



Victims and Prisoners Act 2024 Summary

The Victims and Prisoners Act 2024 puts the Victims' Code on a statutory footing. It establishes an Independent Public Advocate for victims of major incidents (e.g. large-scale harm or loss of life).

The Act strengthens obligations on criminal justice bodies to comply with the Victims' Code, increasing transparency and oversight. It requires authorities to publish and keep under review a strategy for victim-survivors, assess their needs, consult victim support services, and ensure awareness of rights.

How does this relate to Older Victim-Survivors?

The requirement for authorities to collaborate locally and ensure victim-survivors have access to support services has potentially positive impacts for older people. Older people are more likely to have additional needs in terms of accessibility, health, communication, and dependency.

Stronger obligations for criminal justice agencies to comply with victims' rights, and to ensure awareness of these rights, may help older people who have previously been excluded or overlooked.