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Mothers apply for adoption redress

Alison Foletta

Since the Tasmanian Historical Forced Adoption Redress Scheme opened, there have been 208 applications.

During question and answer time in Tasmania's upper house on Thursday, member for Nelson Meg Webb asked for details on applications.

It was revealed 208 applications had been made for the redress scheme, including the interim scheme for urgent cases, which opened in February.


Meg Webb

General applications had opened on June 15. Out of these 208 applications, 153 had been assessed, with 150 approved as of October 20.

A further 31 were waiting for assessment. Three were declined: two applicants were found not to be Tasmanian residents and one case was determined on the balance of probabilities not to be forced adoption.

Ms Webb also asked about works for a memorial.

Legislative Council government leader and member for McIntyre Tania Rattray said a memorial was not "actively being considered", but the government was listening to the views of those affected by forced adoption practices.

The forced adoptions redress scheme provides a $75,000 payment, including $10,000 provision for psychological and counselling support. The scheme is open to mothers who were or are Tasmanian residents, gave birth at a state-operated hospital, non-government facility or at home in Tasmania or interstate, and were subjected to forced adoption practices before the end of 1988.