



Gabrielle Upton
Attorney General

MEDIA RELEASE

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DELIVERING FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME

The victims of crime who were in the transition between the old Victims Compensation Scheme and the new Victims Support Scheme can have their claims reassessed from 1 September 2015, NSW Attorney General Gabrielle Upton today announced.

“The NSW Government has listened to and acted on community concerns. We have kept our word and fast-tracked the delivery of this key election promise,” Ms Upton said.

“We are giving people who were affected by the transition the chance to have their claims reassessed. This is right and fair thing to do.”

All eligible victims of crime will receive written notification from the Department of Justice outlining the application process. Information is also available on the Victims Services website. Applicants must apply before 31 August 2016 to have their claim reassessed.

Ms Upton said no eligible applicant would be worse off after their claim is reassessed based on merit.

“If the reassessed determination is greater than the initial, the individual will receive the difference between their initial and final determination one. However, if the reassessed determination is less, they will not have to pay any money back,” Ms Upton said.

The cost of reassessing transitional claims and making compensation payments to claimants has been provided for in the NSW Budget.

Ms Upton added the new Victims Support Scheme was delivering for victims of crime.

“The Victims Support Scheme has made it faster and easier for people to get help when they need it, not months or years later. People now receive payments within an average of a month rather than 31 months under the old scheme. People can also access extensive counselling by qualified professionals,” Ms Upton said.

For more information call the Victims Support Line on (02) 8688 6600, email vsrp@justice.nsw.gov.au or visit the Victims Services website at <http://www.victimsservices.justice.nsw.gov.au/>