Let’s talk victims’ rights

Have your say on victims’ rights in Queensland

Office of the
Victims' Commissioner

Let's talk victims' rights, Have your say on victims' rights in Queensland

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Disclaimer:

The content of this paper is for information only. If you have a legal problem, you should seek legal advice from a lawyer. The guide should not be relied upon as legal advice.

While all reasonable care has been taken in the preparation of this paper, no liability is assumed for any errors or omissions or any loss, damage or injury, financial or otherwise, suffered by any person acting or relying on information contained in or omitted from this publication.

This paper reflects the law as at July 2025.

Acknowledgements

Victim recognition

The Office of the Victims' Commissioner respectfully recognises all victims of crime.

We see you; we believe you, and we recognise the harm you have suffered. We respect your choices in whichever path you may take. Your emotions and reactions are valid.

We see your strength, courage, resilience, and vulnerabilities and support your right to self-determination, and to lead lives free from fear.

To loved ones of those who have died, we offer our condolences, and we acknowledge the ongoing hurt and pain you experience. We recognise the important role of people supporting and advocating for victims of crime, both personally and professionally. We value the experiences you have shared with us as they shape our work.

Acknowledgement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

The Office of the Victims' Commissioner pays respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ancestors of this land, their spirits, and their legacy. The foundation laid by these ancestors – the First Nations people – give strength, inspiration, and courage to current and future generations towards creating a better Queensland.

We pay our deepest respects to Elders past and present, and their continuing connection to lands, waters, and communities.

Stakeholder acknowledgment

We also give special acknowledgement and thanks to everyone who provided their insights, experiences, and expertise to this paper.

We thank you for your generosity and courage.

Foreword from the Victims' Commissioner

The Charter of Victims' Rights is an important guide for how our services and systems should treat people who have been harmed by violent crime.

This is the first time the Charter has been reviewed since it was introduced in its current form in 2017. Our understanding of what victims experience, and recognition of how important it is to respond to their needs in ways that are underpinned by victims' rights, has deepened significantly since 2017.

Rights matter because they lay the foundation for fairness, dignity, and accountability in any just society. For victims of crime, victims' rights are not just symbolic—they are essential safeguards that support recognition, protection, and access to justice. A system that upholds rights is one that acknowledges harm, builds trust, and ensures that all individuals—victims, offenders, and the broader community—are treated fairly and equitably.

> **"Rights matter because they lay the foundation for fairness, dignity, and accountability in any just society."**

The call for a Charter review reflects strong community and parliamentary support—from the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce, the Legal Affairs and Safety Committee, and the Youth Justice Reform Select Committee—underscoring a shared recognition of the need for reform. Now, we have a chance to reflect on what has changed, what still needs to change, and how we can better protect victims' dignity, well-being, and rights.

As Queensland's Victims' Commissioner, I am honoured to lead this independent review. I am listening closely to victims of crime, their families, and those who support them. It has been equally important to hear from those responsible for upholding these rights – the agencies and professionals whose actions determine whether the Charter delivers on its promise.

I acknowledge the many individuals and organisations who have already contributed to reviews and inquiries into victims' experiences in Queensland's criminal justice system. This review is designed to build on that work—not duplicate it—with the aim of delivering practical reform that reflects what has already been heard.

This review will not be quick or shallow. I will make sure it is careful, honest, and aimed at real change. I want the recommendations I make to government to lead to action. They will form a plan for stronger victims' rights and better victims' experiences across Queensland's justice and support systems.

This Issues Paper is one of many ways I will engage with people across Queensland during this review. Your experiences and ideas will help shape recommendations to government, ensuring they are grounded in what victims truly need.

I invite submissions from anyone with an interest in victims' rights. While some key issues are highlighted, there are no settled views – all perspectives are welcome.

Beck O'Connor
Victims' Commissioner, Queensland

Content warning

In this paper, I talk about violent crime, including domestic and family violence and sexual violence, which you may find distressing. Please take care while reading and if you need to, reach out to support services.

The language I use

I use the terms 'victim' and 'victim-survivor' in this paper. I acknowledge the diverse preferences of individuals with lived experience of crime. I recognise that language plays a significant role in shaping narratives and people may have different preferences regarding their identities.

