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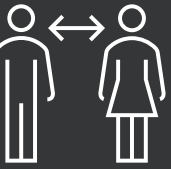
Police-led Restorative Justice services

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UNIVERSITY OF
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

SCHOOL
OF NATURAL
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The Project team

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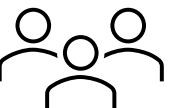
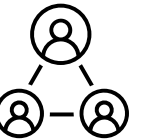
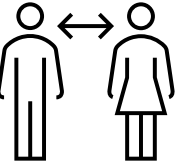
Dr Rebecca Banwell-Moore, Research Fellow

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Ben Fisk, PhD researcher, University of Gloucestershire

Inger Brit Lowater, PhD. researcher, University of Gloucestershire

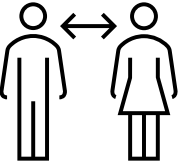
Jill Palmer, PhD researcher, University of Huddersfield



Today



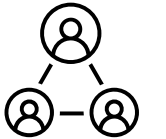
1. Definitions and applications



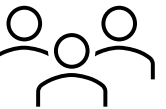
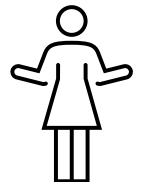
2. Restorative Justice and Policing



3. Lessons from the Metropolitan Police Service



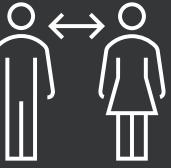
4. Where next...?



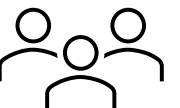
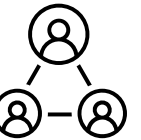
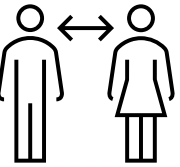
1. Definitions and applications

“Restorative justice approaches seek to repair, rebuild, or redress relationship breakdowns, thereby supporting **victims** to understand and overcome the harm they have experienced; help **offenders** to appreciate the impact of their actions and in doing so consider their wider offending behaviour; and, where available, engage **communities** to support both victims and offenders in moving forward.”

(Hobson et al. 2022a, p. 1)



Punitive Justice	Restorative Justice	Restorative Practice
<p>Crime is a violation of the law and the state</p> <p>Justice requires the state to determine blame (guilt) and impose punishment</p>	<p>Crime is a violation of people and relationships</p> <p>Justice involves victims, offenders, and community members coming together to put things right (as well as the law in many cases!)</p>	<p>Harm is a violation of people and relationships.</p> <p>Violations can be prevented by supporting key stakeholders to build social capital strengthen community and managing conflict.</p>



Restorative Justice as a broad church

Face-to-face (direct)

- Beneficial in some circumstances, but problematic in others

Non face-to-face 'contact' (indirect)

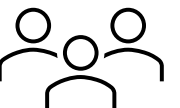
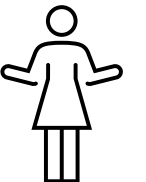
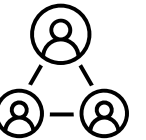
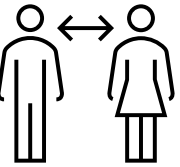
- letter writing, shuttle work

Potentially overlapping processes

- victim and offender circles that may or may not intersect

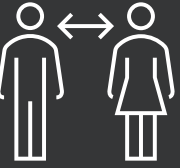
Discrete processes

- Healing circles for victims
- Surrogate offender interactions
- Community or family circles to repair relationships



2. Restorative Justice and Policing

- **Academic knowledge base for the use of RJ in policing**
- **Policy landscape - renewed focus on integration of RJ in the CJS, other statutory services, and beyond**
- **Empirical evidence of effective policing practice**



Shapland et al (2017)

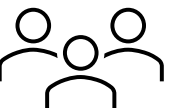
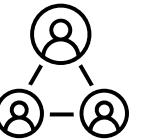
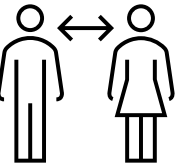
- Consider delivery structures and processes, service awareness, and cultural barriers
- The need for resources and sufficient time
- Data sharing agreements are key

Marder (2020)

- Necessary to recognise the states role on RJ services and service development

Clamp and O'Mahoney (2019)

- Widespread use of RJ across police forces in UK, inc. growth of dedicated teams
- Rise in for-profit providers
- Need for organisational (shared) goals





