

# UKS31419

*by* Abcd Victim Apple Strategy

---

**Submission date:** 15-Apr-2023 11:22AM (UTC-0500)

**Submission ID:** 2065314051

**File name:** UKS31419.docx (15.14K)

**Word count:** 3109

**Character count:** 17075

## **VICTIM STRATEGY**

## Aim

### <sup>1</sup> *Importance of protecting the rights of victims*

Victims have basic human rights to get recognition with respect. It is important to protect their rights to give them physical safety and to protect their privacy. It also helps the victim to be indemnified by the offenders and get compensation from the state.

### *Importance of promoting victim participation*

Victims have the basic right to get information relating to their cases. Promoting the participation of the victim will help them to get financial assistance and psychological support. It also gives access to the victim to participate in criminal proceedings not merely as a witness but also as an active party to the case.

### <sup>1</sup> *Importance of enhancing public trust in the criminal justice system*

<sup>1</sup>  
The Ministry of Justice aims to enhance public trust in the criminal system which is important for the effective functioning of the criminal system as it helps to secure cooperation between victims and witnesses. For instance, through the process of reporting crime, and giving testimony in court public trust can be secured.

### *The Importance of addressing the root causes of crime*

Crime is generally the result of adverse economic, cultural, and social-cultural conditions. To avoid crime it is essential to understand the root causes related to crime. Apart from the socio-economic causes youngsters in the UK, get involved in crime due to the easy weapons access, lack of parental control, and lack of education.

### *Importance of promoting restorative justice*

The victims of the crime generally have the feeling of inclusion and they often get confused by the procedure of criminal justice. Restorative justice aids the victim to decide how their justice procedure will proceed. It helps the victim to interact directly with the parties who are responsible. Thus it is essential to promote restorative justice.

## Key issues faced

### *Funding:*

- *Need for financial support to victim*
- *Effect of insufficient funding*

The victims has the right to get financial assistance from the state as well as from the responsible parties. For the purpose of providing financial support to the victims of criminal cases, a victims support service has been founded in the UK that is funded by various agencies

that include the government department nationally, and also involves the Commissioner of Police, locally. Every <sup>3</sup> agency is responsible for the decision of how to allocate the available resources to the victim in order to improve the condition of the victim in an efficient manner (Sullivan, *et al.*,2019). Victims of crime often suffer from social stigma as they fear facing society and getting back to normal life and rejoining their work-life, financial assistance from the agencies helps the victim to cope with the situation but the lack of funding in the various agencies will lead to the unavailability of the financial assistance to the victims as a result affecting the victims support. Financial support transforms the life of the victim after the mishap that happened, it also assists the victim to bring back confidence in their life. The funding strategy focuses on providing assistance to the victim irrespective of the status of the report regarding the offense.

#### *Financial costs and compensation claims*

In certain cases, victims experience damage to their personal property. This often leads them to replace the property or repair it which can include heavy expenses. In Other cases, the victims may experience injuries due to criminal activities. As a result of this, they may have to undergo medical treatments which may include heavy charges for emergency visits as well as the requirement for counselling (Victim Strategy, 2023). These factors add up to the expenses of the victim which they may find difficult to afford due to financial constraints. In order to support the factors, the victim code offers a number of financial aids and compensation to the victims. However, at times the funds are inadequate in order to cover the required support by the victims.

#### ***Accessibility:***

##### *Issues with receiving entitlement in the VC*

##### *Lack of access to advice and support*

##### *Lack of information about the criminal justice system*

Victims also face issues with accessing their entitled support. The issues mostly include logistical barriers, access to service or attending appointments. In addition to that, they also face difficulty with availing the financial support. The cost of transportation and medical expenses adds to the difficulty to have access to their entitlement in terms of the victim strategy (Warnken and Lauritsen, 2019). As a result of this, the victims lack behind in terms of receiving the entitled facilities which are provided to support the victims in terms of their physical, mental

and financial difficulties. Often victims do not have a clear idea of where they can turn to seek in order to proper advice and support. They are often aware of the terms of the advisory services and support they can seek from criminal agencies across the United Kingdom. These advisory services include helplines, online support systems as well as face-to-face support systems. Due to the lack of knowledge of the victims, they are unable to speak for the necessary support which often leads to isolation and has a negative impact on the psychological and emotional aspects. Due to the lack of proper measurement taken by the government and other authoritative bodies in terms of spreading awareness, victims are aware of their own rights as well as the support they are entitled to. This makes a difficult for the victims to navigate through the criminal justice system which causes measures frustration and develops mistrust against others. They often feel disempowered due to the fact that the victims main not have even heard of the justice system or have taken it seriously enough to move forward in order to seek support.

