

What is the Victim Information Scheme?

PBNI Victim Information Scheme became operational in **October 2005**. It is a statutory scheme as provided by the Criminal Justice (N.I.) Order 2005.

The scheme seeks to ensure that victims receive information about what it means when someone has a sentence which requires supervision by the Probation Board.

The Probation Board acknowledges that it may be upsetting for you to think about the crime again, but we hope that the information available to you through this scheme will be helpful.

What is the purpose of the Scheme?

This scheme will provide you with an opportunity to have explained to you the meaning of the requirements of the court sentence imposed on the person who committed an offence against you.

This scheme works closely with other Criminal Justice and victim organisations to provide a wide range of information and services to victims of crime at various stages of the criminal justice process. It also complements the Northern Ireland Prisoner Release Victim Information Scheme.

Who can use the Scheme?

The PBNI Victim Information Scheme is available to any person (or agreed representative) who has been the direct victim of a criminal offence for which the offender received a Probation Supervised Sentence.

How does the Scheme work?

- If, following conviction, the person who committed the offence against you receives a Probation Supervised Sentence from the court, you will be advised about the PBNI Victim Information Scheme.
- If you register with this Scheme the offender will not be informed of this.

What can the Scheme Provide?

The Victim Information Scheme can provide the following:

- Information about the specific sentence in your case and general information about PBNI's supervision of offenders.
- The opportunity to discuss your concerns which may inform the management of the offender.
- Information can be provided to you in writing, by phone or in a face-to-face meeting with a PBNI Victim Liaison Officer.
- Information can be provided, if appropriate, about any organisation which may be able to offer you specific support in relation to your own experiences/needs as a victim of crime.
- The opportunity to be involved, on a voluntary basis, in direct or indirect restorative contact with the offender if this would help you address issues resulting from the offence.

What does the Scheme not provide?

In the interests of confidentiality, the scheme cannot provide any personal information about the offender.

The Scheme cannot provide a counselling service to you but we can advise you about other appropriate support agencies.

What Sentences are supervised by PBNI?

PBNI supervises the following Sentences:

- Probation Orders
- Combination Orders
- Community Service Orders
- Juvenile Justice Centre Orders
- Supervised Sex Offender Licences
- Custody Probation Orders
- Determinate Custodial Sentences
- Extended Custodial Sentences
- Indeterminate Custodial Sentences
- Life Sentence Licences

What happens if the offender does not comply with the Sentence?

If the offender does not comply with supervision, PBNI can return the case to court. The court may then impose another sentence. For licences subject to executive recall the offender may be returned to prison to serve all or part of the remainder of the licence.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

PBNI Victims Unit
Victim Information Scheme
Imperial Buildings
72 High Street
Belfast
BT1 2BE



BUSINESS REPLY SERVICE
Licence No. BEL 4115

private and confidential

Referral Form

PBNI Victim Information Scheme

Case reference number:

Please complete and return as soon as possible

I wish to register with the PBNI Victim Information Scheme

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone No:

We will normally ring you initially, unless you tell us that you do not want a call

I give my consent to be contacted

Signature:

Information will be treated
in confidence at all times

PLEASE MOISTEN AND SEAL ALL AROUND AND RETURN POSTAGE
PAID TO ADDRESS OVERLEAF

I would like to meet you
(we will contact you to arrange a suitable venue)

I would like you to telephone me to
discuss issues

I do not want to be contacted or to meet but
would like to receive further written information

I do not wish to have any further
contact with the victim information
scheme at this time.

I require special assistance.
For example; disability, language, hearing
impairment etc

I consent to someone representing me

Please specify

Please tick the relevant box and return as soon as possible.

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in confidence at all times

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PAID TO ADDRESS OVERLEAF

What do I do now?

You may contact us at the PBNI Victims Unit by returning the attached pre paid referral form or by telephoning us at the number below.

You can also make direct contact with other organisations who can help and advise you. A list of useful contacts is provided overleaf.

If you are dissatisfied with the Service you receive

Tell the person you are dealing with or tell the manager of that person or write to the PBNI Complaints Officer at:

Probation Board for Northern Ireland
80-90 North Street
Belfast
BT1 1LD
E. info@pbni.org.uk

When making a complaint please provide your name, address and contact number and state your complaint clearly giving as much detail as possible. Your complaint will be dealt with promptly and fairly and you will be contacted within 5 working days. You will be kept informed of the progress and we will inform you of the outcome and any action to be taken.

If you are still unhappy after we have considered your complaint you may be able to complain to an external independent body. Ask our staff for further advice.

Some Useful Contact Numbers

Criminal Justice System
W. www.cjsni.gov.uk

CRUSE (Bereavement Care)
T. 028 90792419
W. www.cruisebereavementcare.org.uk

Help The Aged
T. freephone: 0808 8087 575
W. www.helptheaged.org.uk

NEXUS (Survivors of sexual abuse)
T. 028 90 326803
W. www.nexusinstitute.org

NI Prisoner Release Victim Information Scheme
T. 0845 2470002
W. www.niprvis.gov.uk

NSPCC
T. 080 8800 5000
W. www.nspcc.org.uk

Police Service of Northern Ireland
T. 028 9065 0222 ask for local police
W. www.psn.police.uk

Social Services/Emergency Contact Line (out of hours)
T. 028 90565444
W. www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

Victim Support
T. 028 90 249041
W. www.victimsupport.org/vs_ni

Women's Aid
T. 028 90 239296
W. www.womensaidni.org

24 Hour Domestic Violence Helpline – 0800 917 1414

A more comprehensive contact list is available on request from the Victims Unit

Probation Board for Northern Ireland

Victims Unit
Imperial Buildings
72 High Street
Belfast
BT1 2BE
T. 028 9032 1972
F. 028 9032 1973
E. victimsunit@pbni.org.uk
Web. www.pbni.org.uk/victims

PBNI Headquarters
80/90 North Street
Belfast
BT1 1LD
T. 028 9026 2400
F. 028 9026 2470
E. info@pbni.org.uk
Web. www.pbni.org.uk

Victim Information Scheme

This leaflet explains what the Victim Information Scheme is and how it might be helpful to you if you have been a victim of a criminal offence.

This leaflet is available in different languages at www.pbni.org.uk or from 028 9032 1972.

Šī informatīvā lapa ir pieejama dažādās valodās adresē www.pbni.org.uk vai izmantojot 028 9032 1972.

Šią brošiūrą galima kitomis kalbomis parsisiusti iš www.pbni.org.uk arba užsisakyti telefonu 028 9032 1972.

Ta ulotka jest dostępna w różnych językach pod adresem www.pbni.org.uk lub pod numerem telefonu 028 9032 1972.

Эту брошюру на различных языках можно загрузить с www.pbni.org.uk или заказать по телефону 028 9032 1972.



The aim of the Board is to help prevent crime and the harm it does.

Please keep this leaflet for information and reference purposes.