

VIA STATISTICS

You may be interested in some statistics about the work of the Victim Information and Advice service. The information that follows provides details of:-

- numbers of cases and service users
- types of case referrals
- performance in relation to communicating bail information

CASES AND SERVICE USERS

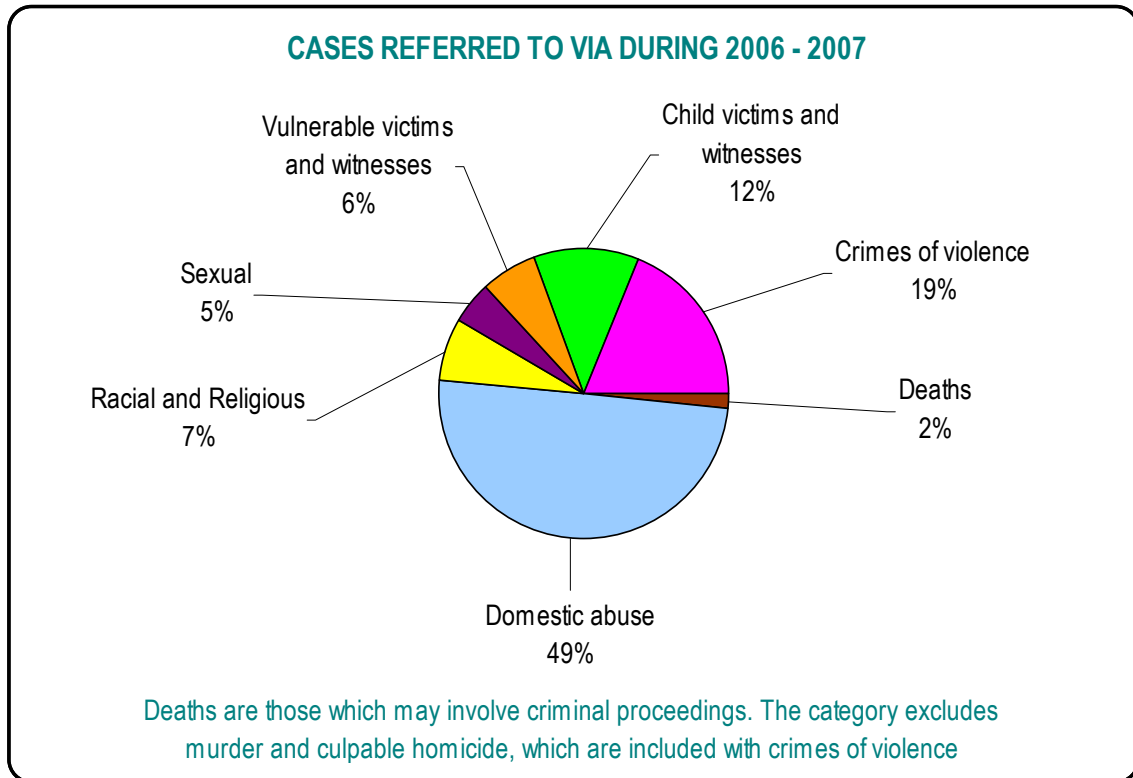
The Victim Information and Advice (VIA) service was launched in 2002, after an earlier service (the Victim Liaison Office) was piloted in Aberdeen and Hamilton in 2000-01.

VIA services were established throughout Scotland between 2002 and December 2004. Since the launch, the numbers of cases handled and people receiving the service have both more than tripled.

YEAR	CASES	SERVICE USERS
2002-03	6,581	10,356
2003-04	11,632	18,447
2004-05	18,334	27,613
2005-06	23,698	35,201
2006-07	25,334	37,490

CASE REFERRALS

The chart below shows the breakdown of VIA cases in 2006-07, reflecting VIA Referral Categories (for more information, see [What does the Victim Information and Advice Service do?](#))



Domestic abuse cases make up nearly 50% of the VIA caseload, with crimes of violence (excluding domestic abuse) accounting for another 19%.

From 1 November 2006, the VIA remit was extended to cover religiously aggravated crime. Since then, VIA staff have dealt with 28 referrals and 43 service users under this category.

COMMUNICATING BAIL INFORMATION

It is a VIA target to communicate court bail decisions within 24 hours to 90% of victims in cases where the accused has appeared from custody.

The table below shows how VIA did against this target in 2006-07.

Bail condition type	Number of cases	Target met	% of cases target met
Standard	2,100	2,055	98
Special	9,840	9,750	99

Standard bail conditions are that the accused should:-

- attend their trial or earlier court appearance
- not commit an offence while on bail
- not interfere with witnesses
- not obstruct the course of justice (for example, by disappearing)

Special bail conditions place additional requirements on the accused – for example, limiting where they can live, or preventing them going near a person, their family or home.