

# Joint Select Committee on the National Redress Scheme: Have your say

This fact sheet explains the work of the Joint Select Committee on Implementation of the National Redress Scheme for people interested in having their say on how the Scheme is working.

## What is the Joint Select Committee?

The Joint Select Committee (the Committee) was set up by the Australian Parliament. It has been asked to examine how the Australian Government has responded to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse's recommendations about redress, including the National Redress Scheme (NRS).

## What is the Committee doing?

A key focus for the Committee is hearing about people's experiences with the NRS and finding out how it's working — what's working well, what isn't and how can it be improved.

The Committee released its [first interim report](#) on May 1, 2020. It included several recommendations for improving the NRS.

The Committee plans to release a second interim report by January 30, 2021, and a

final report in May 2022. These reports will be given to the Australian Parliament and published on the Committee's website.

## Who is on the Committee?

Ten Members of Parliament make up the Committee. They come from the Liberal Party, the Labor Party, the Nationals and the Greens, and include people who were social workers, researchers, lawyers and paediatricians before they entered politics.

## Who can have their say?

Everyone can have their say, including:

- survivors who have applied for redress
- survivors who haven't applied for redress
- family members, friends and anyone else who has helped someone with the NRS

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Image inspired by original artwork by Dean Bell depicting knowmore's connection to the towns, cities, missions and settlements within Australia.

knowmore acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands across Australia upon which we live and work. We pay our deep respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

## How can I have my say?

The best way to have your say is by making a submission to the Committee. This involves talking about your experiences with the NRS in your own words. You can also tell the Committee what you think needs to change.

Most people will write their submission, but there is no set format. The Committee can also accept video or audio submissions.

You can make your submission to the Committee any time. We have some information to help you make your submission on our website: [knowmore.org.au](https://knowmore.org.au).

## What if I'm not sure about having my say?

You might like to think about the following things when making your decision:

- You don't have to talk about the abuse that happened to you as a child.
- You can request that your views are kept private.

- What you say won't affect the outcome of your redress application.
- Talking about your experiences may trigger strong feelings. Our guide, 'Tips for making a submission', has some information to help you through this.

It might also help to talk to someone you trust.

## Where can I get more information?

You can read knowmore's tips for making a submission to the Committee on our website: [knowmore.org.au](https://knowmore.org.au).

You can find out more about the Committee's work on its website: [www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Joint/National\\_Redress\\_Scheme](https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/National_Redress_Scheme).

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