



Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Act 2014

2014 asp 1

[^{F1} Provision of information to victims

[^{F1}3B. The Victims' Code for Scotland

- (1) The Scottish Ministers must prepare and publish a document, known as the Victims' Code for Scotland, setting out the following information (or directing the reader as to where that information is set out)—
- (a) the types of support that victims may obtain and from whom that support can be obtained,
 - (b) the procedures for making complaints with regard to a criminal offence and the victim's role in connection with such procedures,
 - (c) how and under what conditions victims may obtain protection, including special measures under sections 271 to 271M of the 1995 Act and measures under section 9C of this Act,
 - (d) how and under what conditions victims may access legal advice, legal aid or any other sort of advice which the Scottish Ministers consider relevant to the needs of victims,
 - (e) how and under what conditions victims may obtain compensation,
 - (f) how and under what conditions victims are entitled to interpretation and translation,
 - (g) in relation to a criminal offence which was not committed in Scotland, any measures, procedures or arrangements, which are available to protect victims' interests in Scotland,
 - (h) the available procedures for making complaints against any competent authority in relation to a breach of victims' rights under this or any other enactment,
 - (i) the contact details for all competent authorities,
 - (j) the available restorative justice services, and
 - (k) how and under what conditions victims may be reimbursed for the reasonable expenses incurred by them as a result of their participation in criminal proceedings.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Act 2014, Section 3B. (See end of Document for details)

- (2) The Victims' Code for Scotland may include such other information as the Scottish Ministers consider relevant to the needs of victims.
- (3) Subsection (4) applies where—
 - (a) a competent authority, other than the Scottish Ministers, receives a request for translation of the Victims' Code for Scotland by virtue of section 3F and transmits that request to the Scottish Ministers, or
 - (b) a person who is or appears to be a victim in relation to an offence or alleged offence, and who does not understand or speak English, requests that the Scottish Ministers translate the Victims' Code for Scotland into a language which that person understands.
- (4) The Scottish Ministers must—
 - (a) translate the Code into the language required by the authority or, as the case may be, the person, and
 - (b) provide a copy of the translated Code to the authority or, as the case may be, the person.
- (5) The Scottish Ministers must keep the Victims' Code for Scotland under review and may modify it from time to time.
- (6) Where under subsection (5) the Scottish Ministers modify the Victims' Code for Scotland they must publish the modified Code.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 3B-3D and cross-headings inserted (23.12.2015) by [The Victims' Rights \(Scotland\) Regulations 2015 \(S.S.I. 2015/444\)](#), regs. 1(2), 4

Changes to legislation:

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