

# Victim Contact Scheme

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## Victim Contact Scheme

The Victim Contact Scheme is a service run in England and Wales by [His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service \(HMPPS\)](#).

It provides support and information to victims of serious crimes after an offender has been convicted and sentenced. Bereaved close relatives of someone who has been killed as a result of a crime may also join the scheme.

You may be eligible to join the Victim Contact Scheme if:

- you have experienced a sexual or violent crime, or are bereaved by homicide **and**
- the offender is sentenced to 12 months or more in prison.

If you decide to join the scheme, a victim liaison officer will contact you to tell you the following information:

- how long the offender will be in prison
- if there are any changes to their sentence
- when they'll be released
- if they're up for parole, and when the parole hearing will take place
- how you can make a Victim Personal Statement for the Parole Board if you want to, and how to challenge a parole decision
- how to apply for a 'licence condition' – this stops the offender doing certain things when they're released, such as contacting you.

You can find [more information about the Victim Contact Scheme](#) on the GOV.UK website.