

## Redress Scheme

### 1. Can you please confirm why the funding for this project extends into 2021 and 2022 when the scheme itself closes in 2020?

The scheme closes to new applications in July 2020, however there are multiple factors which will extend the timeframe. These include:

- a. With schemes of this nature it is simple not possible to predict the number of applications that will be received or, more pertinently, the complexity of those applications. Our experience from the first Historic Abuse Redress scheme (HARS 1) tells us that a small number of applications could take 18 to 24 months to determine because of gaps in evidence or potentially contradictory evidence. Those applications will, by their nature, usually attract a high rate of payment.
- b. Where an offer is made some applicants:
  - may appeal that offer, and the appeal process will take time
  - may initially reject the offer for payment, but then change their mind in the six months grace period allowed under the terms of the scheme
  - may take a significant period of time to either reject or accept the offer (there will be a number of applicants who live chaotic lives and our experience of HARS 1 tells us that some applicants may simply dropped off the radar for months at a time before resurfacing)
- c. Therapy monies; Part 2 applicants may be awarded up to £3,000 to enable them to pay for therapeutic or medical treatment for the psychiatric or psychological effects of the abuse they have suffered (plus, in exceptional circumstances upon, the Minister may authorise therapy monies over and above £3,000). Under the terms of the scheme applicants have until 30 June 2022 to draw down these monies.