

Restorative Justice in Scotland

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June 2021

#YJconf21

Aims of the Workshop

- Update on Restorative Justice action plan
- Think about the awareness work around restorative justice
- Consider where children and young people are in this
- Look at the next steps

RJ Quiz

- How's your RJ knowledge?
- Go to www.menti.com
- Input code – 49 05 71 80



Answers

Restorative justice must involve forgiveness from the person harmed

- This is not a requirement to participate in RJ. However, it can happen spontaneously and is down to personal choice of the person harmed

Restorative justice must involve an apology from the person who caused harm

- Again, this is not a requirement of a RJ. However, it can happen spontaneously and is down to personal choice of the person harmed

Restorative justice is used instead of a legal criminal process

- RJ is not be a replacement of the criminal justice system, but instead be an additional mechanism of justice for the person harmed. It can be used in conjunction with the criminal justice system, but it will never impact a sentence. RJ is often used after the criminal justice process is over

Answers

38% would take part in RJ for serious harms

- **False** - For serious crimes around half (51%) would probably or definitely consider it, and for less serious crimes this rose to 64%

Support for RJ was higher in relation to harms caused by children

- **True** – the general public were more support of RJ when the harm was caused by a child

Support for RJ was more favourable in cases of more serious harm

- **False** – the general public were more favourable of RJ for less serious harm

29% of the general public have heard of the term Restorative Justice

- **True** – only 13% of these respondents demonstrated a full clear understanding. The majority think RJ is about reparations for recent miscarriages of justice in court, e.g. individuals wrongly accused of crime being compensated

Answers

From a recent survey on RJ opinion in Scotland, what % of the general public thought RJ was a quite bad, or very bad idea?

- True – 17%

From a recent survey on RJ opinion in Scotland, what % of the general public thought RJ was a very good, or good idea?

- False – 69%

Definition

“... a process of independent, facilitated contact, which supports constructive dialogue between a victim and a person who has harmed (whether this be an adult, a child, a young person or a representative of a corporate or other body) arising from an offence or alleged offence.”

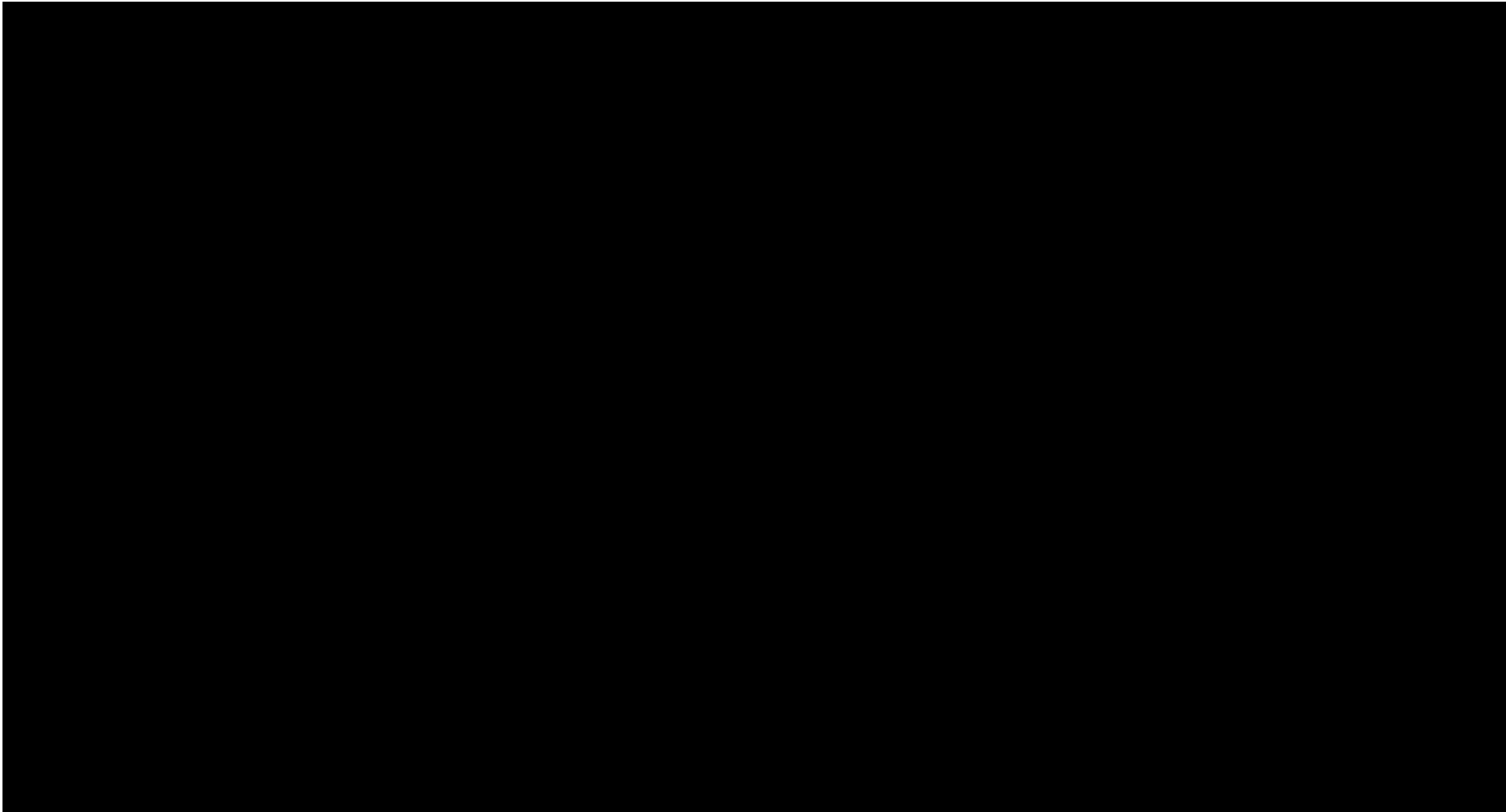
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/guidance-delivery-restorative-justice-scotland/pages/2/>

