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Hobson, Jonathan ORCID logoORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8081-6699> (2024) Restorative Justice and Wider Restorative Approaches. In: Welsh Centre for Crime and Social Justice: Thirteenth Annual Conference, Tregynon, Wales. (Unpublished)

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Wales Restorative
Approaches Partnership

Dr Jon Hobson

Cardiff Metropolitan University

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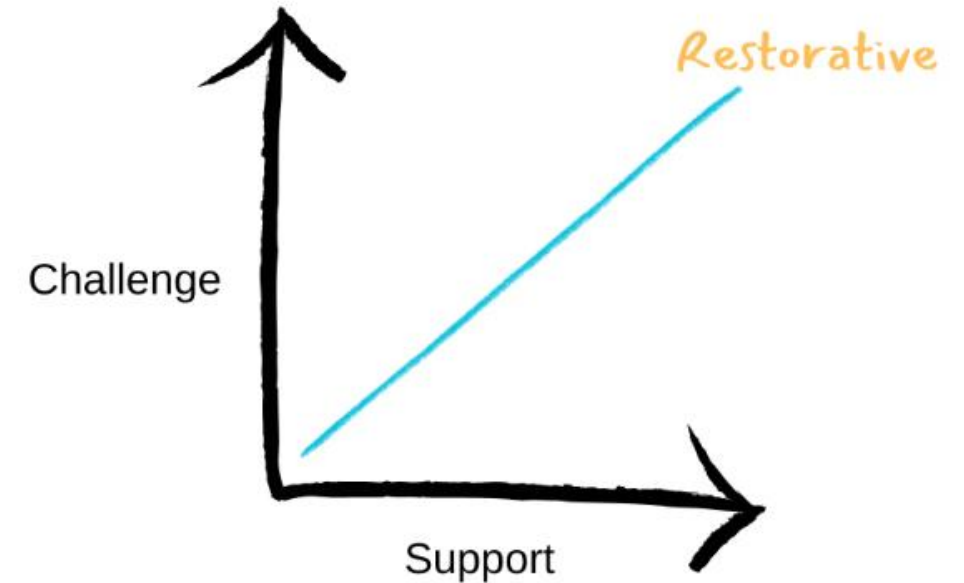
CEO of Wales Restorative Practices Partnership

Restorative Justice and Practice in Wales

What we are doing today



1. RJ and RP - what is it and where is it used?
2. Parc Prison
3. Community collaborative approaches
4. What does devolution bring?