Some people may prefer 'victim' as it emphasises their experience of harm. For others, 'victim-survivor' acknowledges both the ongoing effects and harm of crime as well as their strength and resilience. By using both terms, I hope to honour both perspectives and be inclusive.

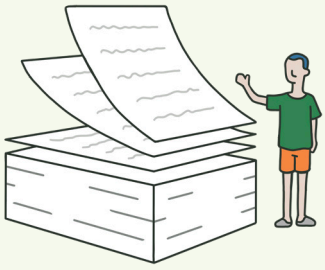
I use the terms 'children' and 'young people' throughout this submission to refer to Queenslanders who are under 18 years.

Let's talk about victims' rights in Queensland

In Queensland, victims of violent crime (including victims of domestic and family violence) have rights. These rights are set out in the Queensland Charter of Victims' Rights (the Charter).

The Charter is a list of commitments to victims of violent crime and includes:

- having the right to be treated kindly, with respect and dignity.
- having the right to be provided information about their case.
- having a right to be told about where they can get help and support.
- having the right to make a complaint if these rights are broken, ignored or restricted.



We talk about these rights in the section called 'Charter rights' starting on page 10.

The law containing the Charter of Victims' Rights is called the *Victims' Commissioner and Sexual Violence Review Board Act 2024* (Qld). We have included a full copy of the Charter here.

These commitments direct most Queensland Government agencies, and some non-government agencies they fund, to honour these commitments.

The Charter came into Queensland law in 2017. It hasn't been reviewed since.

We have heard from victims who have said that it needs to be:

- clearer
- more inclusive
- easier to use.

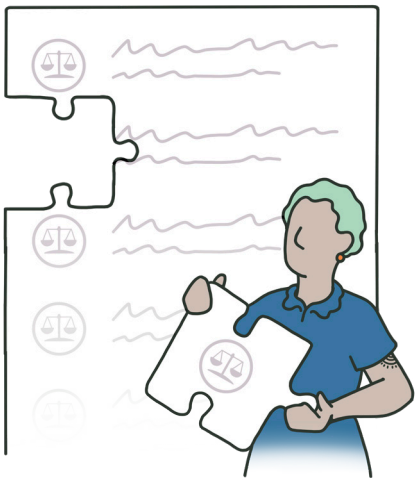
With your help, this review aims to make sure the Charter reflects the needs and expectations of Queenslanders today.

Have your say

Your feedback will help us to understand how the Charter is working—and what needs to improve—to better support victims of crime.

We have a list of questions (see help sheet) to help you provide feedback:

- Some questions ask you to reflect on your experience if you are a victim of crime.
- You can answer as many questions as you like, or you don't have to answer any.
- You can also give us general feedback or share your story with us.



You do not need to tell us about your experience if you don't want to. You don't have to tell us about the people who were involved.

You can also read a detailed paper and questions which use detailed and formal language.

The detailed paper aims to present:

- in-depth analysis
- legal interpretations
- research findings.

The Victims' Commissioner welcomes feedback, using any of these feedback options, from all individuals and organisations.

How will you use my feedback?

The Victims' Commissioner will use your feedback to help her write the final report about the Charter of Victims' Rights. This report will be given to the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support in December 2026.

How to send us your feedback

Your feedback can be a written document or an audio.

- You can upload your file to our project website.
- You can use our online survey.
- You can also post your submission to us: GPO Box 149, BRISBANE, QLD 4001

How we publish your feedback

We need to know your name and email address if you send us a submission.

You can tell us if you want your written submission to be:

- Public (this means we will publish your written submission on our website and may refer to your name in a report).
- Anonymous (we will publish your written submission on our website and may refer to it in a report, but not include any details that identify who you are).
- Confidential (this means we will not publish your written submission on our website or refer to it in the final report).

We will not publish:

- survey responses
- audio submissions
- submissions that breach laws
- submissions that name specific people or dates or talk about specific events
- promote a product or a service
- contain offensive language
- may be defamatory
- express sentiments that are likely to be offensive
- that do not substantively comment on the issues relevant to this review.

We have a collection notice - a formal commitment to how we collect, store and use your information.

In Queensland, all adults have a legal obligation to report suspected child sexual abuse by another adult to the police, unless there are reasonable excuses not to. We will report information about child sexual abuse to police.

