

In December/January, Social Services Minister Paul Fletcher announced that the Diocese of Ballarat is now a participating institution in the National Redress Scheme and applications to the Scheme related to ministries run by the Diocese can now be processed. The Diocese entered the Scheme via Australian Catholic Redress Ltd, a company established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference to represent dioceses in the Scheme.

The Department of Human Services sends requests for information (RFI) for redress applications that relate to diocesan entities – parishes, diocesan schools and diocesan ministries – to Australian Catholic Redress Ltd, which directs the RFI to the relevant church authority, e.g. Diocese of Ballarat. The Diocese then provides information it holds that is relevant to the application to the Department to enable an independent assessor to make a determination of the appropriate level of redress. Applicants have six months in which to decide whether or not to accept the determination.

Among the roles of Australian Catholic Redress Ltd is ensuring timely and thorough responses are provided by Dioceses to facilitate efficient and effective operation of the Scheme.

National Redress Scheme – more information can be found [here](#)

[Press Release](#) – 5/2/19