

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 01 July 2025 14:34  
**Subject:** Draft Legislation

Please find a statement from BMATCT in response to the Inquiry and Redress Scheme Bill introduced 16th June 2025. (Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalene Laundries and Workhouses)

BMATCT (Birth Mothers and their children Together) is one of the main support & advocacy groups in Northern Ireland, for victims-survivors in relation to Mother & Baby institutions, Magdalene Laundries, Workhouses and their pathways and practices. Our membership includes birth mothers and adopted children now adults.

As you know we have issues with the Posthumous Claim date of 2011. Outlined in Clause 31(5) A date tied to the HIA Inquiry from which we were excluded. Under 5yrs and over 18yrs. The amount of £2000 for eligible applicants is frankly insulting. Under the proposed redress eligibility criteria a Birth Mother cannot claim for a child that they gave birth to and is now deceased. Yes there will be an Individually Assessed Payment but this will come after the Inquiry. Given the age of many Victims and Survivors they may not be able to engage in this process due to ill health or other factors. Many might not be alive by then.

We also feel that the Redress amount falls far short of current cost of living, inflation and the removal of Winter Fuel Payments for pensioners, the majority of Victims/ Survivors fall into this category.

The relevant institutions and years are outlined in Schedule 2 Clause 31 regarding eligibility We welcome the inclusion of clauses to amend this list.

We welcome the fact that the proposed Bill has finally been introduced but feel that there is still a lot of work to be done to make this legislation workable and acceptable to Victims and Survivors of the most appalling abuse of power by Churches, State and their agencies.

We hope we can count on your support.

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BMATCT

Sent from my iPhone