When is the deadline?

We will stop taking your feedback at **5pm, 17 October 2025**.

Why are victims' rights important?

Victims' rights ensure that the needs of victims are recognised and responded to.

Victims' rights affirm the dignity and humanity of those who have suffered harm by ensuring their voices are heard, their experiences are acknowledged, and their needs are prioritised.

Having rights strengthens a victim's right to choose and builds trust in the justice system. Rights also help reinforce the community's confidence in the fairness of the justice system.

Listening to victims

Victims have shared that they have different types of needs.

These include:

- recognition and respect
- support, advice or advocacy
- information and updates
- safety
- help to recover.

Throughout this paper, we talk about these needs in more detail.

Each victim's needs are unique and different, and they might change over time.

Question prompt

Thinking about right now

- Are there other types of needs that victims have? If yes, what types of needs?

Why do we have a Charter of Victims' Rights in Queensland?

The Charter has two purposes:

To protect victims and promote their interests by saying what their rights are.

To let victims know what their rights are when they deal with organisations like the police, courts, or support services.

Listening to victims

Victims have shared that:

- the criminal justice system should recognise the harm done to victims
- victims' interactions with the criminal justice system should not cause further harm
- victims should not be responsible for making different parts of the justice system work together effectively
- victims should not have to navigate the criminal justice system alone
- agencies or people that do not uphold the rights of victims should be held accountable.

Question prompts

Thinking about right now

- Does the Charter of Victims' Rights do what you think it should?
- Is the Charter of Victims' Rights achieving the things you think are most important?

Victims covered by the Charter

You have Charter rights in Queensland if:

- you have suffered harm because of a violent crime, including domestic and family violence.
- you have suffered harm because a member of your immediate family or someone you are dependent on has been harmed or killed because of violent crime.
- you have suffered harm while helping someone else who was being harmed because of a violent crime.

Violent crime means a crime which harms someone physically, psychologically or emotionally. It includes physical violence, robberies, sexual violence, and domestic and family violence.

Property crime means a crime which doesn't involve violence. It includes stealing, fraud, property damage and motor vehicle theft.

Property crime is more common than violent crime. Data from 2023 shows that there were 219,201 victims of property crime, compared to 17,892 victims of violent crime in Queensland.

Listening to victims

Victims of property crime have shared that:

- they feel like they aren't part of the criminal justice process
- they don't get information about what is happening in a case
- they don't get information about where they can go to get help.

Question prompts

Thinking about the future

- Do you think people harmed by crimes like stealing or property damage should have victims' rights? Why?
- If victims of property crime had rights in the Charter of Victims' Rights, should those rights be the same as for victims of violent crime, or different? Why?

Other people who have rights under the Charter

The Charter doesn't just protect the person directly harmed by a crime.

It also applies to:

- family members or dependants of the person
- people who step in to help the person that the crime is happening to.

The law explains what family member and dependant mean:

- A family member includes a spouse (de-facto partner, husband or wife), child, parent, brother, sister, stepbrother, or stepsister. It also includes people who are considered family under Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander traditions.
- A dependant is someone who mostly or completely relies on another person for money to live.

Question prompts

Thinking about right now

- Do these definitions leave anyone out who your culture or community would see as family? If yes, can you please tell us more?

Thinking about the future

- Should 'family member' also mean people like grandparents, cousins, or close friends who feel like family? Why?
- Who do you think should be considered a 'dependant'? Why?

Who has to uphold Charter rights?

Most government services and some community organisations must uphold the Charter.

Government services that must uphold the Charter include:

- Queensland Police Service
- Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
- Victim Assist Queensland
- Queensland Courts
- Queensland Corrective Services

- Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support
- Queensland Health
- Department of Education

Most government services that don't directly interact with victims of violent crime also have to uphold the Charter. They must uphold the Charter when interacting with their employees who are victims of violent crime.

Examples of some government services that do not have to uphold the Charter include:

- Legal Aid Queensland
- Crime and Corruption Commission
- Queensland Ombudsman.

Magistrates and judges aren't a government service and don't have to uphold the Charter.

Question prompt

Thinking about right now

- Should all government services have to uphold the Charter? Why?