Restorative Justice APPG Inquiry into Restorative Practices in 2021/2022

1. Registration of commissioned services

2. Standardise the sharing of information

3. Improving quality through effective monitoring and evaluation

4. Publication of a new Action Plan

5. Reviewing ring-fenced funding for RJ practices

6. Explore automatic rights for victims through the Victim's Law

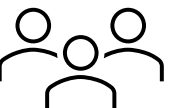
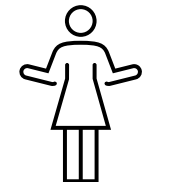
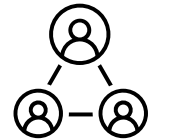
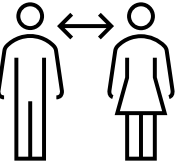
7. End to blanket bans

8. More and better communications.

9. Government Minister with specific responsibility for RJ



- Working group revising the definitions of RJ & RP
- Feed into how forces employ these interventions
- Use of 'Outcome 22' (Out of Court Disposals - OoCDs)



2012 EU Victims' Rights Directive

explicitly mentions restorative justice as a tool for supporting victims of crime.

2018 Council of Europe Recommendation CM/Rec

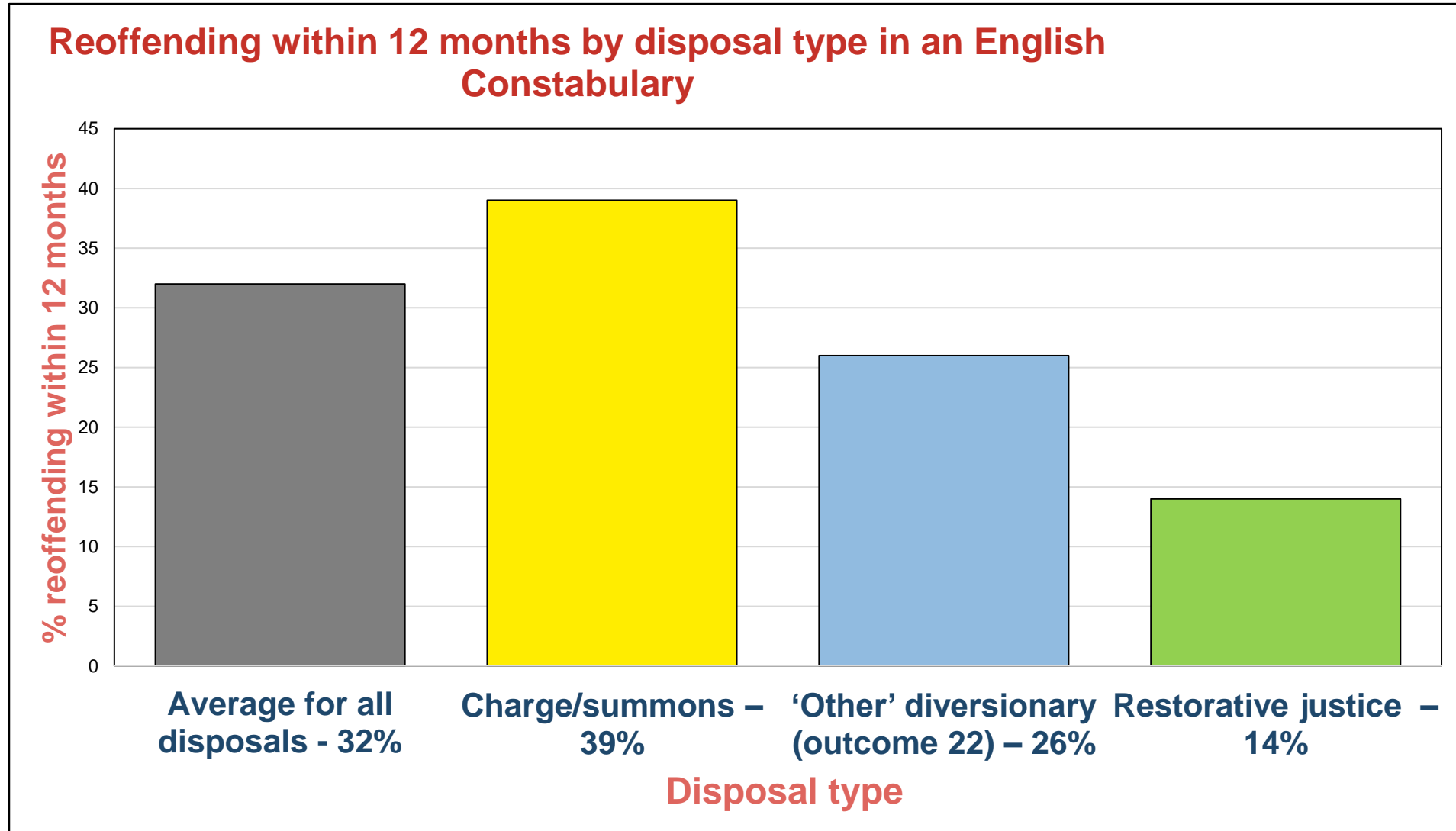
Encouraged 'the development of innovative restorative approaches [...] by judicial authorities, and by criminal justice and restorative justice agencies'.

