



Restoring The Balance.... The Story So Far



Restorative Justice that starts with the needs of victims

A collaboration between Thames Valley Partnership,
Thames Valley Probation and Victim Support –
funded by the European Union



Who are we?

- **Geoff**
- **Diane**
- **Graham**
- **Louise**
- **We are the Euro Project Team.....**



How Has it Been Working?

- We have been involved from the project's inception
- The purpose of our project is to meet the needs of victims by supporting and protecting them, in order to allow them a voice.

Putting Victim's First

- How do we do this?
- What hurdles have we had to overcome?

Getting The Message Out.

- Publicity- What have we done so far?
- How do we make sure we reach the victims?
- Who is eligible?

- How do we communicate this?
 - Production of leaflets
 - Media interviews
 - Getting information to referral organisations
 - Self-referrals
 - Out-reach work
 - What are the learning outcomes to date?

Finding Cases

- **Identifying Potential Referral Agencies:**
 - Victim Support, Victim Liaison Unit, Police, Youth Offending Teams
- **Approaching Referral Agencies**
 - Identifying/meeting Managers
 - Gaining invites to Team Meetings
 - Marketing /Selling product
 - Identifying clear referral process/contact point

Finding Cases

- **Issues arising:**

- Victim Support
- Victim Liaison Unit
- Police Evidence Review Officers and Family Liaison Officers
- Youth Offending Teams

- **Learning Points:**

- Do not assume that offering a service is enough/Perseverance
- Approach Managers AND Case Workers
- Provide feedback on cases
- Importance of Networking

Approaching Victims

- **Is there a facility to get victims on board?**
- *'The victim has a responsibility because they were there?' Barter, D*
- Having a sensitive (non patronizing) approach
- Telephone?
 - Is it a good time to talk?
- Letter?
 - What should be the content?
- Cold call?
 - Dangers/Limitations?

Who's Case is it Anyway?

- Is it important to have ownership?
- Feedback and collaboration *is* important and leads to sharing of good practice which is the vehicle for future modelling
- What is our aim? Joanna Shapland- *RESEARCH: Joanna Shapland et al: Ministry of Justice Research Series 10/08 June 2008*
- “The offer of RJ to victims of violent crime: should it be protective or proactive?” - *Jo-Anne Wemmers & Tinneke Van Camp , Report June 2011, Int. Centre for Comparative Criminology, Canada.*

Lessons Learned

- To read or not to read?
- Is it harmful to offer? *“At least offer it to me.”*
Donnovan,R
- Is there a good time to offer RJ?
- RJ must be explained properly by those who are trained in its' knowledge



Restoring the Balance

How do I make contact to make a referral?

**You can contact us via Geoff Emerson, Project Manager
or Maria Hebden, Administrator**

Phone: 01869 328 500

Mob: 07526 746 361 (Geoff)

Email:

Restorative.Justice@thamesvalley.probation.gsi.gov.uk



For further information Contact

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