

THE HON PAUL FLETCHER MP

Minister for Families and Social Services

MEDIA RELEASE

13 December 2018

First Catholic institutions join National Redress Scheme

Federal Minister for Families and Social Services, Paul Fletcher, has announced that the first groups of Catholic institutions have entered the National Redress Scheme.

Mr Fletcher said 27 of the 35 Dioceses and Archdioceses within Australia, represented by Australian Catholic Redress Limited, are now participating in the Scheme.

The first Catholic Religious Order, the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits), also joined today.

"Many survivors of institutional child sexual abuse have been waiting for Catholic institutions to join the Redress Scheme since they announced their intention in May 2018," Mr Fletcher said.

"This is a good start and it's good news for those survivors who will now be able to have their applications processed.

"I strongly encourage and expect remaining institutions, no matter how small or large, to join as quickly as possible so we can provide redress to those who are waiting."

The Catholic institutions who have joined the National Redress Scheme are:

- Archdiocese of Adelaide
- Archdiocese of Brisbane
- Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn
- Archdiocese of Hobart
- Archdiocese of Melbourne
- Archdiocese of Sydney
- Diocese of Armidale
- Diocese of Ballarat

- Diocese of Bathurst
- Diocese of Broken Bay
- Diocese of Cairns
- Diocese of Darwin
- Diocese of Lismore
- Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle
- Diocese of Parramatta
- Diocese of Port Pirie
- Diocese of Rockhampton
- Diocese of Sale
- Diocese of Sandhurst
- Diocese of Toowoomba
- Diocese of Townsville
- Diocese of Wagga Wagga
- Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes
- Diocese of Wollongong
- Maronite Catholic Eparchy of Saint Maron of Sydney (Maronites)
- Military Ordinarite of Australia
- Syro Malabar Eparchy of St Thomas
- The Society of Jesus (the Jesuits).

To join, these institutions demonstrated their capacity to pay redress, demonstrated how they will provide a meaningful direct personal response, provided details of current and historic institutional information, completed relevant training and signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Social Services.

The National Redress Scheme can provide counselling, a direct personal response from the responsible institution(s) (such as an apology), and a redress payment.

For more information, including a searchable list of the local sites that have joined the Scheme visit www.nationalredress.gov.au/institutions.

ENDS

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