# 

**Consultation Survey**

**Advice on Informing a New Strategy for Victims and Survivors**

The Executive Office has asked the Commission for Victims and Survivors to provide advice on Informing a New Strategy for Victims and Survivors.

A new strategy will shape how issues relating to victims and survivors are addressed. This includes important areas such as the delivery of services, addressing the legacy of our past and building for the future.

To inform my advice, I am seeking your views.

I would be extremely grateful if you would complete this survey, which should take no longer than 15 minutes.

How to respond

* Completed questionnaires can be returned by email to the following address: [leah.mcdonnell@cvsni.org](mailto:leah.mcdonnell@cvsni.org); or
* You can complete it online: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/TPE464/>

The closing date for responses is 1 June 2020.

If you have any questions about any aspect of the survey, or would like us to complete it over the telephone with you, please contact us on 028 9031 1000.

Please note that **no individual or organisation will be identifiable through their response to this survey**.Although the information you provide may be reflected in my advice, it will be combined and presented with other feedback in an overall summary of findings. You can read our privacy notice here: <https://bit.ly/39ujOnm>

Your help and input is very much appreciated. 

Judith Thompson

Commissioner for Victims and Survivors

**Background - A Strategy for Victims and Survivors**

The current Strategy for Victims and Survivors established a new approach for victims and survivors work, focusing on three key areas:

* Dealing with the past
* Building for the future
* Services

The work has been taken forward by the Commission for Victims and Survivors, the Victims and Survivors Service and the Victims and Survivors Forum, in partnership with The Executive Office. You can read the Strategy here: <https://bit.ly/2YKuoBL>

In advice submitted to The Executive Office in November 2019 the Commissioner for

Victims and Survivors recommended the formal extension of the existing Strategy for two years with the option of a further short extension if necessary to finalise the new strategy. The extension allowed the continuation of important work, including service provision and significant research studies. You can read the advice here: <https://bit.ly/3f7cq52>

In 2017 the Mid-Term Review of the Strategy assessed the Strategy’s implementation and looked at its effectiveness. The review involved significant consultation and contained a number of recommendations. You can find the report here: <https://bit.ly/2KPezEv>

The current Strategy, and any new one, enables much needed services to be delivered; allows the Commission to advise Government on matters relating to victims/survivors and wider civic society; and ensures that the voices of victims and survivors are heard at a Governmental level and across wider society.

**Survey Questions**

**1. Are you?**     
Please tick all that apply

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A victim/survivor  I have been injured (physically or psychologically)  I have been bereaved  I am a carer  I have witnessed a conflict-related incident  I have provided medical/emergency assistance to an individual in connection with a conflict-related incident |
|  | Representative of a Victims and Survivors Service-funded organisation |
|  | Representative of a third sector/civic society organisation |
|  | Representative of a Government body |
|  | An academic |
|  | Other (please specify):   |  | | --- | |  | |

**2. In what capacity are you completing this survey?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A victim/survivor |
|  | Representative of a Victims and Survivors Service-funded organisation |
|  | Representative of a third sector/civic society organisation |
|  | Representative of a Government body |
|  | An academic |
|  | Other (please specify):   |  | | --- | |  | |

**3. About you**

**Postal district** (BT1, BT2 for example)

**Age**

16-24

25-34

35-44

45-54

55-64

65-74

75+

**Gender** (please specify)

**Background for Q4**

**The Commission for Victims and Survivors**

The Commission’s role is to promote an awareness of matters relating to the interests of victims and survivors; keep under review the adequacy and effectiveness of law and practice and services; and advise Government and any body or person providing services for victims and survivors. You can find out more here: <https://bit.ly/3d2qRFy>

**The Victims and Survivors Forum**

Under legislation, the Commission for Victims and Survivors is required to make arrangements for a forum for consultation and discussion for victims and survivors. Appointed by the Commissioner for Victims and Survivors, it a representative body who work as a group to support the Commission’s work and help to inform policy. You can find out more here: <https://bit.ly/2VTNVk6>

**The Victims and Survivors Service**

The Victims and Survivors Service deliver funding and support to victims and survivors, on behalf of [The Executive Office](https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/). They provide support to those who have been injured (physically or psychologically); those who care for people who have been injured in this way; and those who have been bereaved. For full details of the support they offer, please click here: <https://bit.ly/35k80mK>

**Victim and Survivor Centred Approach**

Taking this approach means it is essential that the views of victims and survivors are at the very heart of the agenda.

**4. The current Strategy for Victims and Survivors has adopted a ‘victim and survivor centred’ approach built around The Commission for Victims and Survivors; The Victims and Survivors Forum; and The Victims Survivors Service.**

**Should this approach be used in a new strategy?**

Yes

No

*If you answered ‘no’, please comment below:*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**5. Are there other partners who should be part of a new strategy (i.e. Government departments or bodies)?**

Yes

No

*If you answered ‘yes’, please comment below:*

|  |
| --- |
|  |
|  |

**6. The main aims of the current Strategy are to:**

1. put in place comprehensive arrangements to ensure that the voice of victims and survivors is represented and acted upon at a governmental and policy level
2. secure through the provision of an appropriate range of support services and other initiatives a measurable improvement in the wellbeing of victims and survivors
3. assist victims and survivors, where this is consistent with their wishes and wellbeing, to play a central role, as part of wider society in addressing the legacy of the past
4. assist victims and survivors to contribute to building a shared and better future

**-Should these continue as the main aims in a new strategy?**

Yes

No

*If you answered ‘no’, please comment below:*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**7. Thinking about how much society has changed in the past 10 years, what else would you like to see included in a new strategy?**

*Please comment below:*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**8. Do you think the United Kingdom’s exit from the European Union will have an impact on the wellbeing of victims and survivors? The implications for victims and survivors may be: access to funding; access to services, which includes those of a cross border service; and potential security implications etc.**

Yes

No

*If you answered ‘Yes’ please state what you believe the impact will be on the wellbeing of victims and survivors.*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**9. Other comments**

If you have any further comments to inform the Commissioner’s advice to The Executive Office, please use the space below.

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**10. Keep informed**

If you would like to be kept informed about the work of the Commission for Victims and Survivors, please provide your details:

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Organisation (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Commission for Victims and survivors will store, use and share your information for the following purposes:

* Equality monitoring **in an anonymous format**
* Learning from themes identified as part of the research and policy development work carried out by the Commission
* Providing updates to you of work being undertaken or publicised by the Commission
* The preparation and submission of statistics and content of reports to our departmental sponsor body and other departmental bodies as appropriate

You can read our privacy notice here: <https://bit.ly/39ujOnm>