

BSC Victims Network Conference 16

BSC Victims Network Conference
 Northumbria University,
 Newcastle – upon - Tyne
 Thursday 12th January 2017

Victim Policy and Support: Past, present and future

8.30-9.30	BSC Victims Network breakfast meeting
9:30-10.00	Registration and tea/coffee
10.00-10.15	<p>Welcome to Northumbria University Professor Peter Francis, Deputy Vice Chancellor</p> <p>Opening Remarks Vera Baird QC Police and Crime Commissioner Northumbria</p> <p>Welcome to the Conference from Pam Davies and Hannah Bows</p>
10.15-11.30	<p>Setting the Scene</p> <p>Keynote Supporting Victims in England and Wales: The Victim Commissioner's Theory of Change Dr Elaine Wedlock, Senior Research Officer, Office for the Victims' Commissioner for England and Wales</p> <p>Plenary Repositioning Victims - Policy, practice and professional cultures Dr Jacki Tapley: Institute of Criminal Justice Studies, Portsmouth University</p> <p>Panel Discussion</p>
11.30-11.45	Tea/Coffee
11:45 – 1pm	<p>Where are we now: Evidence Based Learning</p> <p>Plenary Victim Perspectives on Justice: Emerging findings from the 'Justice, Inequality and Gender Based Violence' project. Professor Marianne Hester: University of Bristol</p> <p>Panel of Speakers Development of an evidence led approach to the delivery of victim services. Graham Strange Victim Care and Advice Services, Cleveland Zoe Jackson: Aurora New Dawn, Hampshire.</p>
1pm -1.30	Lunch
1.45 – 4pm	<p>Victim Policy and Support: 2020 Vision</p> <p>Panel of Speakers tbc</p> <p>Closing Plenary Professor Matthew Hall, University of Lincoln</p>
4pm -16:15	Closing discussion – Pam and Hannah

Wine reception and Networking

Post-conference Dinner

This One-day Conference is organised by the British Society of Criminology Victims Network in association with Northumbria University.

The Conference theme: **Victim Policy and Support: Past, present and future** enables a comprehensive review and exploration of where we have been, where we are now and where we are going as regards victim policy and support for victims of crime. Under this organising theme three sub-themes are addressed.

1. Past - the history and development of victim policy in the UK and how this compares with European and international jurisdictions. The relatively short history of victim-oriented policy developments as compared with other criminal justice provisions and offender focussed perspectives means that present and the future directions are contingent upon the social and cultural traditions of the recent past.
2. Present - the current state of affairs as regards victim policy and victim support and assistance. During this part of the conference we consider where we are now and share new findings from cutting edge research and practice based areas. Evidence for new directions and developments will be shared and debated.
3. Future - Convergence/divergence - what are the future prospects for victim policy and support in light of Brexit? The closing theme for the day explores future directions for victim policy and support giving consideration to the socio-economic and political contexts that are likely to shape such developments.

The Conference will be of interest to an amalgam of academics and practitioners. The proposed title and theme is deliberately chosen to be especially timely for those stakeholders who are working in the field of victim support and assistance and for those who are working at the policy making end of this provision. The partnerships that have previously existed in connection with this stream of work have recently been revised with different funding mechanisms, legislations and political influences all having their impact upon victim policy and support.

Speakers include a complementary mix of practitioner and academic contributors ensuring that evidence-based policy and practice are a key feature of the conference. With keynote and panel sessions lead by those who have engaged in research and evaluation projects from around the UK, and, designed to stimulate audience participation and discussion, this is a timely point for us to share new findings and to reflect upon the implications of them in the shifting sands that policy makers and service providers alike are currently working in.