



National Redress Scheme briefing

UCA Redress Ltd

August 2025





CONTENT WARNING

- **Please be aware the following content contains reference to accounts of child sexual abuse which may be distressing for some people.**
- We recognise the significance of survivor stories and acknowledge the strength and resilience shown by survivors to bravely share their stories. For support, please contact 000, Lifeline 13 11 14 or Blue Knot Foundation 1300 657 380.
- Stories in this material are taken from Narratives published by the Royal Commission. Names have been changed.

Molly



'It was clear my mother thought he was a good Christian, and someone that she wanted to get to know', Molly told the Commissioner.

'She began inviting him to our home for a cuppa. Once Jim had wormed his way into our family and gained the trust of my parents he began molesting me whenever he had an opportunity.'

Freeman would make up reasons to visit the church, and Molly's parents would allow him to take Molly along. Molly was frequently abused in various church buildings, including the church itself.

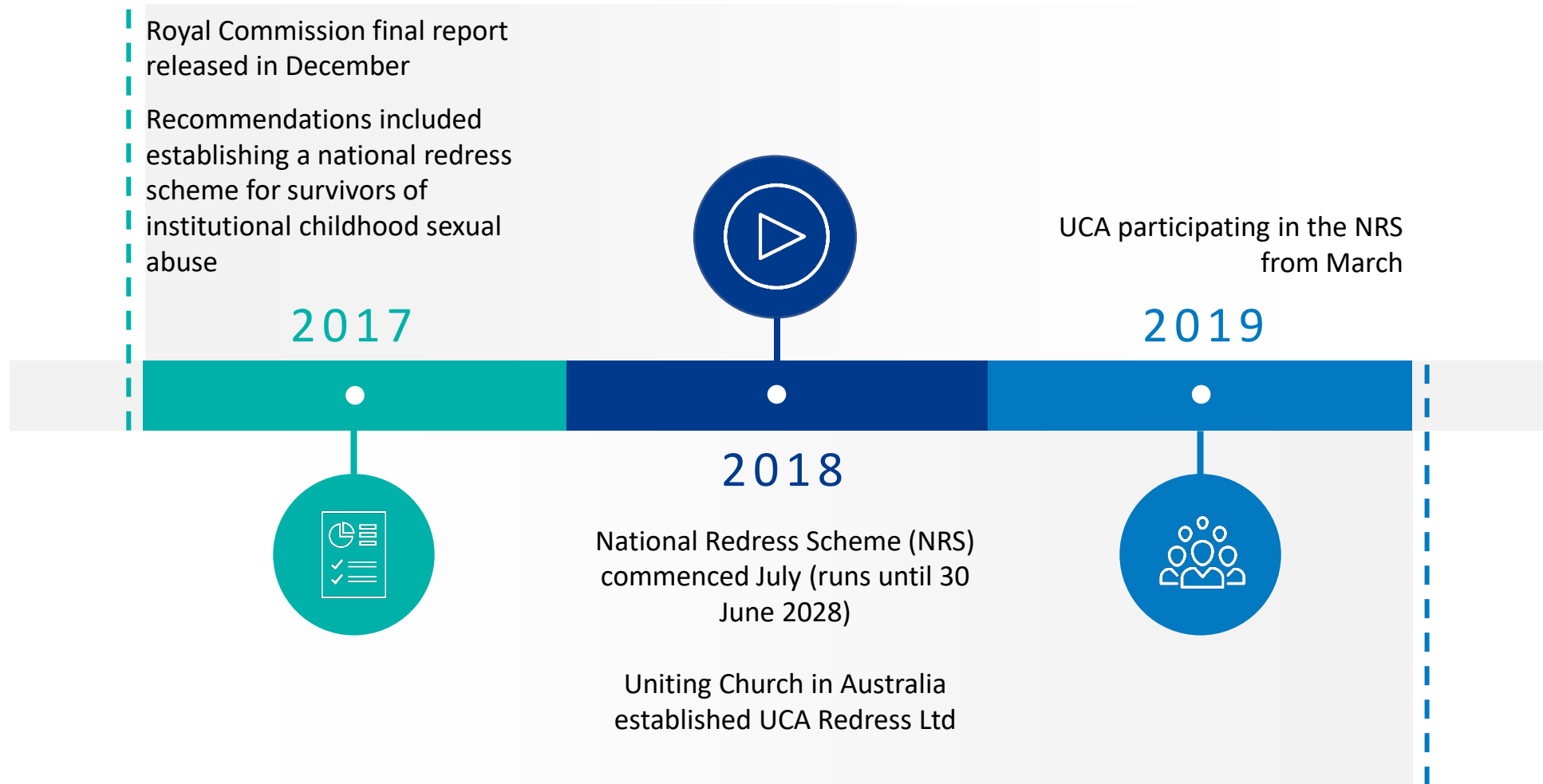
(All names changed to protect privacy)

