



**RESTORATIVE
JUSTICE**

HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT



Restorative Justice Newsletter

July 2026

Giving the victim a voice and a choice

New Out of Court Resolution (OoCR) conditions

From 1st July, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary launched new restorative conditions for OoCRs in order to promote a greater focus on a reparative condition and give victims a voice and choice in how harm could be repaired.

1- 'Restorative Justice – facilitated communication between victim/offender. Available for Community Resolutions and Conditional Cautions.

The current 'RJ Apology' outcome will no longer be used on a Conditional Caution. This change allows the Restorative Justice service to make contact with both the victim and the offender to explore the most appropriate way for them to communicate. While an apology may still form part of this, it is no longer the sole focus.

Instead, the approach is broader and more flexible, giving victims the opportunity to explain how the crime has affected them, ask questions of the offender and decide how, or if, communication takes place. Victim consent is required, ensuring that participation is always voluntary and led by their preferences.

Restorative Awareness Courses

Two restorative awareness courses are now available for Conditional Cautions providing an opportunity to address harm, support victims, and encourage positive change:

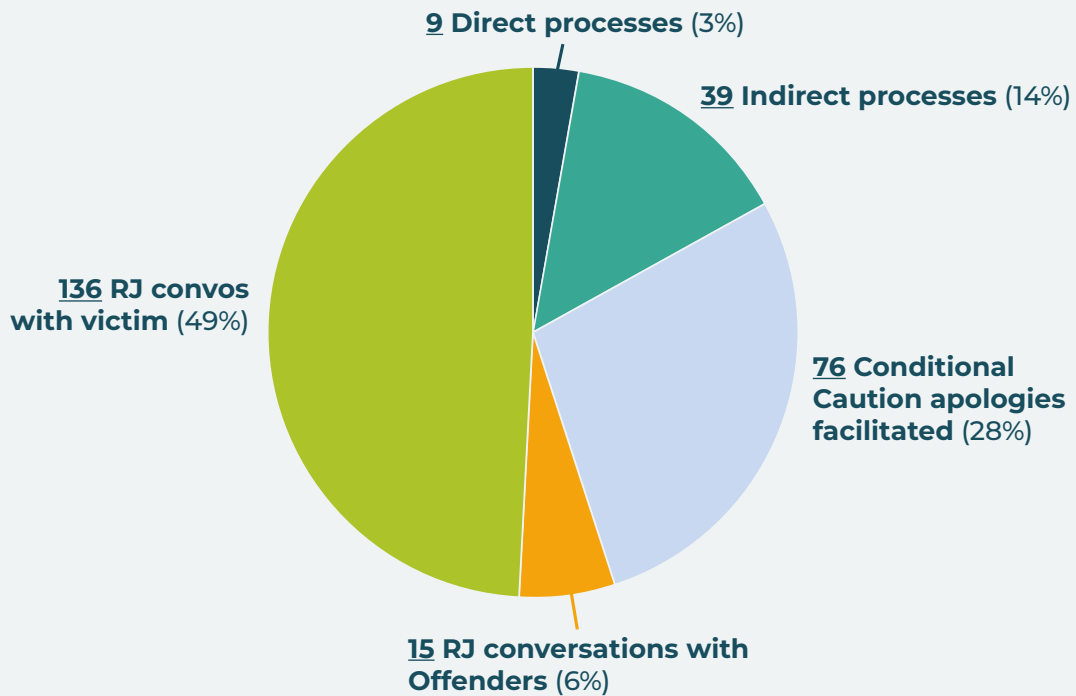
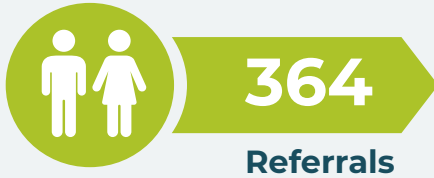
- ***NEW Restorative AEW course-** This applies to assaults involving police officers and staff under Operation Hampshire, as well as external emergency workers such as paramedics, hospital staff and prison staff under Operation Cavell.
- **Restorative ASB course-** Applies to ASB crimes committed against a named victim or small business such as public order, assault and trespassing.

The Restorative awareness courses provide a structured and impactful intervention focused on accountability and behaviour change. Victims are given choice and control throughout, they can decide what information is shared and whether to engage further. Offenders are required to attend a free, two-hour course designed to help them better understand the impact of their actions, reflect on their behaviour, and consider how to make positive changes. Where victims choose to engage, their experiences and perspectives will be incorporated, helping to ensure the offender fully understands the consequences of their actions.

