Department of Justice and Community Safety

Request for a Review of a decision by the Independent Assessment Panel about your eligibility for the Stolen Generations Reparations Package

The Stolen Generations Reparations Package (Package) has been established by the Victorian Government to help address the trauma and suffering caused by the forced removal of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children from their families, community, culture and Country.

An Independent Assessment Panel (Panel) determines eligibility for the Package.

If you do not agree with your outcome, you (or your Nominated Support Person or Organisation) can ask for a review.

To request a review, you must complete this Request for Review Form.

All fields in this form are mandatory, unless indicated otherwise.

The information you may need to consider can be confronting or disturbing and may cause sadness or distress. Funding is available for trauma-informed counselling. Please call 1800 566 071 for information.

24-hour support can also be accessed by contacting:

- <u>VAHS Yarning SafeNStrong</u>: 1800 959 563 (https://www.vahs.org.au/yarningsafenstrong/)
- <u>13 YARN: 13 92 76</u>
- Lifeline: 13 11 14
- (https://www.lifeline.org.au/).

The Package is administered by the Department of Justice and Community Safety (referred to as us/we/our/the Department).

Eligibility for the Package

You are eligible to receive a Package if you:

 are an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person and

- were first removed from your family by a government or non-government agency before 31 December 1976, while under the age of 18 years and
- were first removed in Victoria and
- were separated from family for a period of time that resulted in the experience of loss of family, community, culture, identity and language and
- are living at the time of lodging your Application Form an have lodged a valid application with all necessary supporting identification documents.

The Package is governed by the *Stolen Generations Reparations Package Guidelines,* which provide the rules and process for accessing the Package. The Guidelines are available on our website.

Help is available to complete this form

You can seek support to complete this form by contacting us at:

- 1800 566 071 (9am-5pm, Monday to Friday)
- stolen.generations@justice.vic.gov.au
- Stolen Generations Reparations Unit Reply Paid 93288
 PO Box 24053
 MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Further information is also available on our website: www.vic.gov.au/stolen-generations-reparations-package

You may also wish to speak with an organisation that supports Stolen Generations and their families including:

- Bringing Them Home Program
- Connecting Home
- Link-Up Victoria
- your local Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO).

If you appointed a Nominated Support Person or Organisation on your application, they can assist you to request a review.

If you would like to appoint a new Nominated Support Person or Organisation, please complete a new Form Two: Nomination of a Support Person or Organisation.

You cannot apply for the Package on behalf of someone who has passed.

If the applicant passed away after submitting their application, you may apply for a review of their outcome if you:

- were nominated as the Next of Kin on their application form or
- are the executor of their estate.

Support available to you

You can access support services throughout this process, including:

- trauma informed counselling
- legal advice
- financial counselling
- specialised supports if you have a disability

For further information please contact us.

What happens after I submit this application for a review of the outcome?

- You will receive confirmation that we have received your application.
- If you provided new information with this form and gave consent to the department to search the public records, we may search records held by other government or nongovernment agencies for information relevant to your application. See **Part Four** of this form for further detail.
- When we have completed an initial assessment of your eligibility, we will refer your application to a Review Panel to determine whether you are eligible for the Package.
- The Review Panel will review your application and supporting documentation and decide if you meet the eligibility criteria for the Package.
- The Review Panel will have different members to the Independent Assessment Panel that decided your outcome.

You can find more information about requesting a review in the Request for Review Factsheet, which is available on our website or by contacting us.

Please note: If you are not satisfied with our service, please contact us or see our website for information on how to provide feedback or make a complaint.

PART ONE Information about you

Q1	First name	•	Middle Name										
	Last Name	•											
	lf known b any other names	у											
Q2	2 Date of Birth If known, to the best of your knowledge					Q3	Application ID If known	on					
Q4	Phone					Q5	Email						
Q6	Residential address					Q7	Q7 Postal address (if different)						
	Street Address Suburb/town State						Stre address PO E	or					
							Suburb/town						
			F	Postcode	e		Sta	ate		Po	stcode		
Q8	Preferred contac method		;t		Phone		Email		Post				

PART TWO Support person or emergency contact

Directions for applicants to complete this section

You have the option of authorising a person or organisation that you would like us to contact on your behalf or if we cannot reach you. If the person or organisation has guardianship or power of attorney, we will contact you for further information.

If you appointed a Nominated Support Person or Organisation on your original application form, you can continue to use the same person or organisation or you can appoint a different person or organisation.

□ Please contact the Nominated Support Person or Organisation I appointed in my Application Form (*skip to Part Three*)

□ I don't want to use a Nominated Support Person or Organisation (*skip to Part Three*)

□ I want to appoint a new Nominated Support Person or Organisation (see guidance below)

If you are appointing a new Nominated Support Person or Organisation, please provide a new *Form Two: Nomination of a Support Person or Organisation* to give us permission to share information about your application with this person. You can find this form <u>here</u> or contact us for a copy.

PART THREE

Additional information and documents

You may provide additional information or documents to be considered as part of your review, but **you are not required** to. If you do not provide additional information or documents, the review will consider the information and documents you provided with your original application.