2020 EU-wide Strategy on victims' rights (2020–2025)

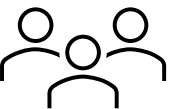
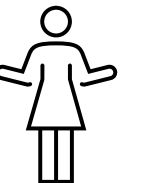
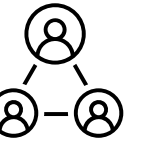
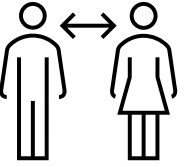
Called on member states to promote the use of restorative processes.

2021 EU 'Venice Declaration' on the Role of Restorative Justice in Criminal Matters

Support Member States to develop policies and plans for the integration of restorative justice practices.



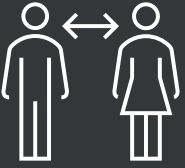
- 36 months of police data up to early 2022 from an English Police Force
- Reoffending = offender committing a crime having committed another crime within the last 365 days



3. Lessons from the MPS



- **Commissioned by Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) in late 2021**
 - Dedicated, but small RJ team in a force of 33,000 front-line officers
 - Institutional inertia
 - Complex sub-contacted services
- **Provide data and evidence for the redevelopment and deployment of their RJ policy and practice**
- **Focus on VAWG and YV**
 - Dr Twyman-Ghoshal will talk to you about this!



Policy Development Consultation

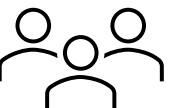
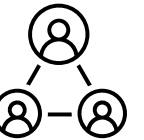
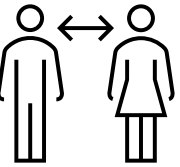
- Engage with a range of key and experienced stakeholders
- Report detailing opportunities and challenges for redeveloping RJ services

Rapid Evidence Assessment

- Focusing existing quality research in VAWG and YV
- Report for each, detailing 'benefits', 'challenges' and 'delivery considerations'

Films on key aspects of MPS RJ development

- Series of 5 films for internal and/or external audiences
- We will see some as part of this presentation



Delivery considerations



- i. **The importance of workable definitions AND applications of RJ;**
- ii. **Different models of provision;**
- iii. Approaches for effectively integrating RJ into policy and practice;
- iv. Developing organizational 'restorative culture';
- v. **Dealing with serious and complex cases;**
- vi. Measuring and evaluating successes.



The importance of clear processes

Information

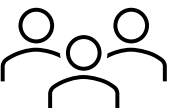
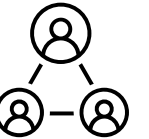
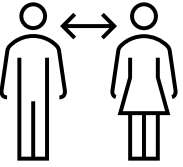
- How RJ works
- When RJ might be suitable
- How RJ might be used

Assessment

- Individual assessment for suitability
- Risk assessment

Process

- What type of process is suitable?
- Direct/indirect?

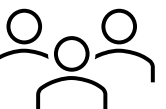
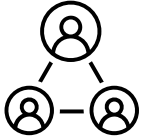
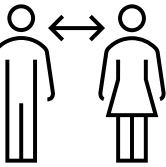


Tiered RJ decision making model

As used by:
Restorative Gloucestershire,
Gloucestershire Constabulary

(cf. **Clamp and O'Mahoney, 2012**)

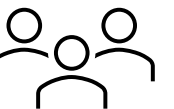
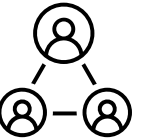
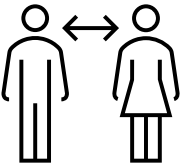
RJ Intervention type decision	Suitability considerations / criteria
RJ LEVEL 1 Usually safe to facilitate an RJ intervention. Can be facilitated by RJ trained police officers or PCSOs. If unsure, please contact RJ SGT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No public interest factors • No reason to make a referral to or need for support from other agencies • No vulnerability with any of the parties involved, consider victims needs and wishes • Summary or either way offences • Swift and completion within 3 months • Harmer must accept responsibility
RJ LEVEL 2 Often suitable although not always straight forward, requires consideration. Refer into Restorative Gloucestershire. In all cases seek guidance and supervision from Restorative Gloucestershire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serious crimes by definition but minor in the individual circumstances (see Hate Crime Eligibility below) • Crime that is local priority e.g., theft • Serious acquisitive crime • Consider risk of reoccurrence • Consider offending history • Dealt with slow time • Where there may be vulnerabilities / additional needs • Summary, either way and indictable offences
RJ LEVEL 3 Can be suitable, there are risks that would need to be carefully managed. Always refer into Restorative Gloucestershire. Seek advice from Restorative Gloucestershire team. All referrals of this nature require ratification by the RG Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic Abuse • Hate Crime or Incident • Sex offences / Harmful Sexual Behaviour • A crime where formal sanction offers more appropriate support or intervention to either party e.g., vulnerable harmer • A crime where formal sanction is essential to ensure that proper record is made of behaviour that is of 'significant risk' • Post sentence intervention