Annual Figures 1st April 2025 – 30th March 2026

Restorative Justice

The RJ service received

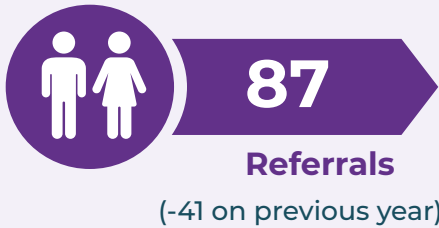


Overall,
80% of offenders
did not re-offend within one year
of engaging in an RJ process

Annual Figures 1st April 2025 – 30th March 2026

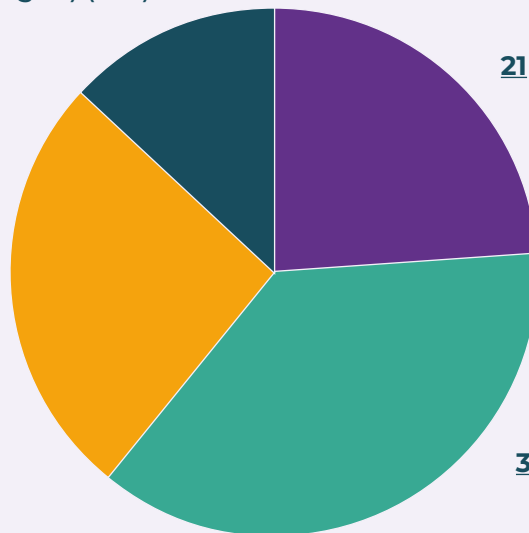
Mediation

The Mediation service received



12 Restorative conversations with
one or more parties on a case
(no information exchanged) (13%)

23 RJ conversions with
single party referrals
(26%)



21 Direct processes (24%)

33 Indirect processes (37%)



RJ in the news – PUNCH!

When he was a teenager, Jacob committed a single act of violence with fatal consequences. After serving a prison sentence, he was approached by the parents of James, the victim, and the meeting marked a turning point in his life.

The critically acclaimed, Olivier Award-winning play *Punch* which details Jacob's story will embark on an extended UK tour in 2027, coming locally to Chichester from 23/02/2027 – 27/02/2027. Some performances include a Q&A session with a panel of RJ experts.

For more information, please visit the website.

<https://www.punchtheplay.com/>

Probation RJ SPOC

Leanne Hay, Probation Officer at Havant

“As a probation officer, Restorative Justice is an important part of supporting rehabilitation, accountability and safer communities. My role involves helping people on probation understand the impact of their actions on victims, families and the wider community whilst encouraging positive behavioural change.

Restorative Justice provides opportunities for people on probation to reflect on the harm caused and explores ways to make meaningful amends through safe and structured communication.

As a SPOC for Restorative Justice at Havant office, I help to promote the service and ensure the team and other services we use are aware of what RJ is, of referral processes and encourage the team to have RJ at the forefront of their minds when completing assessments and developing sentence plans. The more I learn from liaising with the RJ Team, the more passionate I become about the RJ Process and its importance.

I attended an RJ event recently and it was extremely eye opening hearing victims stories as well as a person on probation's experience which triggered emotions in the most resilient of us. As Probation Officers, we usually do not get to hear from victims face to face but rather on paper and so was a new experience.”

Probation
Service



South Central



**Restorative
Justice Week**

15-21 NOV 2026

**SAVE THE
DATE**

Plans are underway in preparation for RJ Week this year where we aim to host a range of webinars for our partners and the wider public to encourage open conversations about restorative justice and the work we do. This will include a focus on ASB, Mediation, targeted crime types and embedding smooth referral pathways. Full details to follow in due course.

Team Update

After a successful meeting discussing the services exciting next steps with the new Out of Court Resolution process, the team enjoyed an away day and took a walking tour around Portsmouth, visiting Portsmouth Cathedral and other historic sites.



Case Study:

The harmer entered the harmed persons family home through an upstairs window and threatened the harmed person and husband with a weapon, demanding money and jewellery.

The harmed person talked through what happened and the subsequent impact. She had questions for the harmer including 'why did he do it?' and 'why did he think it was ok?'. Following the meeting she decided she would like to have the opportunity to share the impact and ask her questions through an indirect process.

Contact was made with the Prison Offender Manager (POM) and an initial meeting arranged with the harmer. He shared what happened from his perspective, that he wished to try to make amends and believed he was a 'different person' to the one who committed the offence.

Multi-agency discussions were held throughout the process with the POM and Victim Liaison Officer to inform the dynamic risk assessment.

Through facilitation by practitioners, the harmed person received responses to all of her questions and the harmer shared an apology which the harmed person did not expect. An informal agreement was reached that should they come into contact in the community, they would provide a nod in acknowledgement but have no further interaction and the harmer agreed to avoid certain locations.

Feedback from participants:

Harmed person

"It has helped me to process what has happened. I started off in a state of trauma but the process has allowed me to reflect on my own emotions. I haven't sat in front of him, but I genuinely feel I have conversed with a human being who has been willing to engage. Indirect communication can be just as powerful".

Harmer:

"I found the process to be like a rollercoaster. I struggled at some parts and had ups and downs but mainly positives have come out of it. Lots of ways to think about things and the impact on the victim. I was able to take accountability and would recommend the RJ process to others".

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 bespoke engagement sessions to support you to discuss and refer cases for RJ.

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 HIOW@restorativesolutions.org.uk

 @restorativesolutionscic

Contact:

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