

WHAT IS RESTORATIVE JUSTICE?

- A process allowing those involved in crime or conflict to have communication in a safe way.
- It allows victim/s to explain the impact the conflict has had on them, ask questions and seek an apology.
- It encourages offenders to take responsibility for their actions and make amends.
- It can be direct (face to face) or indirect (letters or messages passed via a facilitator).
- Those involved can create a mutually agreed plan for how to move forward.
- It goes at the pace of those involved and is completely voluntary.



Essex Restorative Justice

“ My victim has told me about all the different things she has done and learned in her life. If she can keep learning to do new things, so can I. That's what I learned from RJ. ”

Ex offender

HOW CAN I ACCESS THE SERVICE?

You may be asked if you would like to be referred by an agency that you are already dealing with such as the Police, Victim Support or a Housing association. You can also get in touch with the RJ Hub directly if you would like us to come and talk to you about the project. There is no obligation for you to progress a restorative outcome once the hub has contacted you, and facilitators will work with you to ensure the most appropriate and safe way to address your case.

CONTACT US

If you would like to talk to us about the project, restorative justice or are interested in taking part you can find out more here:

Visit:

www.essex.pcc.police.uk

www.victimsupport.org.uk/what-we-do/local-services/east-england/essex

www.essex.police.uk

Or contact the restorative justice hub who will call you back, or arrange to visit you:

Email:

restorativejustice@essex.pnn.police.uk

Call:

01245 291 609



Essex County Council



HMP & YO1 CHELMSFORD
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For more information, visit:

www.restorativejustice.org.uk

Information Leaflet

“ It felt like I’d been carrying a boulder and I’d carried it for so long that I’d forgotten how heavy it was. Until my meeting with the offender was over and I felt so much lighter. ”

Victim of robbery

IS IT AVAILABLE TO ME?

- The project is being piloted in West Essex (Harlow, Brentwood, Epping and Thurrock) and will be rolled out to the rest of the county towards the end of 2015.
- Cases involving domestic abuse, sexual offending, schools or youth offenders are not covered by the Restorative Justice hub, but we may be able to refer you to a relevant agency.
- Everyone involved must consent to take part.
- If the case has gone to court, we will wait until sentencing has happened until we will begin the RJ process.

“ What I took wasn’t just possessions. It was security and happiness – all I left was fear, paranoia and devastation. ”

Ex-burglar

WHAT IS IT USED FOR?

- Anti Social Behaviour.
- Criminal Offences (such as criminal damage, burglary and assault).

WHAT IS THE ESSEX RESTORATIVE JUSTICE HUB?

We are a partnership, made up of agencies across Essex who work to support victims of crime, reduce offending and support communities.

“ The outcome was everything we could have hoped for ”

Victim of criminal damage

HOW DOES THE PROCESS WORK?

After you are referred, someone will contact you to discuss the process and ensure that the case is suitable (this will be explained to you). We will only progress if and when everybody is ready.

Our facilitators will meet with everyone involved in the conflict and a decision of how to proceed will be made (indirect or direct). The facilitator will then arrange for the communication to happen, ensuring that everyone is as comfortable with the process as possible.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- 85% victims are satisfied following an RJ process.
- Re-offending is reduced by as much as 27%.
- 98% direct RJ ends in mutually agreed outcomes.
- RJ decreases post-traumatic stress and allows victims of crime to return to work more quickly.
- In neighbour disputes, RJ can help to avoid evictions and help neighbours live in peace.

For more information, visit:

www.restorativejustice.org.uk

