

still have no family found at all. Time is running out for many as most child migrants are now in their seventies and eighties.

197. **Practical and cultural initiatives, such as a national memorial, a living testimony project, and generational projects that reinforce the lessons learned from a past which has been denied for too long.** These are needed to support the 2010 National Apology to former Child Migrants.
198. **As a minimum, good practice standards should be issued to ensure independent services are provided for this client group.** The damage caused by child migration should not be compounded by services provided by past perpetrators of historic abuse.
199. **Specialist, independent professional help to ensure Child Migrants can start to enjoy the same rights and opportunities as other people.** A lifetime of disadvantage following a childhood of deprivation, deception and abuse demands good quality, long term services. Recovery from historical abuse is a complex process which can take many years. Often there is no initial disclosure for many years after the trauma. Some former Child Migrants have only recently begun to address the painful legacy of their childhood abuse. Justice and therapy go together.
200. **Centralisation of historic records within a government department with a clear access protocol.** The present management of records lacks the organisation and urgency which is vital to the welfare of former Child Migrants and their families.
201. **Recognition that there are national and international issues today where CMT could make a significant contribution by providing advice on policy and practice issues.** CMT has developed considerable knowledge and skills over thirty years of independent service provision, often operating with indifference from government and others. How does the nation address its past, show leadership and help survivors of abuse to recover?
202. **Social workers need to receive mandatory training in how to deal with historic abuse.** There is a real opportunity for Great Britain to lead the way.

### **Conclusion**

203. In closing today, I would like to briefly outline Name Irrelevant's story, as it says so much about the way child migration was operated and the lack of concern for the children's best interests.