### ***Victim participation:***

#### *Lack of participation due to fear of its impact on personal relationships*

#### *Issues with understanding and awareness of Victim Codes (VC)*

Victims often find it difficult to take active participation in victim strategy due to the fear that it might have a negative impact on their interpersonal relationships and their engagement with others. Relationships with their family members, friends relatives and colleagues get affected due to the hesitation to take complete engagement in relationships. This leads them to face social isolation. Long periods of such an isolated state and disengaging mindset lead the victims to feel lonely and leave them in despair. They become hesitant to take natural engagement and any form of interest in building or even putting effort to maintain existing relationships. The victim code is a regulatory policy set out by the UK Government which basically outlines the minimum support and service that will be provided to the victims of crime. The service is granted by criminal justice agencies. However, victims are mostly aware of this code which impacts the support received by them. Not being aware of the existence of such a code that provides support to the victims leads them to not availing the benefits which result in the victims being frustrated due to the unfair treatment in case they do not receive desired justice (Moynihan, 2018). This also affects their ability to ask for support from their near and dear ones as well as find it difficult to reach out to the victim support facilities established under the Victim's Code.

### ***Intersectionality:***

#### *Insufficient support for the victim of sexual abuse and violence*

#### *Impact on the mental well-being of Victims*

Victims of sexual crime and violence are even more sensitive than victims who have experienced other forms of crime. They especially face issues which include fear of retaliation, societal stigma and other difficulties (Papalia *et al.*, 2021). This leads them to fear reporting crimes which come as a barrier. The fear also includes not being believed by authorities or their family members as well as fear of repercussions from the criminal. In case of repeated abuse, the victims often feel motivated to report to the authority which deeply instils in them the fear of not receiving proper justice. Disabled victims or victims belonging to the LGBTQ+ community who have experienced sexual crimes and other forms of abuse and criminal activities often experience trauma (Gjika and Marganski, 2020). This results in the development of long-term health issues which include anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder and depression. As a result of these factors, the victims may experience physical symptoms as well. The physical symptoms of the victims often include headaches and insomnia. They are also likely to experience a sense of loss, fear and grief which leads to immense stress and anxiety. This impacts their daily life as their experience with the crying makes them feel unsafe which makes it further difficult for them to continue with their routine.

### ***Prevention:***

- To detect the root cause and to eradicate it
- Setting up rehabilitation centers.

Victim strategy in the UK focuses on protecting the rights of the victims and providing financial assistance to them, but it is essential to eradicate the crime, for that it is essential to find out the root causes related to the crime. Basically, the root causes of crime in the UK are related to the economic condition prevailing in the state that is due to the lack of employability, the social causes are the pressure from peer groups to get involved in anti-social activities and get addicted to drugs which in return give rise to the crime because for the drugs and alcohol consumption funding is necessary which increase the rate of crime. In England, the easy availability of weapon is another root causes for the increasing crime rate along with the lack of parental control. To eradicate the root causes it is essential to promote community services that will conduct various seminars and group discussions on the effects of anti-social activities

and getting drug addicts. It is essential to educate the population to control crime (GOV.UK.,2023). It is also necessary to increase surveillance in every corner of society as well as the nation to ensure that criminal activities do not take place. Various rehabilitation Centre also needs to be set up to eradicate crime.

