14 September

SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME IN REMOTE AREAS

Victims of crime living in remote areas can now access vital information about their rights and support services, with the Minister for Justice, Syd Stirling, today launching a national website for **Victim Support Australasia**.

“Crime does not discriminate where it strikes, but peoples’ access to information and support is unfortunately affected by their isolation,” said Minister Stirling.

“People can be isolated because of the crime itself, or because they live in a remote area.

“The new national website creates a place for people to seek information about the support services available to them – no matter where they live.”

Chair of **Victim Support Australasia**, Robyn Holder, said the website builds on the enormous strides made by the Northern Territory and States in providing services to victims of crimes.

“It is especially pleasing to be able to launch the website in the Territory where the challenges presented by distance show how important IT services can be for vulnerable people and for remote communities”, said Ms Holder.

“The privacy offered to people through internet access is vital to overcoming the stigma and pain that can be associated with being a victim of crime. **Victim Support Australasia** will keep working to build a truly national approach to supporting victims of crime and violence.”

The website can be found at [www.victimsupport.org.au](http://www.victimsupport.org.au).

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