

Jesus Fellowship Redress Scheme Update

Please be advised that this update may contain information which members and previous members of the Jesus Fellowship Church may find distressing.

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Summary

This report is an update on the Jesus Fellowship Redress Scheme (the Redress Scheme) as at 31 May 2023. All figures presented here are calculated as at this date.

- A total of 321 applications have been received by the Redress Scheme.
- Offers of redress or payments have been made for 46% of applications received.
- £1,242,977 has been offered or paid to Applicants (87.7%) and their solicitors (12.3%).
- 42% of applications received have been under the Individual Redress Payment Scheme.
- Under the Individual Redress Payment Scheme, 145 individuals have been identified as alleged perpetrators of abuse.
- 9016 people have visited the website since the scheme was launched.

We understand that applying for redress is a difficult process and we are grateful to all those who have come forward and submitted applications to the Redress Scheme so far.

The Redress Scheme opened on 26 September 2022 and will continue to accept new applications submitted online or received by post until 31 December 2023.

We encourage all those who wish to apply to the Individual Redress Payment Scheme to engage a solicitor for support. Please note that putting together an application with a solicitor can take time and applicants will need to be mindful of this when considering the Redress Scheme application deadline.

We will be reporting further on the Redress Scheme after the closing date.

Context

Since December 2020, the Jesus Fellowship Community Trust has existed solely as a residuary body with one purpose – winding up the administrative affairs of the Jesus Fellowship Church. New Trustees were brought in to oversee this work, which includes implementing the redress scheme, supporting survivors and former members, and ultimately closing the Trust.

The Jesus Fellowship Redress Scheme is available to those who have suffered harm, abuse and/or adverse experiences within the Jesus Fellowship community. It also provides a clear process for employment, pension, national insurance and retirement claims.

The Redress Scheme is specifically designed to give survivors and applicants an effective means for swift and compassionate settlement, without having to go through the courts. It ensures the compensation available goes to survivors and applicants, rather than being eroded by legal fees. It also means no survivor or applicant who claims through the Scheme will have to re-state their experience in court.

The process is being delivered in conjunction with the Redress Scheme solicitors, Clyde & Co, with the Jesus Fellowship Community Trust Trustees overseeing the closure of the Trust.

Information relating to the closure of the Jesus Fellowship can be found here:

<https://jesus.org.uk/about-jfct/jesus-fellowship-closure/>

3 Applications Received

3.1 A total of 321 applications have been received as of 31 May 2023.

3.2 A breakdown of applications by Redress Scheme type is shown in the following table.

Redress Scheme Type	Applications	%
<u>Community Adverse Experience Scheme</u> This offers fair redress for every person who suffered adverse experiences whilst living within the Jesus Fellowship community. Adverse experiences can apply to any person in community between 1974-2019. You can find a full list of adverse experiences here: https://jesus.org.uk/apply/community-adverse-experience/	171	53%
<u>Individual Redress Payment Scheme</u> This offers fair redress to those who suffered Sexual, Physical, and/or Emotional abuse whilst living within community. https://jesus.org.uk/apply/individual-redress-payment/	136	43%
<u>Other Claims Scheme</u> This offers fair redress to those who seek to address potential claims relating to individual employment matters and/or specific individual representations by the Jesus Fellowship Community Trust. https://jesus.org.uk/apply/other-claims/	14	4%
Total	321	100%

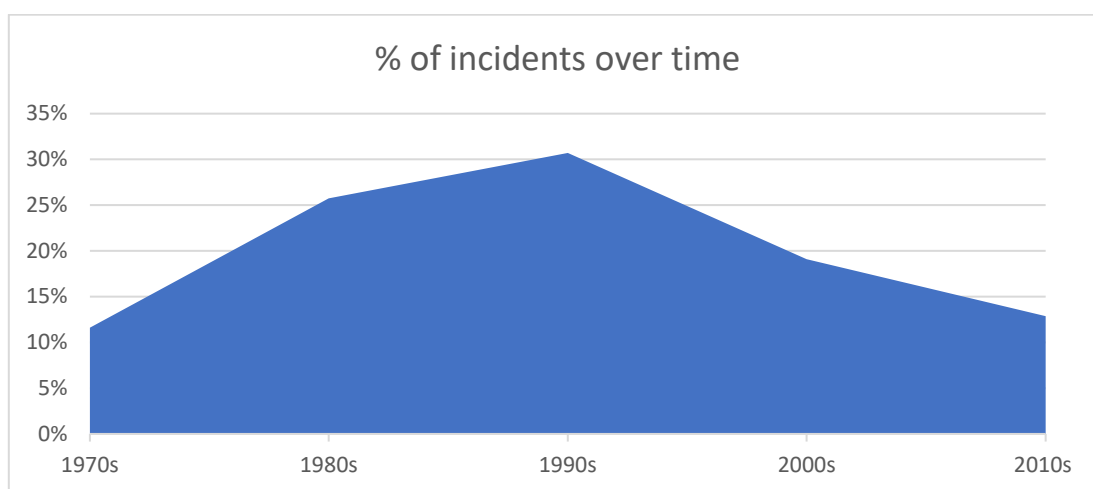
3.3 Applicants can, if eligible, apply to all three schemes. 35% of Individual Redress Payment Scheme applicants have also applied to the Community Adverse Experience Scheme and/or the Other Claims Scheme.