## Key findings

- *Training of the professionals related to the criminal justice system:*
- *Involvement of the victim in the criminal justice process:*
- *Restorative form of justice:*
- *Victim strategy helps to find out root causes:*

For the effective running of the criminal justice system it is necessary to train the professionals, associated with this field generally criminal justice professional training facilities the leadership and management and training are basically focused on the local national and the international issues involved. Training is basically taking place at the local level or the regional level where the root causes of the crime are lying. The instructor of the training is generally a high experience professional from the field of federal law and the enforcement agencies of the nation (DeMichele, *et al.*,2019). They all are professionals, specialists, and skilled leaders. So by an effective training process, the professional can deliver proper justice. The professionals need to be empathetic towards the offender while delivering justice as the criminal justice system strikes the balance between the delivery of justice to the victims and the social aspect of the offenders and the circumstances under which the crime has been committed.

The underline cause of the crime can be addressed when the victim will be placed at the center of the criminal justice procedure. The victim strategy that is taken up by the UK Ministry of Justice may lead to inequalities in the system of criminal justice. There may be a rising tension between what the victim needs and what are the rights of the offenders and striking a proper balance is necessary for the effective running of the criminal justice (Young, 2019). The process of criminal justice generally centers around arresting the criminal, and punishing them through retributive theory or through the imposing of fines. Putting the victim at the center of the criminal justice system is the restorative justice approach. Assumption of the victims through exploration of the sentiments is required when the victim is in the middle of the



procedural system. Victims may belong to any age including the child also, so evaluating the opinion of the agreed party is therefore played a crucial part in the process of the criminal justice system. Although evaluating the opinion of the aggrieved party is beneficial for the system however, sometimes it is detrimental to the criminal justice procedure when the victim of the case is a child. Taking the opinions of the victims into account helps to evaluate the needs of the victims which may not only be financial support but also through other supports that the victim need. Thus it can be concluded that placing the victim in the middle of justice can be beneficial.

Restorative justice is the process in which both the parties related to an offense accumulate to resolve the dispute and to settle the after-effects of the offense, and what will be the future implication. Restorative justice is basically a mediation process between the victim and the offender through direct involvement, or through the involvement of some third party. It is a process to find a positive way after the conflict between two people, it gives opportunity to the victim to analyse the impact of their actions and resolve it with an apology or through compensation (Cps. gov,2023). This justice gives the offender a chance to amend the act they had done, and to take responsibility for the same. Restorative justice aims to reduce the agony of the victim and ensure that they will be compensated for the crime inflicted on them by the offender, which helps to satisfy the victims. The faith of the public in the criminal system by delivering a responsive justice to compensate the victim in conciliated manner. Restorative justice is a two-way process and is generally followed in the arbitration, conciliation, and mediation process, but in the prevailing justice system, it cannot be applied as in the case of a heinous crime like murder it is not possible to restore the life of the people.

The aim of the victim strategy is to provide financial and psychological assistance but firstly it is essential to find out the root causes related to the crime. Environment plays a pivotal role in shaping the behaviour of the person and their attitude. An individual who has grown up in an environment encircled by various criminal activity are vulnerable to being exposed to those activities and are generally expected to behave in a similar manner, on the contrary, the person who has grown up in an educated and religious environment is involved with productive activities. Thus it is essential for the Government and other Nongovernmental organisation to carry out community service at the grassroots level so that crime can be eradicated. Sometimes the economic condition of an individual also lets him commit a crime. An individual who is suffering the poverty due to unemployment and various other economic factors is likely to



commit a crime because of his social economic condition. At a young age, an individual is vulnerable to peer groups as they can easily influence them to be involved in anti-social activities and to get indulge in drug habits, this habit required lots of money and to gather such funds, they involved themselves in criminal activities so it is essential to create various rehabilitation centers to mitigate those risk associate with the above mention factors. Lack of education and lack of parental control at a tender age are also late to the environment of an individual in criminal activity.

## Conclusion

- Implementation of restorative justice
- Financial and psychological assistance

From the above discussion it can be concluded that the victim strategy helps to improve the criminal system of justice by providing a proper response to the problems of the victims and helping them to reach satisfaction through the process of Justice. For the proper implementation of the strategy regarding the victim, it is essential to train professionals related to the criminal justice system. One of the approaches that give mutual benefits <sup>2</sup> to both the victims and the criminals is the Restorative form of justice which helps the offenders to amend their mistakes and also helps the victim to get compensation. Through the proper implementation of the strategy regarding the victim, the UK justice gains the public trust in the justice system which has a wider impact on society. The victim's strategy provides financial and psychological support to the victims and gives an insight into the procedure of the case. It has been observed that Human Rights generally raise their voice on behalf of the offenders but they also need to lay emphasis on the rights of the victim so that the requirements of the victims and the rights of the offenders can be balanced in an effective way. However, there are various challenges while implementing the victim strategy like lack of funding of the various agencies but that needs to be properly addressed for the effective running of the criminal justice system.

