

Lambeth Mediation Service response

Hello Siobhan

I have just looked at the draft Police & Crime Plan and am concerned that restorative justice has not been mentioned? Current RJ statistics are showing high victim satisfaction rates (85-90 percent depending on what you read) and a decrease in re-offending rates (3.5 per cent).

Restorative justice interventions definitely tick the SNT remit of justice for victims, reducing re-offending, cut crime, tackle repeat victimisation and increase partnership working.

We are a small independent charity currently piloting a 2 year Neighbourhood Justice Panel project on behalf of the MoJ to help resolve low level crime and ASB. We are working in partnership with Community Safety and Lambeth Living. We use trained volunteer RJ practitioners to facilitate the panels (a form of restorative conferencing) which bring together the harmer and harmed persons in a safe environment. This intervention gives victims a voice and gives them a say in reparation plans.

We are currently rolling this project out to the police teams in Lambeth, championed by Inspector Steve Jones in Streatham. We are currently funded by Community Safety but feel this funding could be in jeopardy unless RJ is included in the Police & Crime Plan thereby helping to make it a priority.

RJ has been used very successfully in other police forces around the country, for example, in Norfolk so why not in London?

I would very much welcome your comments.

Regards Maggie

Maggie Hampton

Community Mediation &

Restorative Justice Co-ordinator

Lambeth Mediation Service