

Welfare Awareness Topic: Victim of Crime

Overview – A victim of crime is **someone who suffers harm because of an act committed by another person during a crime**. This includes physical and psychological harm, as well as loss or damage to property. So, this can mean any crime not just one on a larger scale if it causes a victim harm mentally or physically.

When a crime is reported to the police a process will be undergone which will involve collecting evidence both physical and a verbal account. This will be done by making a statement. These can be detailed and will also include the impact that the crime has had on the victim.

It can be hard taking the step of reporting a crime to the police. The environment may be daunting, and a victim may not want to speak out for fear of reprisals or not being believed. Please be reassured that the police will take any matter seriously. If you have any supporting information such as documents or phone messages, cctv or witness details then please take these with you.

Should you be in immediate danger please report by phoning 999 and ask for the police. For non-immediate situations please phone 101 and speak to your local police force who will guide you through the call.

Should the case go to court then support will be offered if a victim is required to attend court. This is done by specialist police staff as well as Victim Support who is a national charity dedicated to helping anyone affected by crime to cope with and recover from their experience. It offers services not only to victims and witnesses, but also to their friends and family.

Article/Source

[Victim Support](#) offer a great deal of resources on their website to assist anyone who has been the victim of crime and will allocate a case worker for the more serious cases.

Should the case be less serious then you can utilise [My Support Space](#), a free, safe, secure and confidential space where you can choose how you want to be supported.

[Register for My Support Space](#) here - it's quick and easy. It is designed for people who are experiencing a low to moderate impact after crime. Again, there is lots of helpful information on the website.

The Ministry of Justice have produced a useful booklet on what to expect as a victim of crime [here](#).

If you have any questions about the above information or would like support in such a situation then please contact safeguarding@bpp.com We can support you through this process if required. However please don't wait to speak to us first - contact the police if you have been the victim of crime and need help.

Support

If you would like to talk to the safeguarding team about anything you have just read, we will listen without judgement and signpost you to support. If you would like to talk to a member of the Safeguarding Team then please get in touch: safeguarding@bpp.com