

Victims' Code of Practice

Enhanced rights – VIPS

Victims identified as **VIPS** are eligible for **enhanced rights**. They should be updated sooner and **may** be eligible for **special measures**.

VIPS stands for:

Vulnerable

- ◆ Under 18 years of age at the time of the offence.
- ◆ Mental disorder.
- ◆ Impairment of social function/intelligence.
- ◆ Physical disability.

Intimidated

Consider:

- ◆ suspect's behaviour
- ◆ offence type
- ◆ circumstances
- ◆ age of victim
- ◆ social factors
- ◆ cultural factors
- ◆ victim's views

Persistently targeted

- ◆ repeatedly
- ◆ deliberately
- ◆ subject to harassment
- ◆ subject to stalking
- ◆ campaign over time
- ◆ not necessarily recorded

Serious crime

If they are a victim of:

- ◆ domestic abuse
- ◆ hate crime
- ◆ terrorism
- ◆ sexual offence
- ◆ human trafficking
- ◆ attempted murder
- ◆ kidnap
- ◆ false imprisonment
- ◆ arson with intent
- ◆ wounding and GBH with intent

Note: a bereaved close relative may also qualify for enhanced rights.

The quality of a victims evidence can be affected through fear and distress of testifying.

Find out more at college.police.uk/guidance/victims-code