



# Steve Irons MP

## Federal Member for Swan

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

**29 January 2016**

### **Irons welcomes national approach to redress survivors of institutional child sexual abuse.**

Federal Member for Swan has welcomed the Commonwealth Government's announcement to lead the development of a national approach to redress for survivors of institutional child sexual abuse.

The announcement came after consideration of the Redress and Civil Litigation report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Established in 2013, the Royal Commission was an important first step in acknowledging the suffering of survivors of institutional child sexual abuse, and the lasting impacts of their abuse.

The report indicated that redress should be about providing recognition for the survivor, not about protecting the institution's interests.

"I have been advocating for a national redress scheme for some years now and I support a scheme that the churches, charities and relevant organisations contribute to and be held to account for the pain and abuse they inflicted on too many children," Mr Irons said.

Mr Irons is a patron of organisations formed to assist victims and was among the first to call for the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses into Child Sexual Abuse and played an integral role for victims.

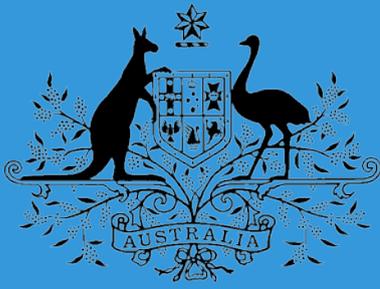
"I have admired the courage the victims as they provided evidence across the country," Mr Irons said.

The Government will soon commence discussions with the states and territories to carefully work through the many complex issues to achieve an outcome for survivors as soon as possible.

The Commonwealth will seek the cooperation of the States and Territories to develop a nationally consistent approach to redress through an agreed set of national principles.

A nationally consistent approach will ensure that survivors from offending institutions all receive proper redress, irrespective of the location of the institution at the time of the offending or the present status of the offending institution.

Survivors of institutional child sexual abuse can access assistance through the Royal Commission Support Services in every state and territory.



# Steve Irons MP

## Federal Member for Swan

Further information on available support services can be found at:  
<https://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au/support-services>

24 hour telephone assistance is also available through:

Lifeline	13 11 14
1800 Respect	1800 737 732
Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia	1800 211 028
MensLine Australia	1300 789 978

**ENDS**