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# FROM INQUIRY TO ACTION: RJ IN THE UK

ICGCV-2024, BENGALURU, INDIA

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# WHAT WE WILL COVER



1. The context of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on RJ
2. The APPG-RJ enquiry key recommendations
3. Actions taken post enquiry and beyond



# APPG CONTEXT (1)



- 2012-2018: Ministry of Justice (MoJ) action plans for England & Wales
- Success = ‘victims have equal access to RJ at all stages of the CJS [criminal justice system], irrespective of their location, the age of the offender or offence’ (Ministry of Justice, 2017: 2)
- Post-Brexit, UK remains a Member State of the Council of Europe and party to 2018 Recommendation and the 2021 Venice Declaration
- 2013-2016 RJ funding ‘ringfenced’ to devolved Police and Crime Commissioners
- Post-2016 ringfence removed, ‘postcode lottery’ of funding and service provision identified



# APPG CONTEXT (2)



- Youth Offending Services fund a lot of RJ, embedded in practice.
- RJ happening in schools, mental health settings, housing, social work, community conflict management, and some other organisations and businesses (e.g HR processes)
- Victims Code of Practice (VCOP) of Crime in England and Wales provides a right for all victims and offenders of all ages to receive information about restorative justice (Ministry of Justice, 2021) - between 5-7% remember this offer.



# PHASE 1: 2022

## 9 KEY RECOMMENDATIONS



PICTURE SOURCE: APPG RJ REPORT COVER



All Party Parliamentary Group on  
**Restorative Justice**

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

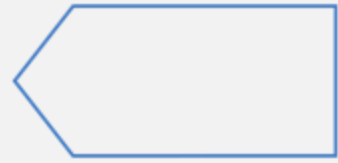
6. Explore automatic rights for victims through the Victim's Law

7. End to blanket bans

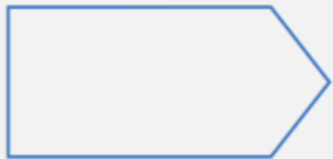
8. More and better communications.

9. Government Minister with specific responsibility for RJ

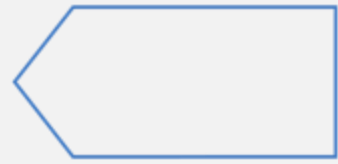
# PHASE 2: WORKSTREAMS



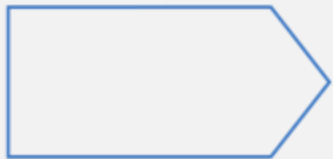
- i. Raising practitioner standards within the criminal justice sector
- ii. Opening up universal access to restorative justice in the criminal justice sector
- iii. Implementing restorative practices in education, health and social care
- iv. The commissioning, collection, and dissemination of evidence-based research & the benefits of a national reporting framework



# PHASE 3: BEYOND WORKSTREAMS



- i. Disappointment of Victims & Prisoners Act 2024.
- ii. Parliament prorogued for UK General election, and reformation of the APPG-RJ brings hope going forward
- iii. PhD researchers commissioned to explore key areas identified by the initial inquiry and subsequent workstreams  
([Fisk, 2023](#); [Fisk, Hobson, Twyman-Ghoshal, 2024](#) – In peer review)
- iv. Academic analysis of enquiry and workstream reports  
([Marder et al., 2024](#))





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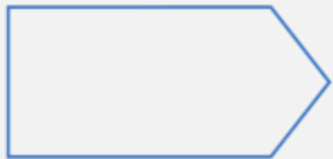
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# MEET EVERY AMBITION

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