ii. Different models of provision



<i>Model</i>	<i>Benefit</i>	<i>Challenges</i>
Internal <i>‘integrated’</i>	More control Data sharing Utilise existing relationships	Reflect org. practice Absorbed by other work Neutrality of offer?
External <i>‘contracted’</i>	External expertise ‘core business’ Additional accountability	Data sharing agreements Retendering is costly Professional standards
Mixed <i>‘split service’</i>	What is in-house, what is contracted?	Needs effective and open channels of dialogue



Data sharing (Shapland et al, 2017) ; Rise of for-profit providers (Clamp,O’Mahoney, 2019) ; top-down and bottom-up services (Hobson et al, 2022b)

iv. Dealing with serious and complex cases

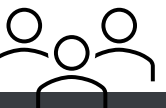
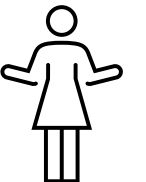
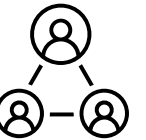
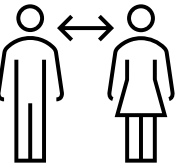


**Making
safe
processes**

**The importance of experienced
(registered?) services and
practitioners**

**The importance of practitioners that
understand and can manage complex
Risk**

**The importance of expert knowledge
in complex cases like coercive control**



The Homicide Timeline, Professor Jane Monckton-Smith (2020)

HOMICIDE TIMELINE

Pre-relationship history

Criminal record or allegations from former partners of control, domestic abuse or stalking. Victims often aware but do not always believe reports.

1

Early relationship

Relationship sped up with early declarations of love, possessiveness and jealousy.

2

Relationship

Relationship dominated by coercive control, usually with some of the high risk markers.

3

Trigger/s

An event occurs which threatens the control of the perpetrator. Usually separation or its potential. May be a physical or mental illness or financial problems.

4

Escalation

An increase in frequency or severity of control tactics, like suicide threats, begging, violence and stalking. Attempts to reinstate control.

5

Change in thinking

Feelings of revenge, injustice or humiliation may drive a decision to resolve issues, through either moving on, revenge, or potentially homicide.

6

Planning

May include buying weapons, seeking opportunities to get victim alone, stalking and threats.

7

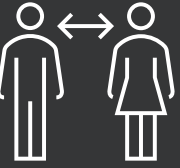
Homicide

May involve extreme violence, suicide, suspicious death, missing person, multiple victims (including children).

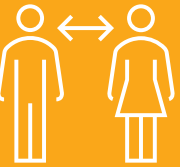
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4. Where next?

- RJ is successfully embedded and impactful in a number of police forces across the UK
- Clear evidence that this works both for victims (overcoming harm) and offenders (reduced reoffending)
- We are reviewing RJ in another large UK police force – **and always looking for people to work with!**



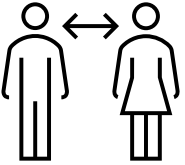
Thank you



Slide References



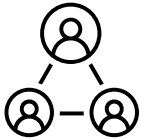
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Clamp, Kerry, and David O'Mahony. (2019) Restorative policing provision across England and Wales in 2018. Nottingham: University of Nottingham.



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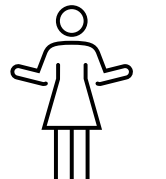
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Keenan, Marie. (2022) The AIM Restorative Practice and Harmful Sexual Behaviour Assessment Framework and Practice Guidance. *The International Journal of Restorative Justice*

Marder, Ian D. (2020) Institutionalising restorative justice in the police: Key findings from a study of two English police forces. *Contemporary Justice Review* 23: 500–26. [[Google Scholar](#)] [[CrossRef](#)]

Monckton Smith, Jane. (2020) The Homicide Timeline: Using Foucauldian Analysis to Track an Eight Stage Relationship Progression to Homicide Violence Against Women 26 (11). pp. 1267-1285. open access: <http://eprints.glos.ac.uk/6896/>



Shapland, Joanna, Adam Crawford, Emily Gray, and Daniel Burn. (2017) Restorative Justice at the Level of the Police in England: Implementing Change. Occasional Paper 8. Sheffield: Centre for Criminological Research, The University of Sheffield. [[Google Scholar](#)]

