

Supporting Victims in Hampshire



RESTORATIVE
SOLUTIONS

Restorative Justice Newsletter

July 2024



Welcome to the July
2024 RJ Hampshire and
Isle of Wight newsletter

Restorative Justice Newsletter July 2024

As we begin the second year of the new contract we have been reflecting on some of the successes and outcomes from our first year to inform our future goals and objectives. Here is a snapshot of some of our headlines:

RJ 2023-2024

Number of referrals received – **343**

Number of victims who were contacted by the service – **311**

Number of RJ processes facilitated – **272**

Reoffending data – Of those offenders who engaged in an RJ process in the previous reporting year (2022- 2023) **86%** have not re-offended.

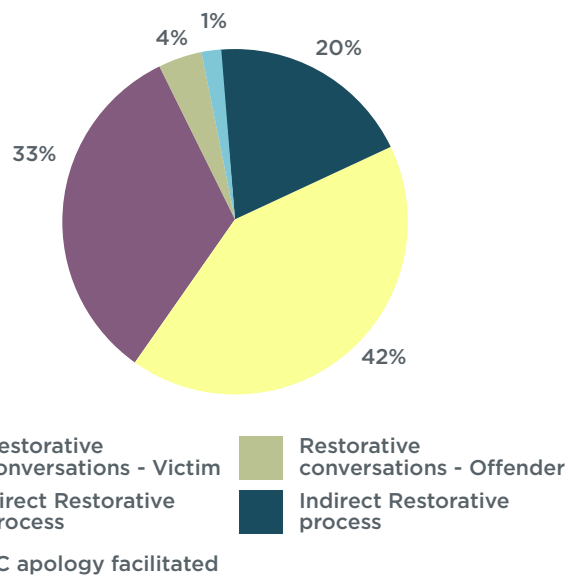
Mediation 2023-2024

The service continues to advance working relationships with our sub-contracted mediation providers: NFS, Portsmouth Mediation Service (PMS) and Winchester Mediation Service (WMS), seeing a 9% increase in referrals last year.

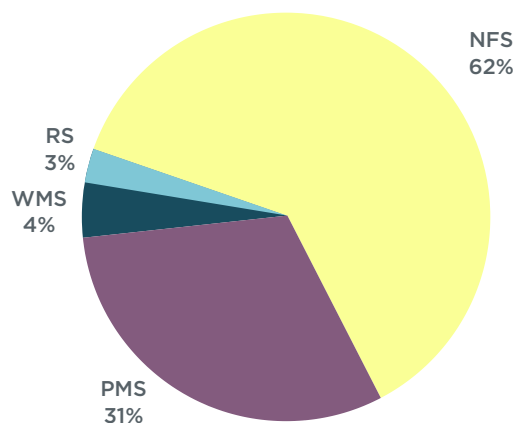
Number of referrals received – **91**

Mediation processes facilitated:

- **9** joint party meetings
- **42** indirect processes
- **13** single party engagement



Number of processes completed 2023-24



Service Updates

- Laura George has moved into a new role as a Lead Practitioner.
- We will be welcoming Alex Crockford back in August following her maternity leave.
- Sergeant Emma Pragnell became Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary RJ Contact in April and we are working closely with her regarding Police engagement and training.

Spotlight on...

Volunteer Practitioner

Hi, I'm Vicky and I've recently joined Restorative Solutions as a Volunteer.

I'm a mum to two children (10 and 12 years old) and I'm currently training to be a workplace coach so all that keeps me quite busy!

My background is in Human Resources, predominately in Employee Relations and I've worked for my current organisation, NHS Trust, for 20 years. More recently I've become interested in early resolution to support people to resolve their workplace matters early and constructively to avoid matters becoming so much more complex and needing to go through unnecessary formal measures. To support this, I trained as a mediator a few years ago and I now regularly facilitate conversations with people in conflict at work.

I've wanted to take up a voluntary role for a while now and I was particularly interested in working within restorative justice as I believe in the principles and benefits of it and feel that my people and resolution skills are closely matched. I'm excited to start volunteering with Restorative Solutions and making a difference to, and supporting, people affected by harm.



Engagement, Training and Briefings

We continue to work closely with Probation Services, Victim Liaison Officers and HMP's Winchester and Isle of Wight to increase referrals into the service.

