



Hon Greg Smith SC MP

Attorney General
Minister for Justice

MEDIA RELEASE

8 February 2012

NSW A NATIONAL LEADER IN HELPING VICTIMS OF CRIME

The Attorney General, Greg Smith SC, today launched the Victims of Crime Clearinghouse - Australia's most comprehensive website for information about the needs of victims of crime.

The online database contains summaries of all reports, which are divided into categories such as domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse and victims' rights.

"The clearinghouse is a one-stop shop for research into victims of crime, containing more than 250 reports, conference papers and journal articles from Australia and around the world," Mr Smith said.

"It will help guide government policy and be an invaluable point of reference for anyone providing frontline services to victims of crime, including psychologists, GPs, police and legal practitioners."

The NSW Government will also provide up to \$200,000 a year to support further research into the most effective methods of helping victims in their recovery.

"The new funding program will focus on victims' issues, where there is little or no local research available," Mr Smith said.

In 2012, funding will be provided for research into court support for victims of crime and the impact of media reporting on victims.

The Chief Executive of Enough is Enough, Ken Marslew AM, said the clearinghouse and funding program would help improve services for victims of crime.

"In years gone by, the complex psychological, physical and financial issues facing victims of crime were often overlooked or misunderstood," Mr Marslew said.

"Service providers who are well informed about victims' needs will be better equipped to respond appropriately, with sensitivity and compassion."

The clearinghouse website also has a Media Toolbox, containing resources to assist reporters covering cases involving victims of crime.

For more on the clearinghouse, go to: www.victimsclearinghouse.nsw.gov.au.

For more on research into victims: victimsclearinghouse@agd.nsw.gov.au.