



Making things right: Participating in the National Redress Scheme

What is the National Redress Scheme?

The [National Redress Scheme](#) (the Scheme) provides acknowledgment and support to people who experienced sexual abuse as children in institutional settings.

Support offered to eligible applicants to the Scheme can include:

- Access to counselling and psychological care
- A direct personal response
- A monetary payment.

A survivor can only access this support if the institution responsible for their abuse has joined the Scheme.

The Scheme is operated by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. The Government of South Australia is participating in the Scheme and contributes to its governance.

What is an institution?

Sport and recreation clubs, organisations and associations are institutions, for the purposes of the Scheme.

Nationally, 492 non-government institutions are participating in the Scheme, covering almost 65,900 sites.

In South Australia, a wide range of sport and recreation associations of all sizes have joined the Scheme to help make things right.

What happens if an institution is named in an application?

When an institution has been named in an application to the Scheme for the first time, the Australian Government will inform that institution.

Do I have to join the Scheme?

Participating in the Scheme, before being named in an application to the Scheme, is voluntary.

However, if an institution is named in an application for redress as having been responsible for the abuse of a person, it **must engage** with the Australian Government to determine if it can **afford to join**.

The Australian Government will work collaboratively with the institution to estimate the potential cost to the institution

of participating in the Scheme.

If the institution has the funds to meet that cost, it will be expected to join the Scheme within **six months** of being informed by the Australian Government.

Similarly, if the institution can demonstrate that it does not have the funds to meet that cost, it will not be expected to join.

What happens if I don't join the Scheme?

Sanctions could apply if the institution refuses or fails to engage with the Australian Government.

Sanctions could also apply if the institution refuses or fails to agree to join the Scheme within six months, if it can afford to do so.

Sanctions are a measure of last resort. They are rarely relied upon because sport and recreation institutions in South Australia understand that it is their **moral obligation** to join the Scheme when named in an application to the Scheme.

Institutions that join the Scheme, without being named in an application, reflect gold standard. These institutions lead by example and are perceived well by the community as a result.

Most institutions that are named in an application for redress help **make things right** by joining the Scheme.

What are the benefits of joining the Scheme?

There are many benefits to joining the Scheme. They include:

- Providing survivors with access to the justice and support they need and deserve
- Restoring trust
- Repairing relationships
- Avoiding the need to go to court.

Who can I contact for more information?

For specific queries, please contact the Australian Government Department of Social Services via email at RedressInstitutions@dss.gov.au

