

42/18 Reporting on the National Redress Scheme

(A report from the Standing Committee.)

Key Points

- By resolution 42/18 the Synod requested the Director of Professional Standards to enable an annual report, with appropriate protections of confidentiality, to be provided to each ordinary session of the Synod throughout the life of the National Redress Scheme, including high level numbers and claim amounts averages.
- The requested information related to claims from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2020 are provided in the report.

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Synod with a brief report regarding the status of applications under the National Redress Scheme (**NRS**), in accordance with the request of Synod resolution 42/18.

Recommendation

2. Synod receive this report.

Background

3. At its ordinary session in 2018, the Synod passed resolution 42/18 in the following terms –

‘Synod requests that Sydney Anglican (National Redress Scheme) Corporation and other diocesan organisations that become a Participating Institution under the National Redress Scheme report all applications received to the Director of Professional Standards to enable an annual report, with appropriate protections of confidentiality, to be provided to each ordinary session of the Synod throughout the life of the National Redress Scheme that includes –

- (a) the number of applications for redress which have been received,
- (b) the number and total and average amount of redress offers made,
- (c) the number and total and average amount of redress offers accepted, and
- (d) the number of persons to whom a direct personal response has been provided.’

Discussion

4. The National Redress Scheme (**NRS**) commenced on 1 July 2018 and is scheduled to continue for 10 years until 30 June 2028. The Standing Committee strongly encouraged all diocesan organisations which could possibly have any responsibility for claims of child sexual abuse to become part of the scheme. The Standing Committee has been advised that all relevant organisations subject to the control of Synod, and all schools located in the Diocese of Sydney and known as Anglican, are participants in the NRS.
5. In accordance with Synod motion 42/18, diocesan organisations have been asked to report to the Director of Professional Standards all applications received to enable an annual report, with appropriate protections of confidentiality, to be provided to each session of Synod.

6. The Director of Professional Standards has not received any formal notifications from diocesan organisations except for the following report from Sydney Anglican (National Redress Scheme) Corporation which covers the two years from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2020 –
- (a) the number of applications for redress which have been received – 21
 - (b) the number and total and average amount of redress offers made (in addition to previous payments made by the diocese) – 10 offers made for a total of \$244,893.08 with an average amount of \$24,489
 - (c) the number and total and average amount of redress offers accepted (in addition to previous payments made by the diocese) – 7 offers accepted for a total of \$199,893.08 with average amount of \$28,556. In addition to the redress amounts the scheme operator has also specified a total of \$56,437.50 for counselling, administration and legal costs
 - (d) the number of persons to whom a direct personal response has been provided – Nil

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Director of Professional Standards

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