The Vision ...

“Restorative Justice is available across Scotland to all those who wish to access it, and at a time that is appropriate to the people and case involved. Approaches taken are consistent, evidence-led, trauma informed and of a high standard. This seeks to ensure the needs of persons harmed and their voices are central, and supports a reduction in harmful behaviour across our communities.”

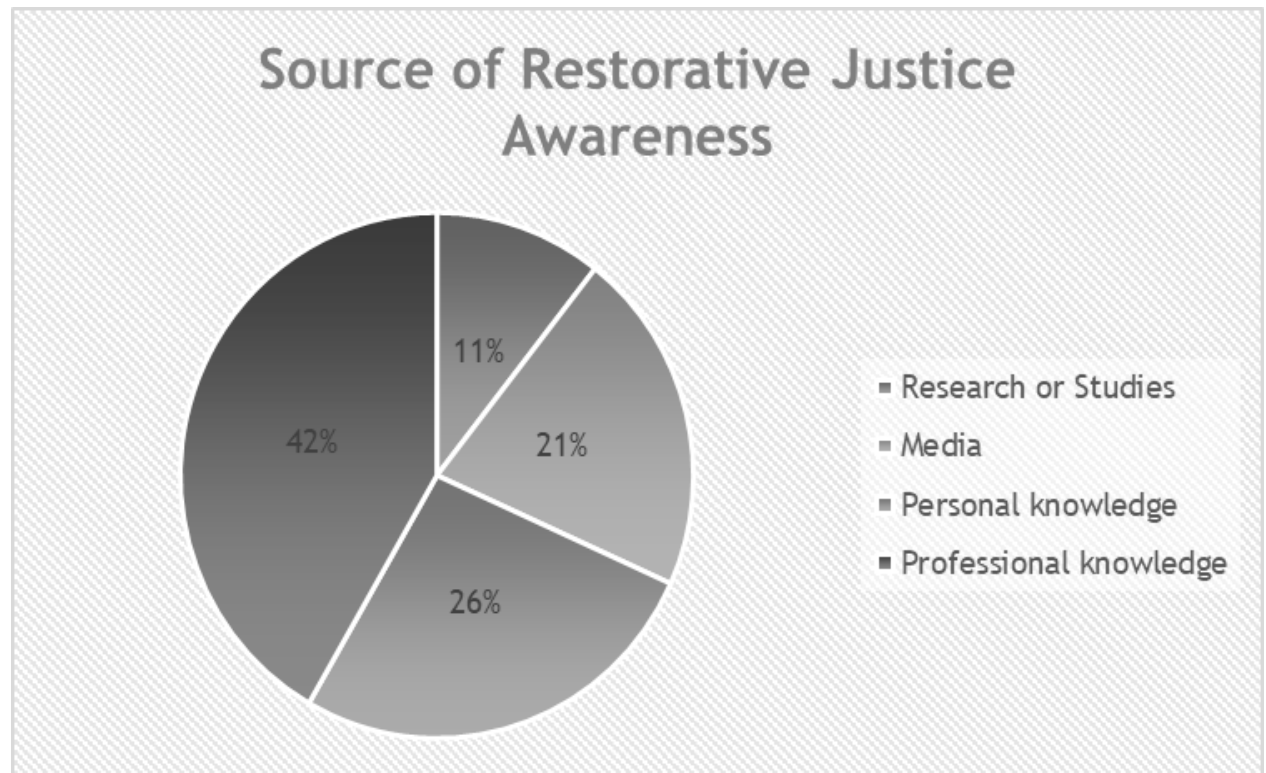
- Restorative Justice is available across Scotland
- High quality Restorative Justice services are delivered by trained facilitators
- There is a strong public awareness of Restorative Justice in Scotland

