

PRESS RELEASE – THURSDAY 25 JUNE 2026

One in Four welcomes the introduction of the Civil Liability (Child Sexual Abuse Proceedings Against Unincorporated Bodies of Persons) Bill 2025, which is due to be debated in the Dáil this afternoon. The Bill would be another step towards enabling survivors of child sexual abuse to pursue redress from religious orders and other unincorporated bodies.

Deirdre Kenny, CEO of One in Four, said:

"One in Four welcomes this Bill, which would remove another barrier preventing survivors of child sexual abuse from seeking redress from religious orders and other unincorporated organisations."

"Religious orders must not be permitted to place assets beyond the reach of survivors through mechanisms such as trusts or other arrangements designed to shield wealth from liability. This legislation seeks to address that issue directly."

The Bill would also strengthen the enforcement of damages awards against trusts linked to such organisations.

One in Four also welcomes the Government's indication that it will not oppose the Bill, and calls on all Government TDs and Senators to support its passage through the Houses of the Oireachtas.

We further welcome the Taoiseach's indication in the Dáil that the work of the Interdepartmental Group will be accelerated, bringing forward the publication of its report from the original timeline of May 2027.

Further delay would disadvantage survivors and could create opportunities for the avoidance of accountability. At present, survivors of child sexual abuse have no access to a redress scheme, as previous schemes have closed. For many, litigation remains the only route to justice, an option that can be costly, lengthy and re-traumatising.

Deirdre Kenny added:

"We call on the Government to expedite the Interdepartmental Group's report, and commit to establishing a redress scheme without further delay."

"Child sexual abuse is, at its core, an abuse of power. For survivors who have come forward seeking justice, and for those who may yet do so, the absence of a fair and effective redress scheme reflects that imbalance. Without meaningful acknowledgement and remedy, the path to recovery is made more difficult."

"The time for further consultation has passed. Decisive leadership means preventing further harm by removing unnecessary barriers, ending delays, and ensuring that survivors are not forced to relive their trauma in the pursuit of justice. Survivors have carried the burden of these experiences for decades, and have waited long enough."

If anyone needs support, please do not hesitate to contact us in confidence on 01- 662 4070, Monday to Friday 9.30am – 5.30pm, or if any person needs support urgently, please reach out to the national helpline 1800 77 88 88, available 24 hours, 7 days a week.

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For more information, please contact Kate Reilly, kate@oneinfour.ie, or 086 193 4900.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. One in Four Ireland is an Irish non-governmental organisation.
2. Our mission:
 - At One in Four we work together to end child sexual abuse by providing expert-led support to survivors; prevention strategies whilst empowering societal responsibility.
3. One in Four offers a comprehensive, wrap around service model designed to support survivors of child sexual abuse.
4. Our approach integrates multiple services to ensure our response to the impact is coordinated and addresses diverse needs.
5. We provide a safe space for families to understand and address the dynamics that allowed the abuse to happen.
6. Our services include:
 - Counselling / Psychotherapy for survivors (individual)
 - Support group for survivors and their family members (Group)
 - Advocacy support
 - Prevention programmes
 - Accredited training for professionals

For information or support please contact us in confidence on 01 662 4070 or info@oneinfour.ie or visit www.oneinfour.ie.