

APPLICATION FORM

URN / CASE REFERENCE:

Having read the leaflet, I would like to register with the **PRVIS / PBNI Victim Information Scheme** to receive information about the prisoner / offender

MY DETAILS

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone:

Email:

I give consent to be contacted

Signature:

Date:

IF NOT VICTIM RELATIONSHIP TO VICTIM

PRVIS – I wish to receive the following information (please tick all that apply):

Final Discharge

Temporary Release Details

How Do I Apply?

PRVIS Scheme: Before a victim can register to receive information the victim's details will be confirmed with the police or prosecutor involved in the case.

If it is determined that giving information to either the victim or the prisoner, will raise safety concerns the information will not be shared.

You can apply by completing the application form provided in this leaflet or by contacting the unit on **03001233269** or online at www.nidirect.gov.uk/prisonerrelease-victim-information-scheme

PBNI Victim Information Scheme

Return the attached referral form in the pre-paid envelope provided or telephone the unit on the number provided below.

Participation in both PRVIS & PBNI Victim Information Schemes is entirely voluntary. Victims can change their mind and opt out of the Scheme at any time by contacting the Victim Information Unit.

Feedback

We will seek your feedback to help us improve the service provided. If you are dissatisfied with the service you receive please tell the person you are dealing with or the manager of that person.

If you are still unhappy after your complaint has been dealt with you may be able to complain to an external independent body; ask our staff for further advice.

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

NI Prisoner Release Victim Information Scheme

T: 03001 233269
www.niprivis.gov.uk

Probation Board for Northern Ireland Victims Unit

T: 03001 233269
www.pbni.org.uk

Department of Justice

T: 028 9052 7123
www.dojni.gov.uk

Police Service of Northern Ireland

T: 101 - ask for local police
www.psnipolice.uk

Victim Support Northern Ireland

T: 028 9024 4039
www.victimsupportni.co.uk

Women's Aid

T: 0808 2000 247
www.womensaid.org.uk

NEXUS (survivors of sexual abuse)

T: 028 9032 6803

Support After Murder and Manslaughter

T: 028 9442 9009
www.samm.org.uk

NSPCC

T: 028 9035 1135
www.nspcc.org.uk

Cruse Bereavement Care NI

T: 0844 477 9400
www.cruse.org.uk



Victim Information Schemes

KEEPING VICTIMS INFORMED

Victim Information Unit

Unit 4, Wallace Studios
27 Wallace Avenue
Lisburn BT27 4AE

T: **03001233269**

E: victiminfo@pbni.gsi.gov.uk

A Victim Charter sets out your entitlements, and the standard of service you should receive, as you move through the criminal justice process. The Charter, associated documents and more information including an overview of the criminal justice process is available at www.nidirect.gov.uk/victimcharter.

Introduction

There are a range of services provided to victims of crime which offer victims the opportunity to give and receive information about offenders who have been convicted of a crime against them.

The Prisoner Release Victim Information Scheme (PRVIS) is a statutory scheme as provided by sections 68 and 69 of the Justice (NI) Act 2002. This leaflet informs how victims can be involved in the scheme and the type of information they may receive about a particular prisoner.

PBNI Victim Information Scheme is a statutory Scheme as provided by the Criminal Justice (NI) Order 2005.

The scheme seeks to ensure that victims receive information about what it means when their case results in a sentence which requires supervision in the community by the Probation Board.

Who is Eligible for the Schemes?

To benefit from the PRVIS scheme a person must have been the victim of a crime which has resulted in an offender being sentenced to a term of imprisonment.

A victim may be eligible to participate in the scheme if:

- He/she is the victim of the offence for which the offender was imprisoned;
- He/she is not the victim but is the next of kin; is an immediate family member, or has a close relationship with someone who has died as a result of the crime;
- He/she is acting on behalf of a victim when that person is unable to act on their own behalf. This would include a close family member or legal guardian on behalf of a child; or for example, a carer acting on behalf of an ill or incapacitated person. If someone is acting on behalf of a victim they will be required to provide the written consent of the victim where that is possible and / or appropriate.

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. When an offender is sentenced to both custody and community supervision the PBNI Victim Information Scheme will work in partnership with the PRVIS Victim Information Scheme.

Victim Support NI can act as an independent representative. You can contact them on **028 9024 4039** or by emailing **info@victimsupportni.org.uk**

How do the Schemes work?

The PRVIS Scheme - Applies only to Adult Prisoners sentenced to at least one sentence of six months or more; or permanently transferred to serve their sentence in Northern Ireland. Sentences of less than 6 months **are not** part of the scheme nor are cases where a prisoner received a number of sentences of less than 6 months. An Adult prisoner is a person over 18 years.

Young Offenders – Only in circumstances where a particularly serious crime has been committed will young offenders **convicted whilst aged under 18** be included in the scheme. Those circumstances are that the young offender must have been;

- **Given the equivalent of a life sentence;**
- **Sentenced to six months or more by the Crown Court**

However, information will only be provided when the young offender becomes 18.

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

What can the Scheme Provide?

PRVIS Scheme provides information on a prisoner's final discharge or temporary release from prison. A victim can receive information on the prisoner's discharge which includes:

- The month and year in which a prisoner is expected to be discharged; Any conditions of release to be imposed;
- Any breaches of those conditions which might result in the prisoner's return to custody;
- For cases referred to the Parole Commissioners for a decision on release you can be:
 - told the prisoner's case is being considered by the Commissioners;
 - given the opportunity to submit your views/concerns;
 - informed of the Commissioner's decision and if it is to release the prisoner of the licensing arrangements which apply to that offender.

A victim can also be told of temporary release the prisoner is granted during the course of the sentence.

It should be noted that it may not always be possible to provide information in advance of a prisoner's temporary release. On occasions, urgent applications may be considered on compassionate grounds. Victims may occasionally have to be told of temporary release after it has occurred.

PBNI Victim Information Scheme provides the following:

- Opportunity for you to participate in the preparation of a Victim Report for the Parole Commissioners.
- Information about specific sentence in your case and general information about PBNI's supervision of offenders.
- Opportunity to discuss your concerns, which may inform the management of the offender.
- Information provided in writing, by phone or in a face-to-face meeting with a VLO.
- Information can be provided, if appropriate, about other organisations who may be able to offer specific support to you.
- Opportunity to be involved in direct or indirect restorative contact with the offender if this would help you address issues resulting from the offence.

DETAILS OF REPRESENTATIVE

Name:

Organisation (if applicable)

Postcode:

Telephone:

Email:

Victim Support NI can act as an independent representative.

You can contact them on **02890 244 039** or email **info@victimsupportni.org.uk** to discuss further.

PBNI VICTIM INFORMATION SCHEME

I would like to meet you

I would like you to telephone me to discuss Issues

I would like to receive written information

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