PART FOUR Privacy Consents and Declaration

You, the Applicant, must respond to the below statements yourself and enter your own name. A support person, Nominated Support Person, Organisation or other person that is not the applicant cannot respond to or complete this part, even if the applicant gives that person permission.

Privacy statement

The Package is administered by the Department of Justice and Community Safety (Department).

The Department will collect, use, store and disclose your personal information and health information (including your sensitive information) provided in this document for the purposes of reviewing your outcome for the Stolen Generations Reparations Package (Package), assessing your eligibility for the Package, provision of support services requested by you and, if you are found by the Panel to be eligible for the Package, payment and administration of your Package.

To assess your eligibility for the Package, the Department may collect and share information about your application from and with record holding departments and agencies both within and outside of Victoria. These agencies may be State and Commonwealth agencies, or organisations outside of government, which may include government-funded, private sector and not-for-profit organisations such as community-controlled organisations or Churches or organisations that administered orphanages. Your information will not be shared for any other purposes without further consent.

If you choose, or have chosen during the application process, to nominate a person to collect and receive information on your behalf relating to your application, in accordance with *Form Two: Nomination of a Support Person or Organisation*, we may also collect and share your personal and health information from and with that person, in order to progress your application.

The Department will then provide your information (including personal information and health information) to an Independent Review Panel (Review Panel), who are engaged by the Department to review applications for the Package and determine the applicants' eligibility for the Package.

The Department will treat the information you provide, and the information it collects about you, with strict confidentiality and in accordance with Victoria's privacy laws. For further information about privacy, please refer to the Department's privacy policy on at <u>www.justice.vic.gov.au/your-</u>

<u>rights/privacy/information-privacy-policy</u> Our Privacy Policy explains how we collect, use, store and disclose your personal information and how you can access and seek correction of the information we hold about you as well as how to make a privacy complaint.

Consent to search records

Under relevant privacy laws, the Department requires your consent to undertake a search of government and other organisations' records concerning your removal to assess your eligibility for the Package. We also seek your consent to show other agencies and organisations this consent form, in order that they are clear that they have your authority to release the information to us.

The Department may search for information related to your removal in records held by State and Commonwealth agencies, or organisations outside of government, which may include government-funded, private sector and not-for-profit organisations such as community-controlled organisations or Churches outside of Victoria or organisations that administered orphanages.

If it is necessary for the Department to enquire into whether records of adoption exist in relation to you, we can only do so with your agreement (using the consent boxes below) to communicate with other relevant organisations on your behalf to make such enquiries. If records do exist, you may be required to make an application under the *Adoption Act 1984* (Vic) to obtain the information and be able to rely on it for the purposes of this application. We can discuss this with you in further detail if this becomes relevant to you.

If required, and with your consent, the Department may also seek information held about you from community-controlled organisations that support Stolen Generations families, including Connecting Home Ltd, the Link Up Victoria service delivered by the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency Ltd and organisations that support reconnection to Country, culture and family.

Records identified as part of these searches will be held securely by the Department and used only for the purpose of determining your eligibility for the Package.

If you nominate a person or organisation to receive and collect information relating to your application on your behalf at any time during the application or review process (*Form Two: Nomination of a Support Person or Organisation*), you also consent to the Department sharing your personal and health information with your Nominated Support Person or Organisation for the purposes of progressing and determining your application.

You do not need to consent to these searches. However, if you do not, the Department will be required to consider your application based solely on the information that you provide in your application and any records you provide to us, which may impact on the chances of you being deemed eligible for the Package.

If you are not able to provide the Department with the information required to establish your eligibility, either through consenting to these searches or the sharing of your records with us, your application may be found ineligible.

Declaration

I understand that my information will be handled consistent with the Privacy Statement above, the Department's Privacy Policy and applicable laws.

AND

I confirm that the information I have provided in this form is true and correct, including that I have a reasonable belief that I meet the eligibility criteria to apply for this Package. I understand that I may be asked for further information to support my application and I must respond accurately to these requests for further information in order for my application to be assessed. I understand that if the information I have provided is found to be incorrect or misleading, or I am otherwise found to be ineligible for the Package, the Department may seek repayment of, and I may be liable to repay, any benefits received, and there may be other legal consequences.

AND

I **consent** to the Department providing this signed consent form to other government and non-government agencies and organisations and collecting and sharing records containing my personal or health information for the purposes of supporting my Stolen Generations Reparations Package application only.

OR

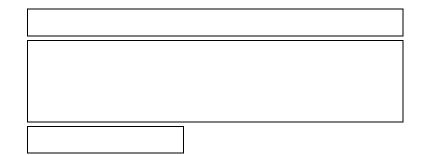
I do not consent to the collection or sharing of records containing my personal or health information. I will instead provide the necessary records to the Department myself.

Name of Applicant

Signature of Applicant

Must be signed by the applicant, not a Nominated Support Person or representative of a Organisation

Date



This is the end of the Request for Review Form.

Submit your completed Application Form and supporting documents to:

stolen.generations@justice.vic.gov.au

OR

Stolen Generations Reparations Unit PO Box 24053 Reply Paid 93288 MELBOURNE 3001 VIC