1. RJ and RP – what is it?



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>



APPG Phase 1



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

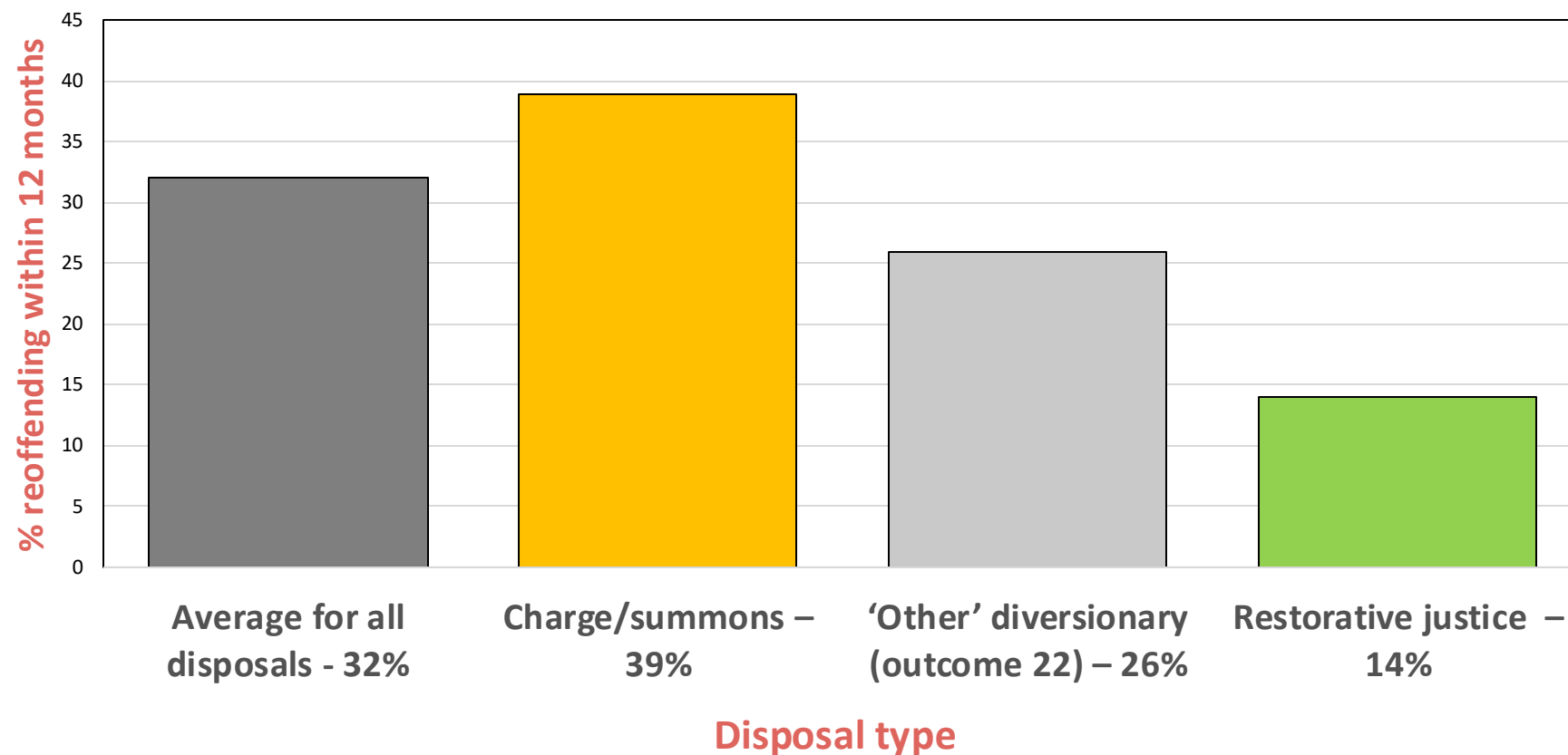
7. End to blanket bans

8. More and better communications.

9. Government Minister with specific responsibility for RJ



Reoffending within 12 months by disposal type in an English Constabulary



36 months of police data up to early 2022

Reoffending = offender committing a crime having committed another crime within the last 365 days

Hobson et al (2022) [here](#)



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- [United Nations \(2020, 2021\)](#) strong support for restorative justice in the Handbook on Restorative Justice Programmes
- Council of Europe 'Recommendation CM/Rec(2018)8 concerning restorative justice in criminal matters; 2021 Venice Declaration goals of accessibility, safe practice and cultural change
- Integrated into criminal justice systems in Australia, NZ, Canada, Finland.
- Used in post conflict reconciliation in NI, Sierra Leone, Rwanda
- An increasingly common aspect of school's provision, community responses to violence



2. Parc Prison



- **The needs and possibilities**
- innovative solutions to specific safer custody and community issues
- people on IPP sentences (POIPP) systemic injustice of sentence itself
- living with uncertainty and knock backs, powerlessness, loss of relationships, ongoing trauma, lack of stability moving around for limited formal interventions
- “Nothing to lose” – increased harms to self and others, hard to stay motivated to change, waiting...and waiting...to complete sentence plans
- Parc prison one of the largest UK POIPP communities (50-70)
- Ripple of harm - families and staff working with POIPP, direct and indirect victims
- Research



2. Parc Prison



Question

- how to restore sense of purpose and meaning, safety, hope, self agency, belonging, self-esteem in limbo to improve safety and wellbeing for all
- What core values and evidence informed approaches might help a diverse population (demographics and criminogenic needs)

Opportunity for evidence informed partnership & Research

- MOJ HMPPS Innovation 2 year Grant with the community sector
- Parc prison one of the largest POIPP communities
- W.R.A.P. and therapeutic associates
- Cardiff Met and Swansea University





Integrated bespoke voluntary model – What matters to you?

