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Jehovah Witness charged with historic child sex offences

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A member of the Jehovah Witness congregation will appear in court next month after he was charged with historic child sex offences.

Child Abuse squad detectives charged the 72-year-old over alleged offences against a girl between 1979 and 1982.

It will be alleged the man sexually assaulted the girl, who was 11 at the time of the first offence, in the towns of Narrogin, Windy Harbour and Katanning.

“During this time, the man was an active member of the Katanning Jehovah Witness congregation,” a police spokesperson said.

The man has been charged with a string of child sex offences including indecent dealing, unlawful carnal knowledge of girls under 16 and deprivation of liberty.

The man was charged on Thursday after ongoing investigations from the Royal Commission into institutional child sex offences.

The 72-year-old will appear in the Katanning Magistrates Court on May 16.

If you are or have been a victim of child sexual abuse, or if you have information about someone being abused, call police on 131 444.