



FACT SHEET

Redress for sexual abuse Q&As

The 2024 invoices for payments to survivors of sexual abuse in institutions run by the Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland have been distributed and a number of questions have been raised.

This fact sheet aims to answer the most-commonly-asked questions.

We acknowledge that the amounts Responsible Bodies were invoiced for this year were higher than in previous years.

Why is our invoice amount higher this year?

The amount to be recovered each financial year depends on the redress activity finalised and paid during that period. In the 2023-24 financial year, there were more redress claims settled than in previous years.

How can congregations get assistance to pay their invoices?

The Synod Office's Finance team can offer payment plans to Responsible Bodies to spread payment of the invoices over a number of months. However, all plans need to be finalised on or before 30 June 2025 (i.e. in this financial year).

Has the methodology used to calculate amounts changed?

No. Invoices are calculated based on an average of total revenue and the insured value of property including building and contents, but excluding motor vehicles.

This way of calculating redress figures has been used consistently since the start of the Redress Recovery Scheme.

Can we get timely advice on how to budget for this expense?

Budgeting for this expense requires an estimate of the cost for the year.

The amount you will be invoiced depends on the overall amount paid during a financial year by the Synod Office, which is recovered by invoicing Responsible Bodies.

This figure is generally only known in July each year, as it depends on the matters that have been finalised and paid up until the end of June each year.

The table on the following page shows historical redress amounts in recent financial years.

A high level 'guesstimate' (at this early point in time) for the 2024-25 financial year is around \$3,500,000.

How can I calculate redress amounts for my Responsible Body?

A calculator to help Responsible Bodies calculate redress amounts was previously available on the Synod's old website, but was removed due to lack of use when the site was recently redeveloped.

All information about redress which is pertinent to Responsible Bodies has been relocated on the HUB under Church Life/[Redress for sexual abuse](#).

If you want to assistance to calculate the redress amount to be invoiced, please contact the Synod Office by emailing accounts@ucaqld.com.au.

Totals recovered under the Recovery Scheme (financial year)	Amount recovered
2018-19 (FY19)	\$2,991,477
2019-20 (FY20)	\$1,891,575
2020-21 (FY21)	\$3,388,273
2021-22 (FY22)	\$2,570,195
2022-23 (FY23)	\$1,873,511
2023-24 (FY24) – amount distributed this year	\$3,789,344

Before the 2018-19 financial year, the Queensland Synod operated its own Interim Redress Scheme and the Synod Office financial statements accounted for payments under that Interim Scheme.

Once the National Redress Scheme was set up by the Federal Government, all Uniting Church Synods joined and Queensland's Interim Redress Scheme was wound up.

We then introduced Queensland's Redress Recovery Scheme when the National Redress Scheme began.

The rationale for the Redress Recovery Scheme is covered in the Policy and Frequently Asked Questions [documents](#) located on the HUB.

A [PowerPoint](#) by Sarah Lim of Uniting Church in Australia Redress Limited (UCARL) is also available on the HUB. UCARL is the national body that administers Uniting Church matters relating to the National Redress Scheme.

The PowerPoint provides a snapshot of current redress activity within the Uniting Church.

Contact details for further information

If you have any further questions about your invoice, please email us at accounts@ucaqld.com.au