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# RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

TO TALK  
TO LISTEN  
FOR ADVICE  
FOR HELP



LANCASHIRE  
VICTIM  
SERVICES

## About us

Would you want to meet the offender who attacked you? Or the person who burgled your home, and ask them why?

Restorative Justice is your opportunity to do that. It gives victims of crime the chance to meet the offender responsible and talk to them about their actions, the impact they have had and ask any questions.

Taking part can help you to understand what has happened and move on with your life, and holds offenders responsible for their behaviour.

## What does Restorative Justice involve?

Restorative Justice normally involves a face-to-face meeting between the victim and the offender. Another person, known as a facilitator, will also be present to run the process and make sure it is safe for both parties. This is called a Restorative Justice Conference.

The conference will look at:

- The facts – what happened and why?
- The consequences – how has what happened affected the victim?
- The future – what needs to happen to repair the damage that has been done? An outcome agreement is normally drawn up at this stage, with both parties agreeing what will be done.
- Reintegration – a chance for both people to speak to each other informally, if they wish. This can help the victim to move on from the incident.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Where and when will the meeting take place?

The meeting will take place at a time and place convenient to all participants.

### How long will the meeting last?

It depends on the circumstances. Each conference can last for 1-2 hours, but shorter meetings can be arranged if appropriate.

### Can I take someone with me?

Yes, each party can bring someone with them for support.

### Does it work?

Feedback from participants:

“I was able to ask questions that were so important to me and began to form some kind of understanding of the reasons behind the offender’s actions.”

“I will always be grateful for my own conference, which gave me great peace of mind and ability to move on.”

According to the Restorative Justice Council, Government research shows RJ provides an 85% victim satisfaction rate and a 14% reduction in the frequency of reoffending.

**To start the Restorative Justice Process you can contact Lancashire Constabulary.**

**Call:** 01257 246318

**Email:** rjadmin@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

**Call: 0300 323 0085**

**Email:** info@lancashirevictimservices.org | **www.lancashirevictimservices.org**

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