## References

Moynihan, S., 2018. 'The Voiceless Victim: A critical analysis of the impact of enhanced victim participation in the criminal justice process', *International Journal of Law, Crime and Justice*, 53, pp. 24-41.

Victim Strategy, 2023. Statutory framework for the Early Years foundation stage - gov.uk (no date). Available at: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/974907/EYFS\\_framework\\_-\\_March\\_2021.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/974907/EYFS_framework_-_March_2021.pdf) (Accessed: April 15, 2023).

Warnken, H. and Lauritsen, J., 2019. Who experiences violent victimization and who accesses services? Findings from the National Crime Victimization Survey for expanding our reach.

Papalia, N., Mann, E. and Ogloff, J.R., 2021. Child sexual abuse and risk of revictimization: Impact of child demographics, sexual abuse characteristics, and psychiatric disorders. *Child maltreatment*, 26(1), pp.74-86.

Crime and justice,2023.Victim participation in criminal justice - crimeandjustice.org.uk Available at: <https://www.crimeandjustice.org.uk/sites/crimeandjustice.org.uk/files/09627250208553497.pdf> (Accessed: April 15, 2023).

Researchgate,2023. Victims' rights are human rights: The importance of recognizing victims ... Available at: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/270809432\\_Victims'\\_rights\\_are\\_human\\_rights\\_The\\_importance\\_of\\_recognizing\\_victims\\_as\\_persons](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/270809432_Victims'_rights_are_human_rights_The_importance_of_recognizing_victims_as_persons) (Accessed: April 15, 2023).

GOV.UK.,2023. Statutory framework for the Early Years foundation stage - Available at: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/974907/EYFS\\_framework\\_-\\_March\\_2021.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/974907/EYFS_framework_-_March_2021.pdf) (Accessed: April 15, 2023).

GOV.UK.,2023.Victims funding strategy Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/victims-funding-strategy/victims-funding-strategy> (Accessed: April 15, 2023).

Sullivan, C.M., Bomsta, H.D. and HacsKaylo, M.A., 2019. Flexible funding as a promising strategy to prevent homelessness for survivors of intimate partner violence. *Journal of interpersonal violence*, 34(14), pp.3017-3033.

Cps. gov,2023.Restorative justice, Restorative Justice | The Crown Prosecution Service. Available at: [https://www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/restorative-justice#:~:text=Restorative%20justice%20\(RJ\)%20has%20been,its%20implications%20for%20the%20future](https://www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/restorative-justice#:~:text=Restorative%20justice%20(RJ)%20has%20been,its%20implications%20for%20the%20future). (Accessed: April 15, 2023).

Young, R., 2019. Integrating a multi-victim perspective into criminal justice through restorative justice conferences. In *Integrating a victim perspective within criminal justice* (pp. 227-252). Routledge.

DeMichele, M., Baumgartner, P., Barrick, K., Comfort, M., Scaggs, S. and Misra, S., 2019. What do criminal justice professionals think about risk assessment at pretrial. *Fed. Probation*, 83, p.32.

## ORIGINALITY REPORT

5%

SIMILARITY INDEX

5%

INTERNET SOURCES

0%

PUBLICATIONS

0%

STUDENT PAPERS

## PRIMARY SOURCES

1

njlaw.rutgers.edu

Internet Source

2%

2

epdf.pub

Internet Source

1%

3

www.gov.uk

Internet Source

1%

4

ebin.pub

Internet Source

1%

5

Submitted to Universiteit van Amsterdam

Student Paper

&lt;1%

6

worldwidescience.org

Internet Source

&lt;1%

7

doi.org

Internet Source

&lt;1%

Exclude quotes Off

Exclude matches Off

Exclude bibliography On