Community organisations that receive money from the Queensland Government or federal government to provide services to victims of violent crime as their primary function also have to uphold the Charter. Primary function means that it is the main service that the organisation provides.

Some community organisations that must uphold the Charter include:

- Queensland Homicide Victims' Support Group
- WWILD
- PACT
- VictimConnect
- DVConnect

Some victims might be getting help from agencies that don't have to uphold the Charter. This includes:

- victims in regional and rural areas who access services that aren't specifically for victims of violent crime

- male victims of sexual assault who may access support through community organisations that offer much broader services, such as education programs
- young people who are experiencing domestic and family violence who may access support from youth homelessness services.

Question prompt

Thinking about the future

- Should all community organisations that receive money from government and provide services to victims have to uphold the Charter of Victims' Rights when helping victims and their families? Why / why not?

Charter rights

In this part, we go into more detail about the rights currently in the Charter. We also talk about other rights that could be added to the Charter.

We talk about rights under the following topics:

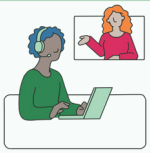
Recognition and respect

Support, advice, advocacy

Information and updates

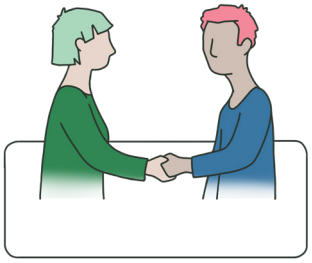
Safety

Help to recover



Complaints

Recognition and respect



The Charter says victims have the right to be treated with courtesy, compassion, dignity and respect, taking into account their needs.

We explain this to mean:

- courtesy – being polite
- compassion – showing kindness and concern
- dignity – treating someone as worthy and valued
- respect – having regard for victims' feelings and wishes

This means that victims should feel believed, have their needs considered, and be treated in ways that feel culturally safe for them.

Listening to victims

Victims of crime have shared that they need:

- to be treated with kindness and respect
- to be believed and not blamed for what happened to them
- to have their needs understood and responded to
- for cases to be dealt with quickly and without delay
- to feel like their voice is heard and important
- to feel like the system is not going to hurt them more.

Some groups, like First Nations people, older women, young people, people with disabilities, or LGBTIQA+ people, often feel like their experiences are ignored or not taken seriously.

Victims from these groups have shared that they need:

- the system to treat them fairly and without discrimination
- people to take them seriously and not dismiss them
- the system and people to understand that their needs may be different.

Question prompts

Thinking about right now

- Why do you think it's important for victims of violent crime to be treated with respect?
- If you are a victim of crime, what does being treated with respect mean to you?
- How should services respond to individual victims and their needs?

Thinking about the future

- Could this right do a better job of recognising each victim's unique situation? If yes, how?
- Could this right do a better job at making sure victims feel seen and respected for who they are – their culture, their beliefs and their identity? If yes, how?
- Should the right include stronger words about protecting victims from unfair or unequal treatment? Why?

Thinking about other ways that victims' needs for recognition and respect could be protected

Victim recognition statements and meetings are one way that may recognise victims and the harm they have experienced from the crime.

Victim recognition statements and meetings require the Government to provide a formal acknowledgment, like in a letter, to a victim about the harm that has been done to them.

- What do you think about this? What would this look like for you?
- Should victims have the right to have their case handled without long waits, extra difficulties and causing further harm?
- Do you have any other ideas about how the Charter of Victims' Rights could recognise victims and their experiences?

Support, advice, advocacy

The Charter says victims of crime have the right to be told about services and remedies they can get 'at the earliest practicable opportunity' . These services might include counselling, financial help, help to apply for a domestic violence order and court support.

Right now, the Charter doesn't clearly define what these services are or explain what 'the earliest practicable opportunity' means. This could cause confusion or delays in victims getting the help they need.

Listening to victims

After a crime, victims need support, advice or advocacy. This can help them recover after a crime. When victims don't get support and help, they can feel let down by the system. This can impact them for many years after the crime has happened.

Victims of crime have shared that they need:

- to understand who is going to help them
- to understand what help they can get
- to understand what practical support they can get
- to understand what is going to happen after the crime
- to understand what happens in the justice system.