3.4 The Individual Redress Payment Scheme process has identified Abuse Categories within applications received as set out in the table below. Please note that there may be multiple Abuse Categories within a single application.

Abuse Categories	Number of Related Applications	% of Applications
Sexual Abuse	64	30%
Physical Abuse	49	23%
Emotional Abuse	102	47%

3.5 As part of the Individual Redress Payment Scheme, Periods of Harm have been identified within applications received as set out below. Please note that there may be multiple Periods of Harm within a single application.

Period of Harm	Number of Related Applications	% of Applications
1970s	28	11%
1980s	62	26%
1990s	74	31%
2000s	46	19%
2010s	31	13%



4 Application Processing

4.1 Guidelines have been set for processing applications by Redress Scheme type, and actual application average working days achieved are shown in the table below

Redress Scheme Type	Guideline Working Days	Actual Working Days (Average)
Community Adverse Experience Scheme	216 (CAE Scheme Guide)	49 - Support Grants / Apology 152 - Capital Refunds
Individual Redress Payment Scheme	158 (IRP Scheme Guide)	105
Other Claims Scheme	NA (Case-by-Case)	220

4.2 In relation to both the Individual Redress Payment Scheme and the Other Claims Scheme, no two applications will be identical and their resolution will take different lengths of time to

achieve. Our aim is always to handle applications as quickly and efficiently as possible.

4.3 All applications to the Community Adverse Experience Scheme will receive one outcome letter once their entire application has been processed. Applications including a Capital Refund request take longer to process than applications with only a Support Grant request, as applicants receive a copy of their Capital as per the Trust records and then given an opportunity to provide further information.

4.4 Whilst average application processing times have been delivered in line with respective Redress Scheme targets, a number of individual applications have taken longer due to specific processing challenges. Key challenges have been identified as follows:

4.4.1 Certified ID

With Community Adverse Experience Scheme applications, it is necessary for ID to have been officially confirmed and certified at the Post Office or by a solicitor and provided in support of applications in order to protect the scheme from fraud. Some people have found this part of the process difficult, often because they have either misunderstood the requirements, have had difficulty accessing a Post Office or solicitor, or have been unable to meet the fees involved.

We have produced an updated guide for obtaining Certified ID and video calls are now available to allow applicants to confirm their ID if they are unable to access a Post Office or a solicitor. We do not expect this factor to cause any further processing delays for the remainder of the Redress Scheme.

4.4.2 Overseas Applicants

We have received a larger than expected number of applications for the Community Adverse Experience Scheme from applicants living outside the UK. These individual applications were unavoidably delayed whilst new anti-money-laundering and overseas fraud checks were carried out.

We do not believe this factor will result in further individual processing delays for the remainder of the Redress Scheme.

4.4.3 Historic Disclosure Checks

In processing the Individual Redress Payment Scheme applications, a significant volume of historic disclosure information held by the Jesus Fellowship Community Trust has had to be reviewed and unfortunately a number of individual applications have been delayed. All of these historic disclosure reviews have now been completed and new internal processes put in place to enhance the efficiency of these checks.

We regret that this may still result in a degree of delay for those applications which remain in progress. Individual applicants will be contacted by the Redress Scheme solicitors if their application will not be concluded within the target processing time. Having identified the

issue and taken appropriate steps to resolve it, we aim to process all applications as quickly as possible.