Purpose of the UCA Redress Ltd

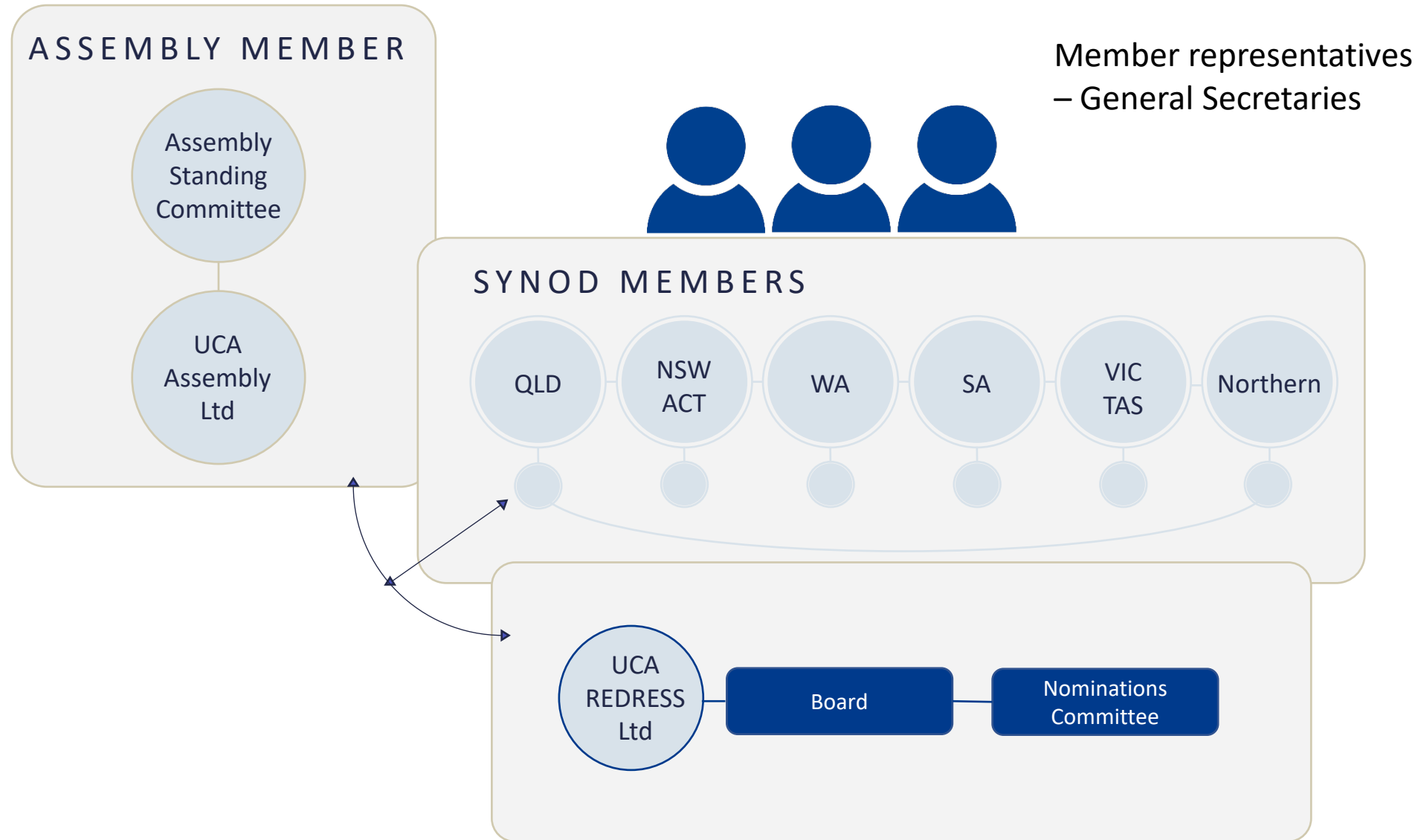


The Company's purpose is to be the national body for the Uniting Church in Australia to respond to, and provide support for, children and vulnerable persons who have suffered abuse at the hands of the Church or participating institutions, including by participation in a nationally consistent equitable redress scheme.