Training was delivered to over 145 new police recruits as part of the Policing Plus Training, 245 experienced officers attended our RJ and Mediation session within the Coaching Uplift Programme, and around 1050 frontline officers attended CPD training in RJ and Mediation for front line police staff. We have attended various local Neighbourhood and District Policing Teams throughout the last year reaching over 190 police staff and delivered briefings to Amberstone teams, Family Liaison Officers and Witness Care teams.

We have started to work in the Victim Care Hubs, developing our partnership working with victim support agencies.

Considerable work has been undertaken in order to engage with local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) teams to discuss the service and benefits of RJ and Mediation resulting in six teams signing our Information Sharing Agreement.

We had a highly successful Restorative Justice Week in November 2023, engaging with various partners. The highlight being the mid-week Conference which included guest speakers and a service user sharing their experience of the RJ process.

Case Study

This case was relating to an Assault on a public road. The harmed person 'A', was riding an e-scooter and stopped at traffic lights at a junction. The harmer, 'B' shouted from his vehicle that she had cut him up and put his family at risk. When the lights changed, B spat at A.

A Community Resolution was issued with an RJ condition and the Officer in Case emailed the service directly as following conversations with him, both parties were interested in the RJ process.

Initial meetings took place with 'A', and with 'B'. They were both committed to meeting face to face in order to find resolutions and to be able to move forwards. Through a series of preparation meetings, the motivation, hopes and concerns of both parties were explored and risk assessments completed. The Conference went ahead and 'A' spoke about the incident and the impact that it had had on her at the time, and how she felt now, including that she had not been on an e-scooter since the incident, and has mildly traumatic thoughts about the idea of going on one again.

'B' said that he did not want her to feel like this about going on an e-scooter, and would want her to be able to go on one again if she were able to.

'B' acknowledged that spitting was not called for. He also said that since the incident he is more conscious of looking for e-scooters and cyclists whilst driving. An apology was made and accepted, at the conclusion 'A' and 'B' smiled at each other and shook hands. 'B' stated that what he had done to 'A' was unjustified, and he was disgusted that he had done it.

The parties both expressed verbal satisfaction with the process and were glad that it had been completed in a safe and structured way. B stated that the process was 'very helpful' and 'very good overall'.

A felt 'the RJ team were supportive', 'everyone was really helpful' and 'it was a really helpful process and I've learned a lot'.



'B' said that he did not want her to feel like this about going on an e-scooter, and would want her to be able to go on one again if she were able to.

RJ in the News

You may well have seen this article in the Guardian newspaper regarding the death of Brianna Ghey and the restorative engagement between two mothers of those involved:

(<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2024/mar/16/i-dont-blame-her-meeting-of-esther-ghey-and-emma-sutton-shows-power-of-restorative-justice>)

'I don't blame her': meeting of Esther Ghey and Emma Sutton shows power of restorative justice

Mother of murder victim Brianna Ghey and mother of her killer meet and decide to campaign together on dangers of mobile phones



📷 'It was a positive and respectful meeting,' said Esther Ghey. Photograph: Christopher Thomond/The Guardian

Restorative Justice and Harmful Sexual Behaviour - A Commentary written by Paul Gavin, Madia Wager, Jill Palmer, Phil Cawley, Tony Walker and Andrew Bates for NOTA Newsletter 95 Spring 24 -

<https://www.rjhampshire.org.uk/news/restorative-justice-and-harmful-sexual-behaviour-a-commentary>

Two members of the team were involved in the research carried out by Why Me? which resulted in a Good Practice Guide for cases involving LGBTQ+ Hate Crimes and Incidents:

<https://why-me.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/LGBTQ-Good-Practice-Guide-2024.pdf>



Connect

 Restorative Justice Hampshire

 @rj_hampshire

 @RJ_Hampshire

If you would like to receive an input about Restorative Justice please get in contact with us. We can be flexible in the time and duration of our inputs and we have free literature to hand out. Also, if there is any content that you would like to see in the next edition, please email us your ideas.

Contact Us

Restorative Justice Hampshire

Tel: 0800 043 8785

Email: HLOW@restorativesolutions.org.uk

www.rjhampshire.org.uk