4.4.4 Medical Records

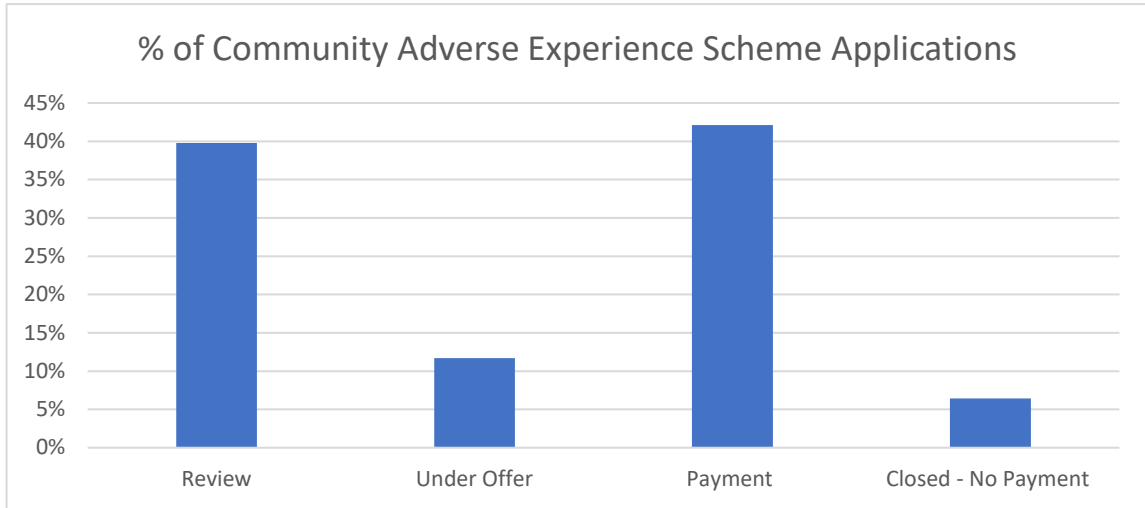
Independent expert medical evidence (from a Consultant Psychiatrist) is not intended to be sought under the Redress Scheme as a matter of course. There will however be instances in which disclosure of an applicant’s medical records will be requested, by Clyde & Co, and/or from the applicant’s solicitors, to act as independent evidential corroboration of the injuries sustained by the applicant and the ongoing effects on the applicant. If an applicant’s solicitor makes a counter offer that is significantly higher than the Redress Scheme valuation, the applicant’s medical records will be requested as a matter of course. These records will only be viewed by Clyde & Co, who will store them securely and who will not disclose copies to any other party. There will inevitably be a delay whilst the records are disclosed and then reviewed.

5 Application Status

5.1 As of 31 May 2023, the status of all applications received is shown by Redress Scheme type in the tables below.

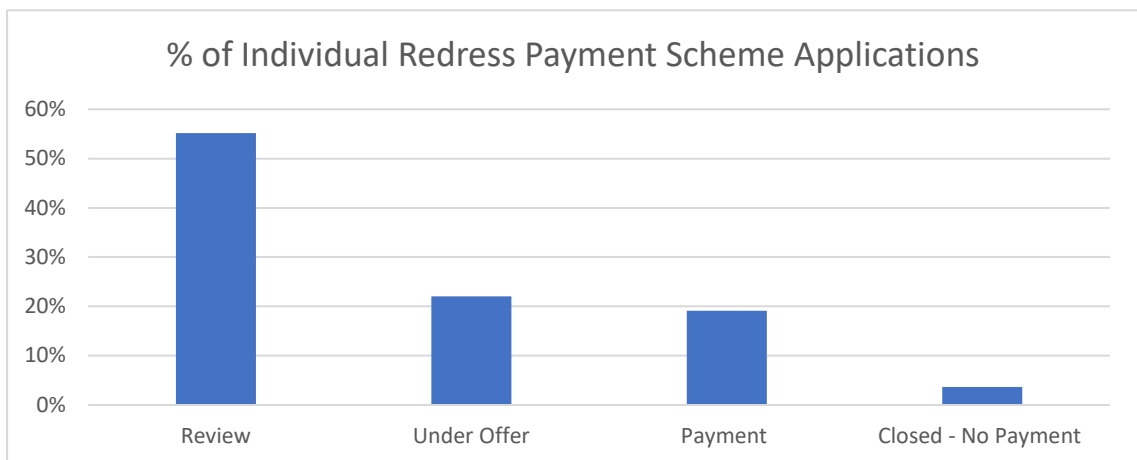
5.2 Community Adverse Experience Scheme

Application Status	Number of Applications	% of Community Adverse Experience Scheme Applications
Review (Applications being processed)	68	40%
Under Offer (Applicants have been sent an offer of Redress)	20	12%
Payment (Applicants have received payment)	72	42%
Closed – No Payment (Withdrawn & applications not eligible)	11	6%