Background to UCA Redress Ltd



Structure of UCARL





National Redress Scheme

Three components:



Process after application:



National Redress Scheme data



As at 4 July 2025



over
63,995
applications to the NRS



The average Redress
payment amount is
currently

\$89,436

22,721
outcomes

19,008
payments made

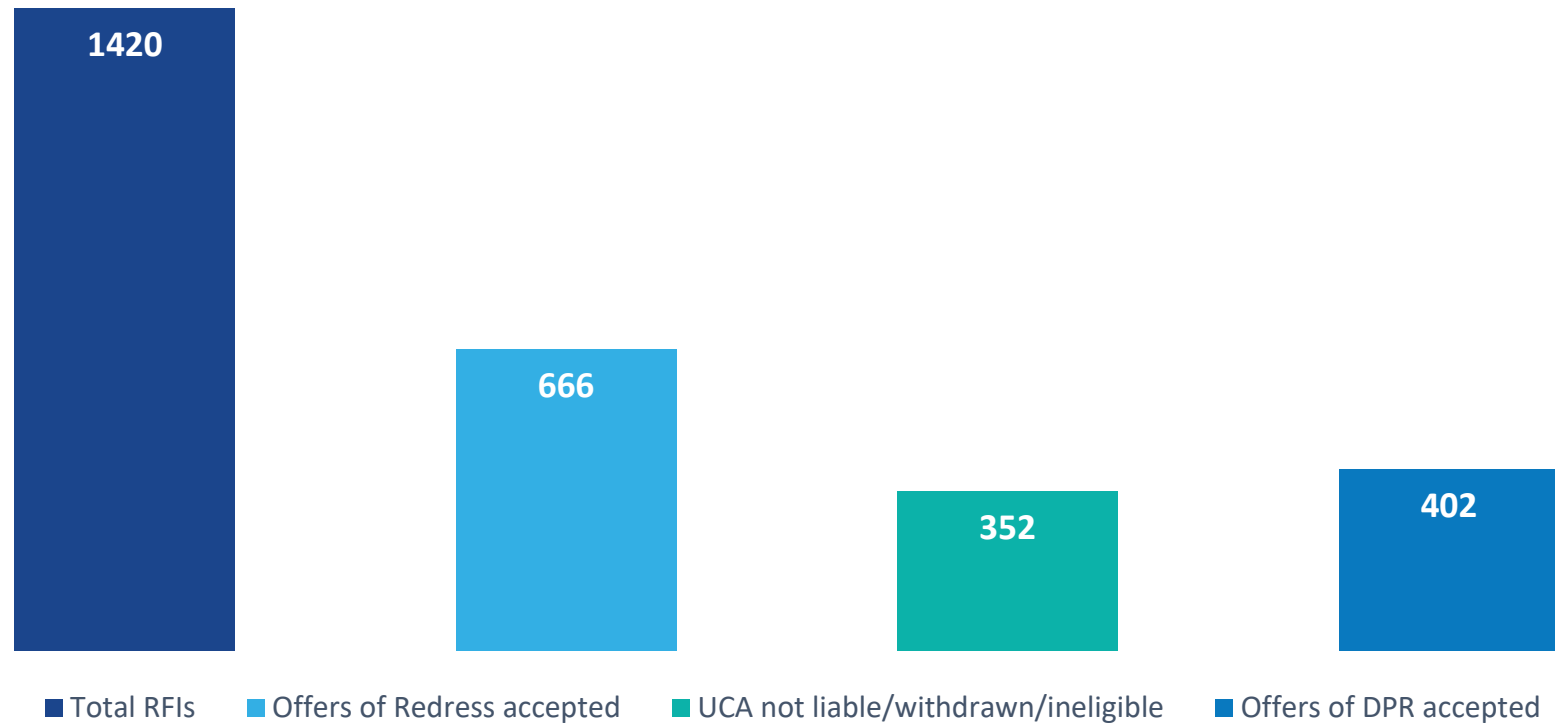


36%
of applicants identify
as Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander



Uniting Church data

At 30 June 2025





What have we learned...

- 76% out-of-home care, mid-late 1900s – group homes, foster care, missions
- 13% - congregational abuse
- Increase in new RFIs in 2025
- Lifelong impact of abuse
- Low take up of DPRs – common across institutions
- Trauma informed practice is critical
- Vicarious trauma for staff needs to be managed



For Queensland

- High number of applications – often person abused in more than one UCA institution and also in other institutions – unstable placement system in Qld
- Lower average payment per application – split between multiple institutions and the state of Qld
- Experienced legal team supporting redress (and civil claim) processes

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