



As you are aware, the inclusion of the Bethany Home was previously considered and not included within the Scheme, on the basis that it did not come within the scope of the Scheme as it operated as a mother and baby home.

Following the publication of the Ryan Report, there were a range of requests and demands for the scheme to be extended. These included your request for the Bethany home to be included on the basis that it operated as a children's home. However, the Government of the time decided against the inclusion of any further institutions within the scheme.

The redress scheme was introduced as an exceptional measure to address a very particular circumstance. Specifically, the scheme was designed to deal with abuse in a range of residential institutions for which public bodies had responsibility. The decision not to extend the scheme has meant the exclusion of a range of institutions which could have been considered for inclusion.

I have considered the points made at the meeting and have had the papers submitted reviewed. Having taken all the circumstances into account, I regret that I have found no basis to revisit this decision. I know my decision will come as a disappointment to you but I want to state that my decision has been based on serious reflection and careful consideration of the issues raised at our meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Ruairi Quinn, T.D.

Minister for Education and Skills