIVORS OF INSTITUTIONAL CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE BILL 2017 AND RELATED BILL – 16 FEBRUARY 2018

Department of Social Services

Topic: Responsibility for child migrants

Question reference number: QON11_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Louise Pratt

Type of question: Hansard page 77

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 02 March 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: What thinking has been done on responsibility for child migrants through the Commonwealth Child Migration Scheme, especially those settled in Western Australia?

Answer: The Department has undertaken research on this matter and consulted with officials from the Department of Home Affairs, the Interdepartmental Committee on Redress and states and territories. The government position on this issue is still being worked through in consultation with other departments and other governments and is not yet finalised.

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Department of Social Services

Topic: Number of child migrants

Question reference number: QON12_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Louise Pratt

Type of question: Hansard page 77

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 02 March 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: What is the number of child migrants brought into Australia under the Commonwealth scheme and which states were these children in?

Answer: In accordance with the Department's website, an estimated 7,000 children known as former child migrants arrived in Australia through historical child migration schemes until 1970 and were subsequently placed in institutional or other out-of-home care. The Commonwealth does not hold a breakdown of the number of children who resided in each respective state or territory.

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Department of Social Services

Topic: Independent Advisory Council

Question reference number: QON13_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Claire Moore

Type of question: Hansard page 77

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 March 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question:

How many times has the Independent Advisory Council met in the consultation process?

Answer:

The Independent Advisory Council has met on seven occasions.

Community Affairs Legislation Committee

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Department of Social Services

Topic: Decision behind limiting eligibility

Question reference number: QON14_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Claire Moore

Type of question: Hansard page 77

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 02 March 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: How was the decision to limit eligibility for redress to Australian citizens reached?
Was the Independent Advisory Council consulted?

Answer: It was a decision by Government. The Independent Advisory Council was not consulted on this issue.

Community Affairs Legislation Committee

INQUIRY INTO THE COMMONWEALTH REDRESS SCHEME FOR SURVIVORS OF INSTITUTIONAL CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE BILL 2017 AND RELATED BILL – 16 FEBRUARY 2018 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

Topic: Eligibility exclusions for survivors with criminal convictions

Question reference number: QON15_Redress Hearing_16 February 2018

Senator: Claire Moore

Type of question: Hansard page 77

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 02 March 2018

Number of pages: 1

Question: How was the decision to exclude those who have been convicted of offences reached? What was the background?

Answer: This policy was a decision of Government, made in consultation with state and territory Ministers responsible for redress.