Some groups, like First Nations people, culturally and linguistically diverse people and people who need help to communicate have different needs.

Victims from these groups have shared that they need:

- help from interpreters or translators to communicate
- help from communication tools.

Question prompts

Thinking about right now

- What do you think when you read the words 'at the earliest practicable opportunity'? Is there a better way to say this?
- How could the Charter of Victims' Rights make it easier for victims to understand the kinds of help they can get? Would giving examples (like counselling or financial help) be useful?

Thinking about the future

Do you think victims should have a right to get help finding services, like counselling or advice? Why? What would this look like for you?

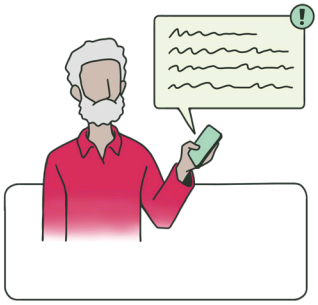
You could talk about what this would look like for:

- victims in regional and rural areas
- women
- children
- victims from a culturally of linguistically diverse background
- victims with disability
- victims who are LGBTIQA+
- older victims
- victims of domestic and family violence
- victims of sexual violence.

Thinking about other ways that victims' need for support, advice and advocacy could be met

- Do you think the Charter of Victims' Rights should say that victims have a right to an interpreter or translator if they need one? Why?
- Do you think the Charter of Victims' Rights should say that victims have a right to receive information in a way that makes sense to them?
- Do you have any other ideas about how the Charter of Victims' Rights could better meet victims' needs for support and help?

Information and updates



The Charter says victims will be informed about important updates during the investigation, major decisions about the prosecution, court proceedings, the outcome of bail applications, the trial process and what the victim has to do if they have to go to court as a witness.

The Charter doesn't say when a victim has to be informed about some of these things. That means that a victim might be informed about charges being changed after it has happened.

The Charter also doesn't say who has to give victims this information. This can cause confusion for agencies and victims.

The Charter says some victims, called eligible persons, who are on lists called victims registers have the right to get updates about the person who committed the crime if the person is sentenced to detention or prison.

These updates include things like:

- how long the offender will be in prison
- if the offender moves to another prison or escapes from prison.

If an offender applies for parole (to be released to the community under supervision earlier than the last day of their sentence), a victim has the right to tell the Parole Board:

- their views about the person being released
- about any conditions that the victim needs for their safety.

Listening to victims

Getting information and updates about what is happening can help victims feel part of the process.

Victims of crime have shared that they need:

- to know what they have to do
- to know what's happening during the investigation
- to know what's happening during the prosecution
- to know when the person is going to court
- to know if the person pleads guilty or not guilty
- to know the person's sentence.

Victims who have experienced certain types of crime may have particular needs. For example, victims of domestic and family violence need:

- to know information about whether the person who hurt them is in prison or in the community.

When victims don't get updates, they can feel frustrated, or might feel like they don't want to be part of the process anymore. Victims and support services have said not getting information can stop a victim's ability to plan for their safety.

Victims say they need timely and accurate updates to feel informed, respected, and safe.

Question prompts

Thinking about right now

- Would it help if the Charter of Victims' Rights listed who (or which services) must give what information to victims? Why?
- For example, that Queensland Corrective Services must give information about an offender's release on parole.

Thinking about the future

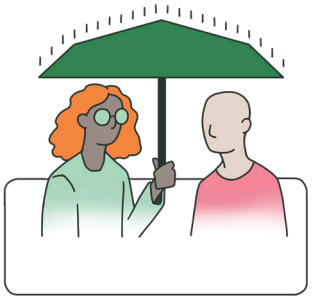
- Should victims be told before important decisions are made (like if charges might be changed or dropped)? Why?
- Should services have to ask victims for their views before some decisions are made? When do you think this would be important?

Thinking about other ways that victims' needs for information and updates could be protected

- The Charter doesn't make agencies tell victims about the Charter of Victims' Rights. Do you think services should have to explain victims' rights to victims and their families? Why?
- Should the Charter include the right to receive other types of information? For example, information about DNA processing delays.
- Should the Charter of Victims' Rights include a right for victims to request a review if they think a decision made by police or prosecutors is unfair? Why?
- Do you have any other ideas about how the Charter of Victims' Rights could better meet victims' needs for information and updates?

