



## **VICTIM SUPPORT & WITNESS SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2013**

Victim support Jersey is an independent charity for people affected by crime. We offer a free and confidential service, regardless of whether or not a crime has been reported.

### **MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Derek Gray	Chairman
Brian Heath	Vice-Chairman
Pauline Beddoe	Volunteers' Representative
Sally Le Brocq	Member
Helen Miles	Police Representative
Gill Hutchinson	Home Affairs Representative
Beverly Baron	Secretary
James Gray	Treasurer until mid-Jan 2014
Tony Staples	Treasurer from mid-Jan 2014
Hazel Jury	Manager until 16.9.13
Barbara Machon	Interim Manager from 16.9.13

**Volunteers** 16

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

*Derek Gray*

This has been a very busy year for our volunteers and it looks as if the coming year will be just as busy. We are very grateful for the time the volunteers give in a task that can be very stressful at times. The year saw the departure, in September, of our Manager, Hazel Jury. She left with the good wishes of the Committee after 15 years of excellent service to Victim Support. I am very pleased to say that she has been ably replaced, albeit on a temporary basis, by Barbara Machon.

## **MANAGER'S REPORT**

*Interim – Barbara Machon*

I joined the organisation on an interim basis in September 2013 following Hazel's retirement after her many years of dedicated service to Victim Support. It has been a steep learning curve but I have had the support of my colleague, Rui Soares, the committee and the volunteers who are an extremely committed group of individuals.

### **Victim Support**

Victim Support continues to support victims and others affected by crime, providing emotional support, practical help and information. We have received a total of 252 referrals this year compared to 199 in 2012, representing a 26% increase. The majority of these (75%) came from the police, but referrals are also received from other agencies, doctors, UK branches of Victim Support as well as self-referrals. We have seen an increase in some crime categories, notably domestic violence for both male and female, which would mirror recent reports made in the local media. Historical Abuse referrals have also increased and evidence would suggest that this can result when high profile sexual abuse cases are reported on.

### **Witness Service**

2013 has seen the continuation of the partnership established with the Witness Care Unit at Police Head Quarters. It was not as busy a year as 2012, there being fewer large trials, however 33 individuals received support from the Witness Service. This may have involved a volunteer accompanying the victim/witness to either the Magistrate's or Royal Court for a familiarisation pre-trial visit, support during the trial and also after they have given their evidence. In total, support was given on 41 occasions to individuals through the court process. This included 4 individuals in the giving of evidence by video link to trials taking place in the UK and one individual who was supported in the Family Court. On-going support is available to all victims/witnesses as required.

## Victim Notification

Victim Support has been in contact with 35 individuals who have elected to be part of the scheme which was set up to ensure that no victim, who has opted in to the scheme, encounters their perpetrator in the community whilst they believe they are still in prison. This work is carried out in conjunction with the Witness Care Unit. Once an individual has consented, they are advised when the perpetrator is due for release, be this for temporary leave in the community or actual release. When an offender is applying for temporary leave and the victim has concerns, their views are fed back to the Prison Board for inclusion in consideration of the offender's application. Where an offender falls under the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements, the victim's views are also fed back to this forum for consideration in reducing any risks to them. On-going support is available to the victim from a volunteer should this be required.

## Volunteers

16 volunteers were operating during 2013. The service is indebted to the work of the volunteers who are the life-blood of the organisation and without whom we could not function. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to each of them for their continued commitment to the organisation.

## Statistics

Victim Support Referrals	2012	2013
Arson	1	0
Attempted murder	0	1
Burglary	17	3
Common assault	32	42
Domestic Abuse (male)	3	23
Domestic Abuse (female)	10	26
Fraud	4	5
Grave & Criminal Assault	29	32
Harassment	15	5
Historical Sexual Abuse	7	13
Homicide	1	0
Malicious Damage	9	14
Other	21	25
Other Sexual Assault/offences	8	11
Rape	7	7
Robbery	1	6
Theft	34	39
<b>Total no. of referrals</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>252</b>

Much of the work is done over the telephone directly and on behalf of victims, however 86 face to face meetings with victims of crime were also conducted, which, including the witness service work described above, brings this total to 127.

