



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

An open letter about the review of the National Redress Scheme

Hello

My name is Robyn Kruk, and I am the independent reviewer for the National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse. I want to hear from you about how it is working.

The National Redress Scheme was established in response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The Scheme helps people who have experienced institutional child sexual abuse access counselling, a direct personal response and a redress payment. It is, more importantly, also a formal and important acknowledgement that many children were sexually abused in Australian institutions, and it holds institutions to account for this abuse.

The review I am undertaking is required by legislation. It will consider such matters as the implementation, operation and administration of the Scheme, and people's experiences. The review will also consider the financial arrangements that support the Scheme, and the support that is provided to people who apply or are thinking about applying.

I would like to hear views from as many people as I can. While I would like to hear from you through a series of face-to-face discussions across the country, because of the coronavirus pandemic, it is not possible for me to do this immediately. Instead, I invite you, your family members, support services and advocates to contribute to the review either by written submission or by participating in a request for feedback on the National Redress website. I want to hear from people who have applied, as well as those that have not.

How to get involved

Information about the review can be found at <https://www.nationalredress.gov.au>

You can provide input to the review through a submission or through a feedback study. We are accepting submissions now and until 30 September 2020.

Public submissions made to parliamentary committees and oral evidence to the committees will also be considered during the course of the review.

The feedback study will commence in August 2020. This study will invite you to respond to a number of questions about the Scheme. It is designed to help me understand people's experience through the application process and if you have not applied, or have halted your application, why that is so. Further information on this study and how you can contribute will be posted on this website in early August 2020.

If you have any questions about the review please email my team at Redressreview@dss.gov.au

I am very pleased to be leading this review and I appreciate you taking the time to share your views with me.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Kruk'.

Robyn Kruk AO
Reviewer
14 July 2020