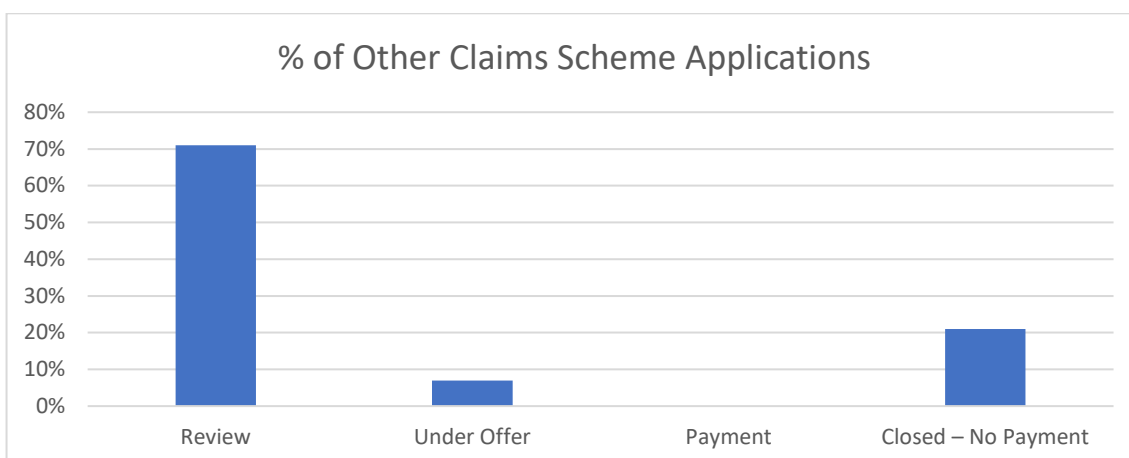
5.3 Individual Redress Payment Scheme

Application Status	Number of Applications	% of Individual Redress Payment Scheme Applications
Review (Applications being processed)	75	55%
Under Offer (Applicants have been sent an offer of Redress)	30	22%
Payment (Applicants have received payment)	26	19%
Closed – No Payment (Withdrawn & applications not eligible)	5	4%



5.4 Other Claims Scheme

Application Status	Number of Applications	% of Other Claims Scheme Applications
Review (Applications being processed)	10	71%
Under Offer (Applicants have been sent an offer of Redress)	1	7%
Payment (Applicants have received payment)	0	0%
Closed – No Payment (Withdrawn & applications not eligible)	3	21%



5.5 There have been 19 applications (6%) that have been closed with no offer of Redress made.

This includes applicants not passing fraud checks (4 cases), or where the application has not met the criteria of the Scheme (11 cases). The reason for applications not being accepted is shown in the table below:

Reason	Number of Applications	% of Applications
1. Duplicate applications received	4	1.2%
2. Not meeting eligibility criteria	11	3.4%
3. Not passing fraud checks	4	1.2%

