The Jersey Probation and After care Service

Restorative Justice Initiative

What is Restorative Justice?

- Inclusive with the victim
- Makes amends
- Offenders accept responsibility
- Voluntary process

What do victims want?

- Help with the practical/emotional effects of crime
- To be treated sensitively and with respect
- To know what's happening in the case
- To understand what's happening with the case
- To be heard and taken seriously
- Public acknowledgement that wrong has been done

What do offenders want?

- Support
- To know what's happening
- To be heard and taken seriously
- To be treated fairly and with respect
- A quick resolution
- To regain trust
- A sense of closure

What does Restorative Justice offer Victims?

- Explanation as to why the offender chose them
- Opportunity to ask questions
- Apology and some form of reparation, if appropriate
- High levels of victim satisfaction and a reduction in the fear of crime

What does Restorative Justice offer offenders?

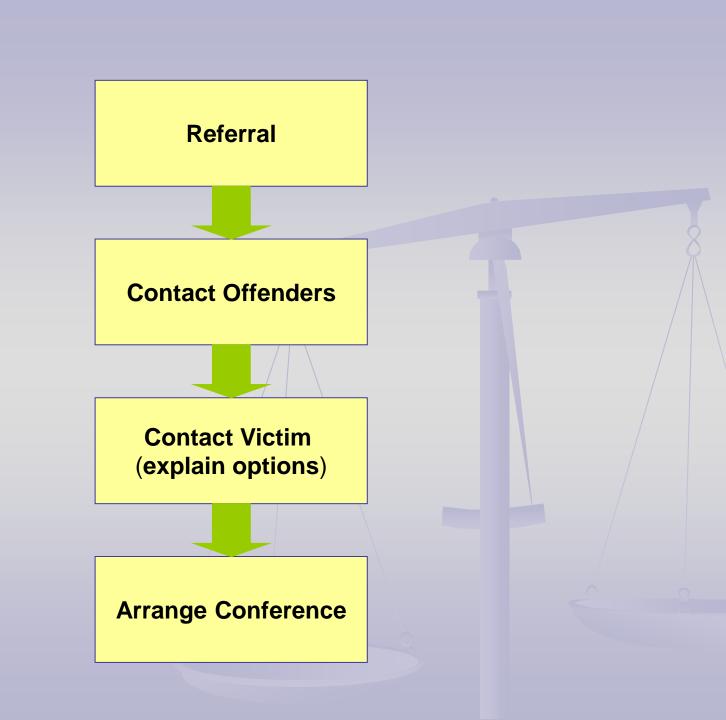
- Own responsibility for the offence
- Understand how the crime affected the victim
- Reassess their behaviour
- Apologise
- Make amends
- Demonstrate that they are sorry
- Progress can be passed to the Courts and Centeniers

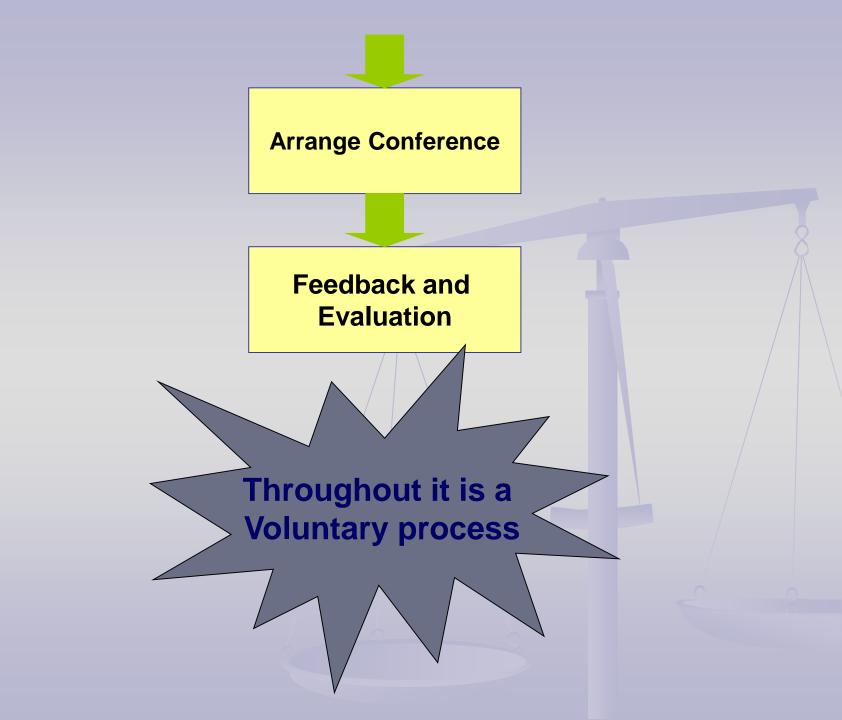
What does Restorative Justice offer the community

- Strengthens the capacity of the Parish to respond effectively to offending
- Reinforces community skills in resolving conflict and maintaining peaceful Parishes
- RJ has expanded since we started and now has a wider impact involving the prison, schools and communities Island wide.

How it works in Jersey

- Parallel system alongside Probation
- Working closely with Victim Support
- Parish hall enquiries
- Youths on voluntary supervision
- Offenders on Probation Orders
- Offenders in Custody





In the last two years there have been 129 Restorative Justice Initiatives. Out of these there have been 48 face to face meetings with victims and offenders and 89 clients have completed a session on victims and making amends whilst participating in the Core offending programme at Probation.

 Last year 100% of participating victims expressed satisfaction with the RJ process.

Comments from Victims

- "The most positive thing was the feel good factor, greater understanding of the offender and of the guilt she appeared to be feeling".
- "It was great to get together and tell him how I really felt and actually being listened to without any arguments".
- "Long may it continue if it works well as it did in my case".
- "I slept well for the first time in months after meeting with the person who had stolen from me".

Comments from Offenders

- "The thing that affected me most is that now myself and the victim are talking and I am getting help for my behaviour"
- "It has taken a weight off my shoulder. Bringing people together has helped with my feelings of shame and guilt".
- "I was scared but when I got there it was friendly. I saw the effect I had had on others and it gave me the chance to apologise".