- Restoring me, restoring my relationships, restoring my communities
- Relational - restorative, trauma informed; self and community inside/outside strengths; peer leadership and mentoring; cooperative model
- Reflective practice, coaching and supervision for all; sometimes together
- Training, interventions, individual and group work, qualifications, action learning and feedback to adapt initial model with POIPP and staff, Apply model to systems change for internal adjudications (punishment doesn't "work")
- Everyone offered same opportunities - POIPP, key relationships, staff working with them
- Research – process and impact study, action research, Outcomes Star



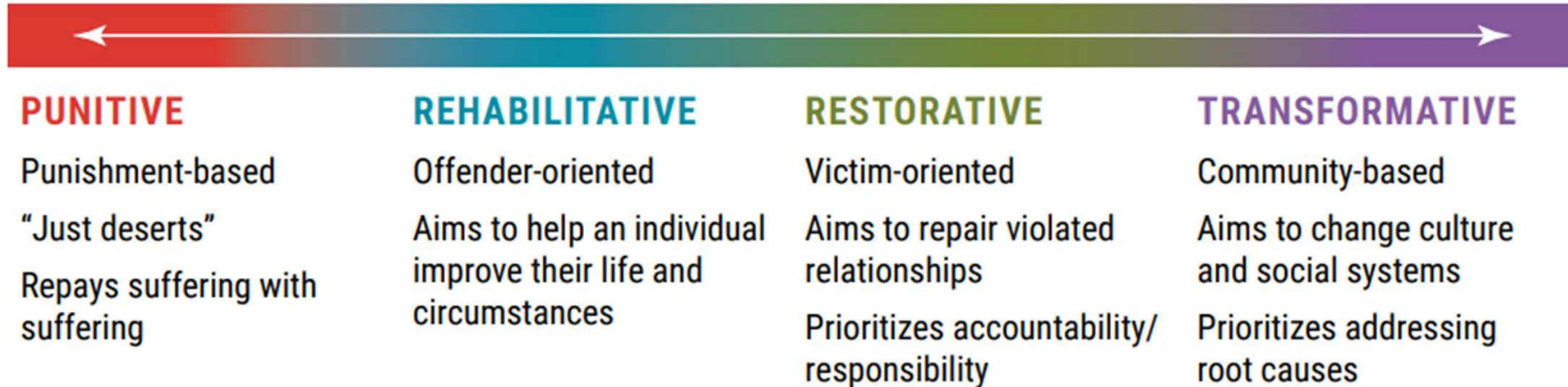
3. Community collaboration & leadership



Beyond RJ - restorative approaches not only RJ as social justice

Local community led and integrated across sectors wherever possible

Early intervention, prevention and response; diversion from traditional CJS as well as in parallel e.g. restorative prisons, mirror YJS



4. Devolution – transforming justice?



Restorative practice is

‘the science of restoring and developing social capital, social discipline, emotional wellbeing and civic participation through participatory learning and decision-making

Wachtel, 2005



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Families

Education

Communities

Health and Social Care

Criminal Justice

Business

Opportunity to reflect and redesign with values, vision and social justice at the core rather than inherit and accept a broken system

Grassroots and sector leadership appetite for change “upstream”

Innovative workable, adaptable and scalable models exist; local and global models e.g. NI and Belfast

300+ education providers, 30+ social housing providers, family & community services, 7 LA's, NHS...

CJS learn from & collaborate with other sectors



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