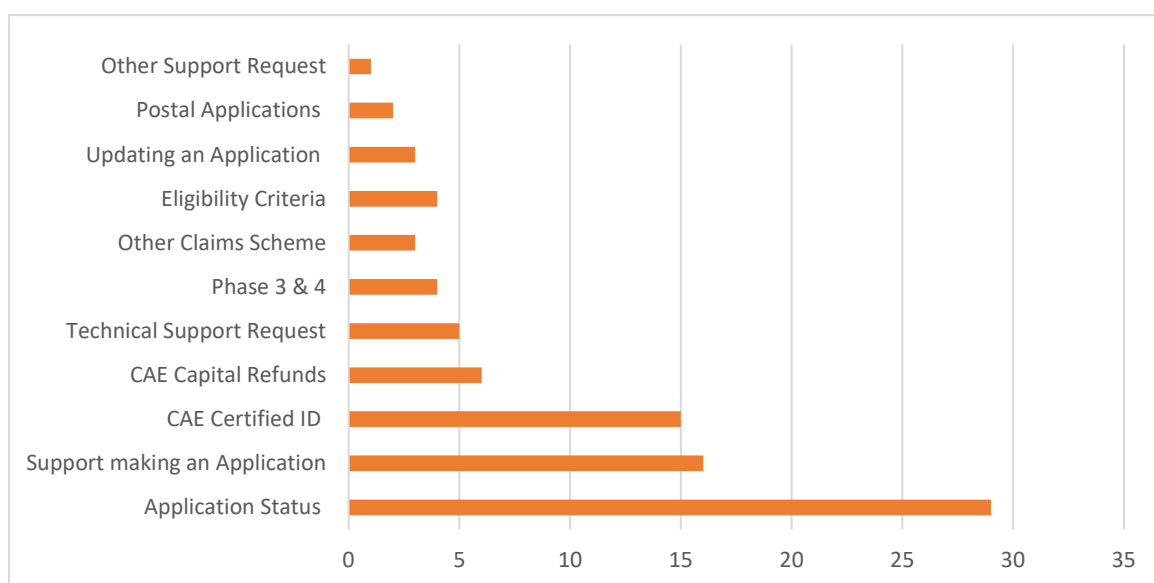
6 Support

6.1 The Redress Scheme offers various types of support for applicants. This includes:

- **Helpful documents** that can be downloaded, including guides for applying to each Redress Scheme type: <https://jesus.org.uk/support/helpful-documents/>
- **Frequently Asked Questions:** <https://jesus.org.uk/support/frequently-asked-questions/>
- **Independent organisations** that are available to support victims: <https://jesus.org.uk/support/support-from-other-organisations/>
- **Help from the Redress Team** if you have a question about the Jesus Fellowship Redress Scheme or the application process that you have not been able to find the answer to on the website: <https://jesus.org.uk/support/get-help-from-redress-team/>

6.2 The Redress Scheme has received 88 support requests that have received a direct response within an average of three working days. Some support requests have taken longer to respond to, including answering those where legal advice has been required.

6.3 The type of support requested is shown in the table below.



6.4 Following a review of the support available to help people when applying for Redress, we have made a number of changes and improvements. The changes are as follows;

- In addition to using the Support form, people can now email support requests to redress@jesus.org.uk. The Redress Scheme Support team will respond directly to requests to provide an easier way to communicate any questions.

- Video Calls are now offered to help answer support questions and for those who are unable to obtain Certified ID due to cost of additional support needs.
- A new Community Adverse Experience Scheme video and a new guide has been produced to outline some of the frequently asked questions. The guides cover how to apply, who sees an application and who can apply.
Video: <https://jesus.org.uk/apply/community-adverse-experience/>
FAQ guide: <https://jesus.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Community-Adverse-Experience-FAQs.pdf>
- Applicants will begin to receive application status update emails every four weeks to provide clearer assurance that their application is in progress.

7 Finance Summary

7.1 Initial Offers and Payments

7.2 As at 31 May 2023, 149 out of the 321 Redress Scheme applications received to date (46%) have reached the status of offers or payments being made.

7.3 As at 31 May 2023, a total of £1,242,977 has been offered or paid by the Redress Scheme directly to Applicants including Applicant Solicitor fees, as shown in the table below.

Status	Amount
A: Under Offer to Applicants	£753,511
B: Paid to Applicants.	£336,466
Sub-Total (A + B)	£1,089,977
C: Applicant Solicitor fees relating to applications under offer or paid.	£153,000
Total (A + B + C)	£1,242,977

7.3.1 In addition, the Jesus Fellowship Community Trust has previously paid £434,581 of direct counselling costs for victims whilst the Redress Scheme was being designed and launched.

7.3.2 A breakdown of the number of applicants receiving an offer or payment by Redress Scheme type is shown below.

Redress Scheme Type	Number of Applicants Receiving an Offer or Payment	% of Applicants By Redress Scheme Type
Community Adverse Experience Scheme	92	54%
Individual Redress Payment Scheme	56	41%
Other Claims Scheme	1	7%
Total	149	

7.3.3 A further 83 Individual Redress Payment applications are known to be with applicant solicitors and have yet to be submitted to the Scheme, which remains open until 31 December 2023.

7.3.4 Applicants have directly received 87.7% of payments and applicant solicitors have received 12.3% of payments, made by the Redress Scheme. No applicant should be required to pay a solicitor for their application or pay any percentage of offers awarded. Applicant solicitors are paid directly by the Redress Scheme, depending on the category applied for, as shown in the table below.

