

Research & Data Insights Intern

This internship is part of the Find a Solution programme which brings together current students and local Third Sector organisations to tackle issues of strategic importance through projects that will have a lasting impact.

The role will be for a total of 160 hours, to be worked flexibly between June and September (to be discussed with successful candidate). This role is open to 3rd- to 5th-year undergraduates, PGT and PGR students in the College of Social Sciences.

About us

Victim Support Scotland is entering the final year of its current organisational strategy, and work is underway to develop the new strategy that will steer our work from 2026-2031. We are looking for support to carry out a landscape review of external, publicly available data sources that will help inform our priorities. Examples of these sources of data include the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS); Police Scotland national crime data and the Scottish Government's own reported data. We are also interested in identifying data that will add to our knowledge about new and emerging crime types so that we can ensure that we are ready to meet the needs of victims who will need our support as we enter the next decade.

The role

The student intern supporting this project will be responsible for conducting a comprehensive landscape review of publicly available data sources to help shape VSS's 2026-2031 organisational strategy.

Main duties & responsibilities

Research & data collection

Identifying and reviewing relevant external data sources, such as:

- Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS)
- Police Scotland national crime data
- Scottish Government publications

- Exploring additional data sources related to emerging crime trends and their impact on victims

Data analysis & interpretation

- Extracting key insights and trends from crime-related data
- Identifying gaps or patterns that could influence VSS's strategic priorities
- Summarising findings in a clear and structured format
- Reporting & Presentation
- Preparing concise reports to present findings to VSS leadership
- Creating visual representations of data (charts, graphs, summaries) where relevant
- Contributing to discussions on how findings can inform the organisation's future approach

Collaboration & strategic input

- Engaging with internal stakeholders to understand VSS's priorities
- Providing recommendations based on research to support decision-making
- Ensuring findings align with the organisation's mission to support victims of crime

This role is ideal for a student with strong research, analytical, and communication skills, particularly those with an interest in criminal justice, data analysis, strategy and policy development.

What makes this internship stand out? (training, benefits etc)

Are you passionate about criminal justice, social policy, or data analysis? Do you want to use your research skills to make a real difference? This exciting internship with Victim Support Scotland (VSS) offers a unique opportunity to contribute to the development of a new five-year strategy (2026-2031) that will shape how we support victims of crime across Scotland.

As an intern, you'll play a key role in analysing crime data, identifying emerging trends, and providing insights that will influence future policies. You'll gain hands-on experience in data research, policy analysis, and strategic planning, all while working alongside experienced professionals in a supportive and flexible environment.

If you're looking to build valuable research skills, gain real-world policy experience, and enhance your CV, this is the perfect opportunity for you! Apply now and be part of a project that truly matters.

Length of Internship (in weeks)

Starting month

June

Paid or voluntary

Paid

Is the internship part-time or full-time?

Part-time

For part-time roles, how many hours will the student work per week?

20

Required Year Group

Undergraduate 3rd year

Undergraduate 4th year

Undergraduate 5th year

Postgraduate taught

Targeted College

College of Social Sciences

Required Degree Discipline

Any within the targeted college.

The essential criteria for the role are

E1. Strong research and analytical skills – ability to gather, assess, and interpret data from various sources

E2. Attention to detail – ensuring accuracy in data collection and reporting

E3. Excellent written and verbal communication skills – ability to summarise complex information clearly

E4. Ability to work independently – managing tasks effectively with minimal supervision

E5. Strong organisational skills – managing workload and meeting deadlines

E6. Proficiency in Office365 programmes to support data analysis and reporting

The desirable criteria for the role are

D1. Experience with quantitative data analysis

D2. Familiarity with crime statistics and social research methodologies

D3. Knowledge of public policy or victim support services

D4. Experience using data visualisation tools (e.g., Power BI, Tableau) for presenting findings

D5. Interest in criminal justice, social policy, or data analysis – understanding the context of the research