

# Future Pathways submission of 30 September 2022

## PE1933/H: Allow the Fornethy Survivors to access Scotland's redress scheme

Thank you very much for your letter dated 6<sup>th</sup> of July 2022 and for the subsequent extension for Future Pathways to provide a response. This was much appreciated.

Future Pathways was set up by the Scottish Government in 2016 to address the inequalities arising from the experience of childhood abuse or neglect in care, in Scotland. Our aim is to enable people to lead full, healthy and more independent lives by coordinating resources, integrated care and support so that individuals can achieve their own goals.

The Citizens Participation and Public Petitions Committee is asked to note that Future Pathways operates in direct partnership with the Scottish Government.

Future Pathways was developed according to the wishes of survivors and is governed through an Alliance Leadership Team, which includes the Scottish Government, Alliance Partners (Glasgow Psychological Trauma Service, Health in Mind, Penumbra) and survivor representatives. The Alliance Leadership Team is responsible for the direction and delivery of Future Pathways with funding from the Scottish Government.

Future Pathways was asked to comment on whether or not the eligibility criteria for Scotland's Redress Scheme should be extended to include those who experienced non-recent abuse while in short term, holiday or respite care.

Future Pathways cannot comment on whether or not the eligibility criteria should be changed. This is because the Alliance does not independently represent survivors.

It may be helpful for the Committee to know that the Alliance Leadership Team endorsed the decision for Future Pathways to provide support to people who experienced abuse at Fornethy House, where they met the service criteria.

Please note that the criteria for accessing Future Pathways is considered on an individual basis and is not aligned with the Redress Scheme.

The Committee asked if Future Pathways was aware of any survivors that have been excluded from the legislation who might need to be included.

We are aware of the following groups of people who experienced abuse in care settings who cannot access redress:

- People who experienced abuse in residential boarding schools;
- People who experience abuse in NHS settings, where the stay was not considered to be long term.

We would however observe that abuse in any setting should be condemned, and note the particular impact of abuse in settings where a child was placed in trust for their own wellbeing and safety. We observe that children who experienced abuse in any care setting deserve to have their needs met.

So, far 2,161 people have registered with Future Pathways (31/8/22). People registered with Future Pathways have sought help to progress a wide range of goals. To ensure choice and access to the widest possible range of resources has contracted with over 70 delivery partners and commissioned many more for one-off support with individuals registered with us.

It may be observed that needs are individual and related to the impact of abuse, not the length of time in a care setting. Future Pathways observes the importance of being able to offer individuals support that is tailored to their needs: survivors value choice and control over their support. We observe that a wide range of resources are relevant, as the impact of abuse is individual and may affect a person's wellbeing in a wide range of ways.

Thank you for seeking to include the views of Future Pathways.