Redress Scheme Type	Applicant Solicitor Fees
Community Adverse Experience Scheme	Applicants do not require a solicitor to apply under this scheme, or to accept offers of redress.
Individual Redress Payment Scheme	Solicitors are paid £3,000 directly by the Redress Scheme, on the successful conclusion of an application.
Other Claims Scheme	Applicants do not require a solicitor to apply under this scheme. Where required on a case-by-case basis, applicants will be offered reasonable legal fees to be paid directly to a solicitor or expert to review or accept offers of redress.

7.3.5 The Jesus Fellowship Community Trust continues to maintain adequate funding for all current and expected Redress Scheme costs.

7.4 Compensation for Community Adverse Experience Scheme

- 7.4.1 All previous or current Jesus Fellowship Community Trust members and/or Dependents (including children) of members can apply to the Community Adverse Experience Scheme.
- 7.4.2 In addition to the current scope of Redress available (Support Grants, Capital Refunds, and Apology), financial compensation for Community Adverse Experiences will be considered by the Jesus Fellowship Community Trust at the closure of the Redress Scheme. This is due to the legal priorities relating to the closure of the Jesus Fellowship Community Trust, and whether sufficient Trust funds remain available at that time.
- 7.4.3 **Potential compensation payments can only be considered for those who have made a Community Adverse Experience application by 31 December 2023.**
- 7.4.4 Every Community Adverse Experience Scheme applicant will be contacted directly in January 2024 with information on availability, and if so, the amount and process to be paid.

8 Non-Financial Redress

- 8.1 A breakdown of the number of applicants receiving a Non-Financial Redress Offer by the Redress Scheme type is shown in the table below. This may or may not be in addition to financial offers of redress, depending on the applicant's request.

Non-Financial Redress Type	Number of Applicants	% of Applicants By Redress Scheme Type
Community Adverse Experience Scheme Apology	33	22%
Individual Redress Payment Scheme Apology	8	5%
Individual Redress Payment Scheme Meeting Request	4	3%
Total	149	-

9 Reporting to Authorities

- 9.1 Under the Individual Redress Payment Scheme, 145 individuals have been identified as alleged perpetrators of abuse.
- 9.2 Applications to the Redress Scheme are reviewed to assess whether they need to be reported to the Police and/or other relevant child protection authorities. This allows the appropriate authorities to assess any risk that a person may currently pose to children and/or to vulnerable adults.

10 Solicitors

10.1 Solicitors who have supported applicants with Individual Redress Payment applications are:

Solicitor	Number of Applications	Contact
Lime Solicitors	72	Name of Solicitor: Malcolm Johnson Email: Malcolm.johnson@limesolicitors.co.uk Telephone: 0808 164 0808
Hugh James	19	Name of Solicitor: Kathleen Hallisey Email: kathleen.hallisey@hughjames.com Telephone: 0808 501 6647
Robson Shaw Solicitors	7	Name of Solicitor: Robert Shaw Email: robert@robsonshaw.uk Telephone: 01392 345332
Biscoes Solicitors	2	Name of Solicitor: David Hawkins Email: dhawkins@biscoes-law.co.uk Telephone: 01730 264799
Emmott Snell & Co	2	Name of Solicitor: Jacqui Morton Email: jm@emmottsnell.co.uk Telephone: 01234 360140
Switalskis	1	Name of Solicitor: David Greenwood Email: david.greenwood@switalskis.com Telephone: 01924 882000
Middleton Law Limited	1	Name of Solicitor: Lisa Gafarova Email: lisa.gafarova@middletonlawltd.co.uk Telephone: 07594 425843
Taylor Emmet Solicitors	1	Name of Solicitor: John Green Email: john.green@tayloremmet.co.uk Telephone: 01142 184106

10.2 We are aware of more applications currently with Solicitors to be submitted to the Redress Scheme.

11 How to Apply

11.1 Full details about the Jesus Fellowship Redress Scheme, including scheme guides, definitions, and full eligibility criteria can be found here: www.jesus.org.uk

11.2 The Redress Scheme remains open to new applications until 31 December 2023

11.3 We encourage all those who wish to apply to the Individual Redress Payment Scheme to engage a solicitor for support. Please note that putting together an application with a solicitor can take time and applicants will need to be mindful of this when considering the Redress Scheme application deadline.

11.4 Apply online today: www.jesus.org.uk/apply