



Home Office

Rachel Maclean MP
Minister for Safeguarding

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Ms Elizabeth Jiménez-Yáñez
Policy and Communications coordinator
VAWG

MPAM Reference: MPAM/0255813/22

10 March 2022

Dear Ms Jiménez-Yáñez,

Thank you for your letter of 1 February 2022 setting out the joint response to the publication of the 'Home Office and Police data sharing arrangements on migrant victims and witnesses of crime with insecure immigration status Review', published on 15 December 2021.

I note your comments and views in relation to the proposed Immigration Enforcement (IE) Migrant Victim Protocol and your commitment to campaign and advocate for appropriate safe reporting mechanisms for migrant victims.

I understand views differ on the role IE plays in safeguarding and supporting migrant victims and how the proposed protocol will achieve the outcomes you are seeking.

The IE Migrant Victim Protocol is an important step forward in encouraging migrant victims to report crime without fear of Immigration Enforcement action being taken against them, whilst also providing information about their immigration status, at the earliest opportunity. This will enable the relevant support services to establish what steps can be taken to assist victims to gain access to essential support and services, including housing and benefits, where required.

Understanding a victim's immigration status is a very critical point in the process of reporting a crime and can form a vital part of any subsequent criminal investigation. The Home Office does not want to undermine the relationships between victims and the Sector, but would like to discuss how we could reduce the time it currently takes to provide confirmation of immigration status and the pathways available to achieve this.

The Home Office is keen to continue engagement with a wider range of partners in order to inform how the Protocol may work in practice and would particularly welcome contributions from victim survivors who have 'lived experience'.

A more detailed update will be sent in due course with timings on next steps and plans for further engagement. However, if you would like to get in touch in the

meantime, or are interested in taking part in future discussions, please contact the Migrant Victim Protocol Team at:

IEMigrantVictimProtocol@homeoffice.gov.uk.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RM', followed by a period.

Rachel Maclean MP
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