**Tell PricewaterhouseCoopers what you think about the NSW Victims Compensation Scheme**

**A how-to-guide for individuals and community workers**

**What is currently happening on this issue?**
As background, on 11 August 2011 the NSW Attorney General announced an independent assessment of the Victim's Compensation Scheme. PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) is conducting the review and will report back to the NSW Attorney General's Department by June 2012.

PwC has released an Issues Paper for comment. It is available at: www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/vs

Written submissions are due by **30 April 2012**.

**Why should you make a submission to the Victims Compensation Review?**
In the Issues Paper, PwC refers to some statistics about the scheme and says: "These statistics indicate that the Scheme, as it is currently structured, is not financially sustainable in the longer term." It is therefore very likely that the NSW Government will make changes to the Victims Compensation Scheme.

Changes to the Scheme were made in 2010-2011 with very little consultation and have had a detrimental impact on victims of crime claiming victims compensation. It is therefore important to let PwC know if you think victims compensation is important and why you think it should continue.

**What should I tell them?**
You can tell them either about your experience of the Victims Compensation Scheme and its impact on victims of crime or about your clients' experiences. It is important if you are telling them about clients' experiences that you have the client's permission to do so.

An example letter is included with this guide.

**How should I tell them?**
You can send a letter or an email. Your letter can be short.

You can write a longer letter if you have more to say. If your letter is longer than a couple of pages you might want to use headings to set out the information. You should also put your main points at the very top of the letter so it is clear what you are saying.

If you don't want your letter to be made public you should say that it is confidential.

**Where do I send my comments?**
You can email PwC: victims.compensation@au.pwc.com

or by post a letter to: Review of NSW Victims Compensation Scheme
GPO Box 2650
Sydney NSW 1171