

# A better deal for vulnerable witnesses



The Witness Intermediary Scheme has transferred into the NPIA and is part of the Specialist Operations Centre.

We can give you access to registered intermediaries to help vulnerable victims and witnesses communicate more effectively.

## **What does the Witness Intermediary Scheme offer?**

- Access to National Vulnerable Witness and Intermediary Adviser
- A matching service to find the best intermediary for your witness
- Access to other areas such as crime and covert advice

## **What are the benefits of the scheme?**

- Improved all-round communication
- Operational support and guidance to front-line officers
- Increased chance to bring someone to justice
- Helps victims and witnesses to 'achieve best evidence'
- Increased confidence in criminal justice system by vulnerable witnesses
- Better, more informed decision-making by courts and lawyers

## **What can you do?**

- Be aware of what we're offering
- Add the scheme into relevant policy materials
- Use us and our expertise!

## **Want to know more?**

Call the NPIA Specialist Operations Centre on **0845 000 5463** or email [wit@npia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:wit@npia.pnn.police.uk) [www.npia.police.uk/soc](http://www.npia.police.uk/soc)

Please note that the majority of Registered Intermediaries are in full time employment and participate in the Witness Intermediary Scheme on a voluntary basis. Therefore please allow a reasonable length of time when requesting a Registered Intermediary for your case, we recommend at least 10 days other than in exceptional operational circumstances.