

- Explicit statement of agency values that addresses past injustice, historic powerlessness and multiple breach of human rights. For example, an emphasis on privacy and confidentiality, minimal bureaucracy, a flexible approach to managing casework and out of hours availability.
 - Ability to travel, to meet former child migrants in person to provide services. This recognises the vulnerability of older people who often find telephone contact challenging, and promotes their right to access CMT services wherever they reside.
 - No charge for services and reduction of obstacles that might impede access.
30. These services have been developed as a consequence of 30 years of expertise in this area and extend to both former child migrants and their families. The government has relied on CMT's unique expertise over the years, to provide expert and independent services to former child migrants.²⁷ Former child migrants had no access to independent services until the formation of the CMT.²⁸

Reparations

31. Redress forms a vital part of reparation for wrongs. It is clear that former child migrants are yet to receive adequate redress from the British government and from the voluntary organisations in this country. The CMT has made submissions to a number of Commissions and Inquiries, including the Health Select Committee (although this was not specifically about sexual abuse), the Australian Royal Commission in 2015 and the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry in Northern Ireland in 2014.
32. The CMT considers that whilst the apology from former Prime Minister Hon Gordon Brown formed an important part of the healing and redress process, a strategy still needs to be put in place to appropriately and adequately support former child migrants and provide them with reparations for the harms which they suffered. As Ed Balls, then minister for children and families, stated in September 2009, the government has a collective responsibility to provide redress to the former child migrants,²⁹ however, the government's position seems to have been that redress is for the voluntary agencies.³⁰
33. The government has refused to provide financial redress to individual child migrants. They have resisted doing so prior to the Health Select Committee on the basis that the government did not consider that it was responsible for what occurred to the former child migrants.³¹ Post the Health Select Committee, the government took *"a very clear position, that support and services to help improve people's lives and to help remedy the consequences of previous decisions are more important than simply handing a sum of*

²⁶ See paragraph [136-137] of my first statement

²⁷ Eg at FCO000099, 3/7/14; FCO000039. Govt has placed reliance on this expertise over the years. And CMT given access to files in 1993 in recognition of this

²⁸ DOH000020_038

²⁹ DOH000017_4. *"The issue of former child migrants should be seen as the collective responsibility of the UK Government as a whole and the original policy would have involved the support of a number of Government Departments."*

³⁰ DOH000017_12. Also FCO0000008: *"The British Government accepts all liabilities and assets of its predecessors. Clearly, if there are responsibilities we accept those responsibilities. Responsibility lies with UK Govts, Govts of receiving countries and sending agencies. But the bulk of the responsibility for that must lie with those who had a duty to look after the children."*

³¹ FCO000012 *"The British position remains that HMG does not consider itself responsible for the small number of cases which allegedly went wrong."*