



**Baroness Newlove of Warrington**  
**Victims' Commissioner for England and Wales**

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Alex Chalk MP KC  
Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice

Sent by email: [PS.LordChancellor@justice.gov.uk](mailto:PS.LordChancellor@justice.gov.uk)

15<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Alex,

**VICTIMS' COMMISSIONER STRATEGIC PLAN 2023/24**

Further to my appointment as Victims' Commissioner for 2023/24, please find attached my Strategic Plan for the year ahead.

As you will see, it sets out my strategic aims, as well as my workplan priorities. I'd like to thank your officials for taking the time to review this before it was finalised.

You will not be surprised to see that scrutiny of the Victims and Prisoners Bill will be my primary focus for the year. I will be writing to Ed Argar in the next few days setting out my initial thoughts on how the Bill might be enhanced and I look forward to meeting with him in due course.

I am also set to meet with a number of third sector groups to hear their ideas on what the Bill might achieve.

As well as the Bill, I am keen to track progress on implementing the recommendations of the End-to-End Rape Review, the rollout of pre-recorded cross examination (Section 28), tackling court backlogs and victim access to Parole Board hearings. In the coming months, I will also be publishing a review on the use of victim advocates and will be undertaking research on progress in supporting victims of persistent anti-social behaviour.

Throughout my term, I will be listening to the lived experiences of victims and this feedback will be reflected in all of my work. This week I published a survey of 500 victims undertaken last year and my team have just commissioned a survey of 3000 victims which will be published in 2024.

As Victims' Commissioner, I am always on hand to advise you and your officials, where appropriate. If there is any specific work you would like to commission my office to undertake, I would be happy to consider these requests.

A copy of my Strategic Plan will be placed on my website.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen', followed by a long, sweeping horizontal flourish.

**Baroness Newlove LLD (hc) DCL**  
**Victims' Commissioner for England and Wales**