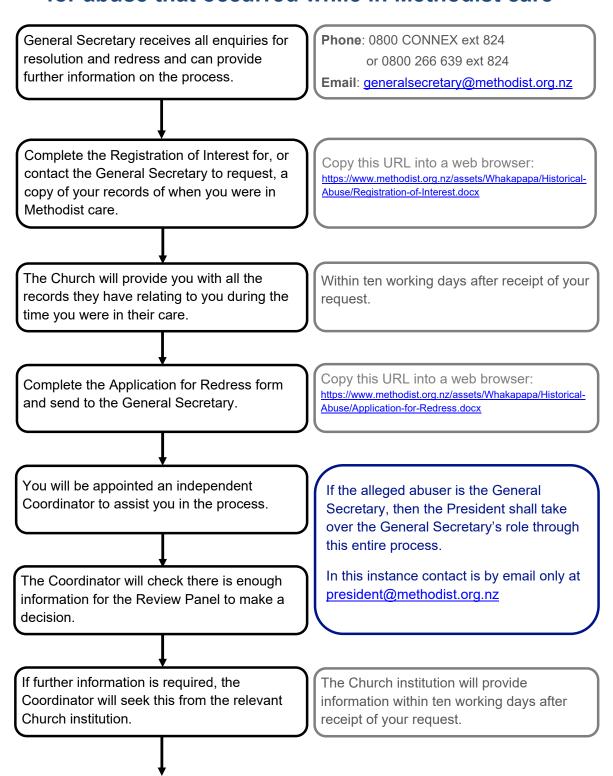


The Methodist Church of New Zealand Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa

Resolution and Redress Process for abuse that occurred while in Methodist care



The Coordinator must make a report to the General Secretary where an application relates to a person currently involved in the life of the Church.

To ensure the Church is able to activate the complaints and disciplinary procedures and to consider whether disciplinary action should be taken.

If the allegations made in your application are of a criminal nature, the Church will make a report to the police, with your prior consent.

If you do not consent to the allegation being reported to Police, the Church will report the allegation without identifying you.

When all information is provided, the Coordinator will refer your application and all associated documentation to the Review Panel for consideration.

If the abuse did not happen at a Methodist institution, the Coordinator will, with your consent, refer your application to the appropriate agency.

The Review Panel will consider your application and make a decision about redress and resolution, taking into account your wishes and needs.

You will be given the opportunity to meet with the Review Panel to tell your story, at a time and location that best suits you, and your support person.

The Review Panel may instigate the Church's complaints and disciplinary procedure.

The Review Panel may defer determining an application if the Church advises that it is undertaking an internal disciplinary process in respect of the alleged abuse, or where further consideration of your application would interfere with an active criminal investigation.

In these circumstances, the Review Panel will not make any finding about the alleged abuser and you will be advised of any such deferral.

The Independent Coordinator will notify you of the Review Panel's decision.

This will also be provided to you in writing and you will be advised of the appeal process.

Oct 2019 2

The Appeal Process

You may seek an appeal of the Review Panel's decision. A request for an appeal must be made:

- in writing to the General Secretary
- within three months of the date of the decision or offer being made, whichever is later

You must provide:

- information about any relevant changes in your circumstances between the original application and your current circumstances;
- an impact statement outlining the effect of the change in circumstances; and
- information about your desired outcome of the appeal.

The General Secretary will consider applications for appeals on a case by case basis and make a determination within one month of receiving the appeal request.

The General Secretary will advise you in writing of the outcome of the appeal.

Oct 2019 3