

Restorative Justice Newsletter

November 2025

RJ Week 2025

This year's RJ Week is **Sunday 16th November to Saturday 22nd November**. Our aim this year is to bring RJ to life, resulting in igniting a deeper understanding and empathy in our partner agencies as to what benefits RJ can have for those involved.

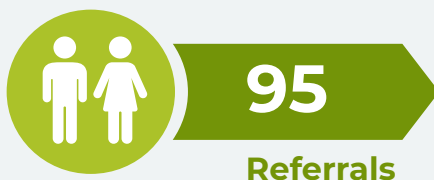
We are holding a special event for professionals to hear service users lived experiences of Restorative Justice. If you would like more information about this event please get in touch.

We will also be in the Police Investigation Centres / Victim Care Hub (dates will be advertised on the Police Intranet) for anyone to ask us any questions about RJ.

Furthermore, we will be attending local probation offices, dropping in at police stations and HMP Winchester for a briefing so keep an eye out for us and come and say hello and grab a pen or leaflets!

Throughout Q2 July – September 2025:

The RJ service received



96 cases were closed
of which 75 had a facilitated
RJ process



We successfully delivered
our first
**ASB & RJ Awareness
Courses**

following referrals from HIOW
Constabulary as a condition on
an Adult Conditional Caution.
Feedback so far has been
very positive.



We continue to work closely with
**Probation Services, Victim Liaison
Officers, and HMPs Winchester and
Isle of Wight** to increase referrals into
the service, while also collaborating
with our partners within the **Victim
Care Hubs** and attending drop-in
sessions to strengthen relationships
with our colleagues.

RJ in the news

Jacob Dunne's play PUNCH has made it to the West End and Broadway! Jacob engaged in an RJ process after he was convicted of manslaughter caused by a single punch

<https://www.radiotimes.com/going-out/going-out-reviews/punch-review/>

Jacob Dunne is also leading a campaign "the right to be heard" to ensure victims of crime are given the legal right to receive information about restorative justice

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c784npv4v16o>

The use of Restorative Justice for those harmed in the Horizon/ post office scandal has also been in the news recently

<https://restorativejustice.org.uk/blog/path-healing-horizon-it-inquiry-report-and-call-restorative-justice>



Case Summary: Offender Led Assault GBH - direct RJ process

This is a GBH case where the offender learned about Restorative Justice from her Community Offender Manager (COM). The COM invited us to attend the regular probation meetings with the offender to progress the RJ process. One of our first actions was to apply to the Crown Court for a variation to the restraining order for the purposes of Restorative Justice which was granted.



The offender had assaulted the victim as she tried to approach an ex-boyfriend. She tried to push past the victim, raised a glass to her face, ultimately smashing the glass in her face and causing injury to her face and eye.

The victim was left with a scar to her face and experienced significant anxiety following the assault. She was unable to leave her home for many months and subsequently suffered panic attacks when out in the community.

The offender experienced significant anxiety following the assault. She experienced anxiety and awkwardness when seeing the victim in the community. She also experienced anxiety as a result of many negative social media posts about her.

The offender wanted an opportunity to take responsibility and apologise for what she had done. She also wanted to have the opportunity for them to talk directly to one another. By meeting and talking it through, she hoped the feeling of anxiety would go away.

The victim agreed to the process and felt that meeting the offender would ease the anxiety and awkwardness she feels when she's out in the community. She was also hoping to get an apology and decide for herself if she felt the offender took responsibility and was genuinely sorry.

The face to face meeting took place and they spoke at length and asked one another many questions. The offender apologised for what happened and the victim accepted the apology and said that she forgave her. Both parties were extremely anxious about the meeting beforehand but both described how pleased they were that they participated.

Feedback from participants:

Victim

"This is the calmest I have felt since the incident"

"The process 'has helped me to face my fears"

"A line has been drawn, and I'm excited for the opportunity for a fresh start"

"All of the experience with the restorative process has been positive"

"10/10 satisfaction. The process/ practitioners were 'positive and empowering"

"Thank you so much, I definitely feel much more happy now I've gone through it and an agreement is in place. I honestly can't thank you both enough!!"

Offender

"I feel like a weight has been lifted. I saw her last week and I didn't feel anxious at all. I feel less anxiety about the incident and can move forward"

"I found the meeting 'nerve-racking but knew what was going to happen so well prepared"

"I am 'very satisfied'. The process/ practitioners kept me informed.

"Both practitioners were lovely, supportive and empathetic yet stayed impartial'.

Hannah Reilly – RJ Volunteer

Hannah has now left her volunteer role with us, but before she went she kindly provided some feedback of her experience of volunteering with the service.

How have you found your volunteering experience with the RJ service?

"Before I arrived here, I never imagined speaking to members of the public over the telephone and giving them clear information about the process and the tasks they needed to complete. Their reactions to this information provided me with valuable learning experiences; it offered insights into society and how people behave when they commit offences. I have learnt important lessons about society and the different ways individuals can react when an offence occurs, even minor ones, which can."

Is there anything else you would like to share about your experience?

"I am grateful to the entire RS team for their advice and positivity, which made me feel incredibly welcome and supported as a volunteer. During my four years volunteering, I have felt involved in the ongoing improvement of this service. Thank you very much for the last four years it has been very enjoyable."



If you would like to volunteer with the RJ service, please get in touch for more information.

Harriett Temple Referrals & Data Coordinator

I joined Restorative Solutions in June 2025 as Referrals and Data Coordinator (job share with Alex Crockford), and I'm really enjoying being part of such a caring and committed team. My background is in admin and coordination — I've worked in Data Subject Access Requests (DSARs) — and I've also studied criminology, sociology and citizenship, which sparked my interest in restorative justice. While I was on maternity leave, I retrained and set up my own dog grooming business. I've always loved animals (especially dogs!), and running my own business gave me the chance to build great relationships with my clients while working flexibly around my two daughters. Now they're both at school, it felt like the right time to take on something more purposeful — and I'm so happy to be here.

I'm based at Fareham Police Station and have completed my restorative justice training, along with sensitive and complex and domestic and sexual violence training. I'm really looking forward to getting involved in co-facilitating cases. Whilst I enjoy the admin side of the role, I'm excited to support people directly and become part of the full restorative process. I love meeting and talking to people from all walks of life, and I'm driven by a real desire to help others. I feel really lucky to be doing this work and to be part of such a lovely team.



Want to know more?

If you are interested in us presenting to your organisation, team or community group, please do contact us. We can provide introductory sessions on what is restorative justice to full training to be able to deliver restorative justice.

Contact us for more information about our service or if you would like to make a referral, please go to our website www.rjhampshire.org.uk, call us on 0800 043 8785 or email us at H1OW@restorativesolutions.org.uk

 @restorativesolutionscic

Contact:

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