RJ in a Scottish Context



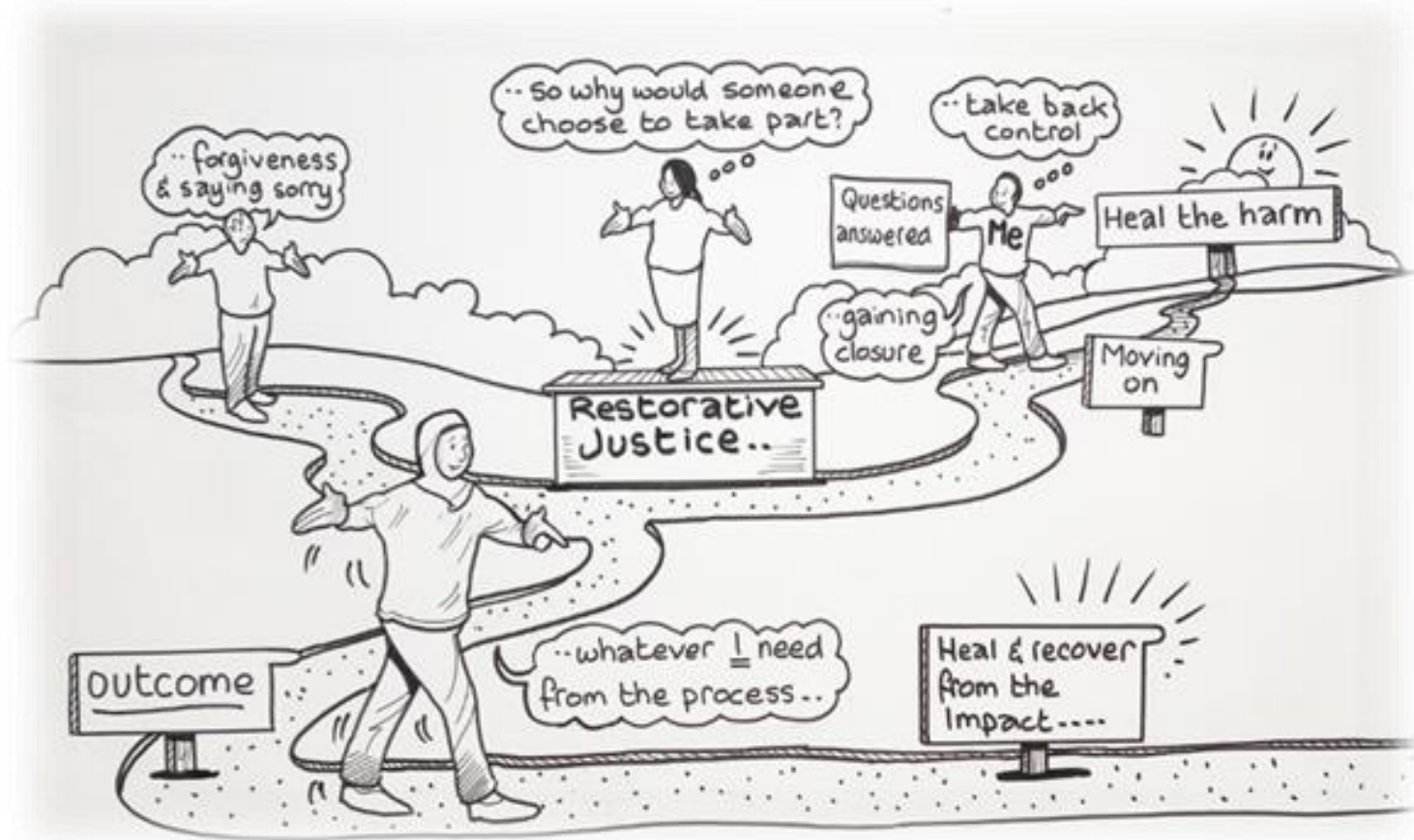
Have you heard of the term RJ?

- Yes - 83%
- No 17%



Future Awareness Raising

- Case studies – the “voice”
- Accessibility – sound quality and subtitles
- Referral pathways for RJ
- Scotland's roll out of RJ
- Professional vs. Public reach



Next Steps...

- Use findings of RJ consultation to shape what RJ services look like for children
- Children's Rights Impact Assessment
- Continuous engagement with children and young people throughout
- Research in schools

Useful Links

- [Scottish Government \(2017\) Guidance for Restorative Justice](#)
- [Restorative Justice Action Plan \(2019\)](#)
- [Restorative Justice Stakeholder Group](#)
- [Uses of Restorative Justice: Evidence Review \(2019\)](#)
- Restorative Justice [animation](#)
- [Restorative Justice Toolkit \(2020\)](#)
- [The Local Provision of Restorative Justice in Scotland](#)
- [CYCJ Practice guidance chapter](#)

Questions

Thanks for attending