Next: Safety

Safety



The Charter says victims have the right to have their personal information, like their address or phone number, kept private unless the law says it must be shared.

This means organisations helping victims should have clear rules about how they collect, store, and share victims' information. Keeping this information private is important for victims' physical and emotional safety. If their information is shared, accidentally or on purpose, it could put them in danger or cause them distress.

The Charter says that if a victim has to go to court, they will be protected from unnecessary contact with, intimidation, and violence by the person charged, their family members or supporters and any witnesses for the person charged.

Listening to victims

Victims often say that feeling safe is the most important thing. Safety feels different for everyone. Feeling unsafe can have consequences for a victim to recover from the crime.

Victims of crime have shared that they need:

- to feel protected from physical harm
- to feel protected from emotional harm
- to feel protected immediately after the crime, during the investigation, court process and after the criminal justice process is over.

Question prompts

Thinking about right now

- Should the Charter of Victims' Rights specifically list more types of information that must be kept private? Which ones and why?
- If you are a victim of crime, what does being protected from unnecessary contact, intimidation or violence look like for you?

Thinking about the future

- South Australia's Charter of Victims' Rights requires services not to intrude on a victim's privacy unless it's necessary. Should Queensland's Charter of Victims' Rights have a similar commitment? Why? What would this look like for you?

Thinking about other ways victims' needs for safety can be met

- How could the Charter of Victims' Rights make sure victims feel comfortable about who speaks to them about the harm they have experienced?
- Victims may need time off work for court hearings or to get to a safe place, but not all victims are covered by existing workplace protections. In Australia, victims of domestic and family violence are protected from being penalised by their employer.
- Should victims have a right to be protected from job-related penalties because of the crime?
- Do you have any other ideas about how the Charter of Victims' Rights could better meet victims' needs for safety?

Next: Help to recover

Help to recover

The Charter says a victim has the right to make a Victim Impact Statement in court when the person who harmed them is being sentenced. It is a way for victims of crime to tell the court how the crime has affected them.

Victims say that being able to share their story in their own words is an important part of healing and feeling respected. But some people find it hard to know what to include in their statement or how to make one, and they might need help.

The Charter says a victims' property held by the State for an investigation or as evidence will be returned to the victim as soon as possible. However, some victims have spoken about problems like:

- property being held for a long time without being returned
- belongings being damaged or lost
- a phone losing its important photos
- property being given to the wrong person, like an ex-partner who shouldn't have it.

Listening to victims

Victims need help to recover from the crime.

Victims have shared that they need the harm to be recognised or restored. This might look like:

- having what was lost or damaged repaired
- being able to access medical treatment or psychological care

- receiving financial help or assistance
- having the harm they have experienced acknowledged by the criminal justice process.

Question prompts

Thinking about right now

- If you are a victim of crime, is having the right to provide a victim impact statement important for you? Why? You may like to consider whether it helps you feel heard, if it supports your healing, or if it makes the experience harder or easier for you.

Thinking about the future

- Should the Charter include clearer rules to make sure property is handled with care, returned quickly and in good condition?

Thinking about other ways victims' needs for help for recovery can be protected

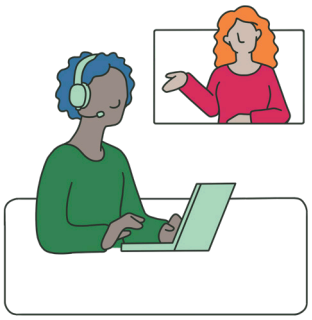
Victims often face costs like travel, meals, or lost wages when attending court. In Queensland, victims can claim for travel, meal, accommodation and loss of earnings when attending court. This is written in other laws, but it isn't included as a right in the Charter.

Victims in Queensland can also apply for financial assistance. In some cases, a court might order that an offender pay compensation to a victim. This is written in other laws, but it isn't included as a right in the Charter.

- Should the Charter of Victims' Rights have a right that talks about paying back (reimbursing) victims for costs linked to going to court? Why?
- Should the Charter of Victims' Rights say victims have the right to clear information about how to ask for compensation or financial help? Why?
- Do you have any other ideas about how the Charter of Victims' Rights could better meet victims' needs for help to recover?