All referrals 2013	
Victim Support	252
Witness Service	33
Victim Notification	35
<b>Total no. of referrals</b>	<b>320</b>

## **Personnel**

Rui Soares joined the service in early 2013 as the Manager's Assistant, initially on a temporary basis, but I am pleased to say has now become permanent.

## **Committee**

Our treasurer, Mr James Gray, indicated his departure at the end of 2013 but stayed into January 2014 to finalise the year's accounts and facilitate the handover to the new treasurer, Mr Tony Staples. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to James for his years of service to the organisation and also to extend a warm welcome to Tony.

## **VICTIM SERVICES REVIEW**

*Brian Heath*

Victim Support joined with the Home Affairs Department and the States of Jersey Police to commission a review into the services for victims and witnesses in Jersey. Dr Lesley Simmonds of the University of Plymouth conducted the review which has resulted in a project to streamline and co-ordinate existing services to reduce duplication and fill gaps in service provision. Victim Support is pleased to be an integral part of this project which will place victims and witnesses at the heart of the criminal justice process and will ensure that Jersey complies fully with the spirit of the European Directive on victims and witnesses.

The results for 2013 reflect the continuing difficult economic environment and show a reduced deficit of £7,812 compared with the 2012 figure of £8,772.

Victim Support is grateful to receive an annual grant of £30,000 from the Home Affairs Community Safety Strategy. Total income amounted to £38,070 compared with £45,066 for 2012, resulting mainly from a reduction in donations and fundraising from £14,524 to £8,020. Donations have come from a number of different sources and we would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have contributed for their valuable support.

Expenditure for the year was £45,882 compared with £53,838 for 2012 resulting mainly from reduced staff costs.

There is an ongoing shortfall between grants received and overall expenditure which means that we continue to rely on the generosity of our many supporters. Going forward the Committee will be considering various fundraising options to bridge the funding gap.

## **DONATIONS**

Victim Support was very grateful to receive donations from the following:

Alex Picot Group  
Anonymous donation  
Elizabeth Violet Annie Rouse Settlement  
Image Group Ltd  
Lions Club of Jersey  
Rotary Club de la Manche  
Sky Dive fund-raiser by staff at the Probation service  
The Parish of St Brelade  
The Parish of St Lawrence  
The Parish of St Saviour

## Victim Support Jersey - Accounts

### Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2013

<u>Income</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Grants received	30,000	30,000
Donations	7,875	12,109
Fundraising	145	2,415
Sundry income	10	500
Bank Interest	40	42
	<b>38,070</b>	<b>45,066</b>
 <u>Expenditure</u>		
Wages & Social Security	-38,817	-43,820
Other staff costs	-1,929	-3,387
Car parking	-1,473	-1,434
Telephone	-391	-518
Postage	-86	-126
Stationery & Printing	-483	-597
Insurance	-194	-131
Conference costs	-712	-2,462
Training costs	0	-79
Advertising	-147	-820
Purchase of equipment	-167	0
Software & System Support	-1,200	0
Sundry expenses	-283	-464
	<b>-45,882</b>	<b>-53,838</b>
 <b>(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>-7,812</b>	<b>-8,772</b>

#### BALANCE SHEET

As at 31st December 2013

<u>Current Assets</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Debtors	0	2,915
Cash at Bank	62,923	67,172
	<b>62,923</b>	<b>70,087</b>
 <u>Current Liabilities</u>		
Creditors	1,961	1,313
	<b>60,962</b>	<b>68,774</b>

#### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Balance brought forward	68,774	77,546
(Deficit) for the year	-7,812	-8,772
	<b>60,962</b>	<b>68,774</b>
Balance carried forward	<b>60,962</b>	<b>68,774</b>