

Tēnā koe,

Victims Assistance Scheme improvements from 1 July 2023

We are writing to let you know about upcoming improvements to the Victims Assistance Scheme (the Scheme). As part of Budget 2022, the Government provided additional funding for the Scheme to enable more victims of serious crime to access more financial support. As a result, from 1 July 2023 changes are being made to the Scheme to improve accessibility and uptake, including:

- increased financial support for whānau of Homicide and death by Criminal Act victims
- introducing a dedicated counselling grant for primary victims of serious crime
- increasing the hourly rate available for counselling for victims
- creating a new grant for primary victims of sexual violence to support safety and healing.

More information about the changes is outlined in the attached summary.

We ask that you please refer victims of serious crime to Victim Support who can determine whether a victim may be eligible for financial support.

If you have any questions, please contact Victim Support by calling 0800 842 846.

Thank you for all the work you do supporting victims.

Ngā mihi,



Mark Thomas
Acting Manager Provider & Community Services
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James McCulloch
Chief Executive
Victim Support