Next: Complaints

Complaints



The Charter says victims of crime have the right to make a complaint if they feel their rights under the Charter have not been upheld.

However, some victims don't know they can make a complaint or where to make it. There are rules written in the law that say how to make a complaint and where a victim can make a complaint. There are also other laws that set out other places where victims can make a complaint if they aren't happy with how an agency has treated them, such as about their human rights or privacy. This is talked about further below.

We will talk about Charter of Victims' Rights complaints in our second Issues Paper, to be released early 2026.

Question prompts

Thinking about right now

- If you are a victim of crime, does this right help you understand how to make a complaint? Why?
- What makes it harder for victims to complain about their rights not being upheld?

The Charter and other laws

The Charter operates alongside other laws. This means that other laws might change how an agency or an organisation acts or makes decisions.

We talk about some of these laws below.

Mental Health Court

The Mental Health Act 2016 sets out how the Mental Health Court works. The Mental Health Court decides if someone had a mental illness or intellectual disability when they committed a crime or before they go to a trial. Sometimes the Mental Health Court will decide that the person can't be prosecuted or go to court for the charges.

***The Mental Health Act 2016* sets out 'principles for victims,' including:**

- the victim being told about proceedings
- decisions are made in a timely way and recognise a victim's harm with compassion.

The Charter doesn't specifically talk about the Mental Health Court. But it does say that victims should be given information and kept up to date about what's happening in a case.

Question prompts

Thinking about right now

- If you were a victim where the person charged went to the Mental Health Court, did you feel like you had rights? Why/why not?

Thinking about the future

Should the Charter of Victims' Rights include rights for victims where the person charged has gone to the Mental Health Court?

If yes, what types of rights should be included? You could consider:

- information about the ways you can be included
- information about the Mental Health Court and the process

- information about the person charged
- information about the progress of the case in the Mental Health Court
- support for victims in the Mental Health Court.

Other laws

There are other laws that might impact a victim's experience.

These other laws might:

- tell government agencies how to act
- set out rules for how the courts work
- set out rules about how decisions have to be made.

Name of the law	What the law does
Human Rights Act 2019	Says everyone in Queensland has basic human rights. It tells government workers to respect these rights when they make decisions. The law doesn't specifically talk about victims' rights, but sometimes human rights and victims' rights are related.
Anti-Discrimination Act 1991	Helps stop government agencies from treating people unfairly because of things like race, age, or gender.
Information Privacy Act 2009	Tells certain government agencies how to collect, store, use, and disclose personal information. This is to protect individuals' privacy rights.
Right to Information Act 2009	Lets people ask for documents and information held by Queensland government agencies

Name of the law	What the law does
Victims of Crime Assistance Act 2009	How certain victims of crime can ask for help from the Queensland Government.
Youth Justice Act 1992	How young people are dealt with in the criminal justice system and how people get information from the victims register
Penalties and Sentences Act 1992	How people are sentenced and how victims can make victim impact statements
Corrective Services Act 2006	How adults are dealt with if they are in prison and how people get information from the victims register
Crime and Corruption Act 2001	How complaints about government corruption are investigated by the Crime and Corruption Commission

There are other laws which provides rights, protections or entitlements to victims.

This includes the:

Name of the law	What the law does
Evidence Act 1977	What special measures some witnesses can have when they have to go to court to give evidence

Name of the law	What the law does
Recording of Evidence Act 1962	Some victims can ask for recordings or copies of court proceedings
Criminal Practice (Fees and Allowances Regulation) 2021	Victims should be reimbursed for witness expenses
Child Safe Organisations Act 2024	How Queensland organisations should treat children and the rights that children have

Question prompts

Thinking about right now

- Are there any issues about how victims' rights interact with these laws or any other laws?
- Have you had any experience raising your rights as a victim of crime with agencies other than Victims' Commissioner? Tell us about how you found that experience.

Thinking about the future

- Are there areas of victims' lives the Charter doesn't cover, but should?
- Is there anything else you think the Victims' Commissioner should consider in this review of the Charter of Victims' Rights?

Office of the
Victims' Commissioner

Let's talk victims' rights, Have your say on victims' rights in Queensland