

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Welcome to this month's bulletin. It's been another busy few weeks for the RJC team. There is an incredible momentum across the sector at the moment with exciting new developments which will help shape the future of our practice.

This month I am delighted to be able to announce our endorsement of the Orcuma FIRsT case management software. We've worked in collaboration with Orcuma to ensure that the software meets the standards set out in our Practice Guidance and Registration Frameworks. You can read more about this [below](#).

Our policy officer has been exploring language barriers in the criminal justice system. He writes about the recent publication of a research report which focuses on how we can meet the needs of those for whom English is a second or additional language.

I've been busy working with the APPG and Advisory Board to launch our work programme for 2022. Our investigation into implementing restorative practices in education, health and social care launches on the 30th March 2022. You can read my latest update [here](#).

Also this month, the Government launched Round 4 of its Safer Streets Fund. We noted that in this round, restorative justice as a potential intervention to tackle ASB. has been included in the prospectus. Our policy officer has provided an overview of the funding round [below](#).

I was pleased to see that the first ever Adult Restorative Justice Strategy for Northern Ireland has been formally announced. It's worth noting that both Scotland and Northern Ireland have action plans in place and hope that in the near future the UK Government can commit to putting a similar plan in place for England and Wales.

As always, I've included a round up of the latest [RJC Approved Courses, CPD and events](#) as well as the [latest vacancies](#).

Don't forget, you can keep up to date with all the latest developments at the RJC by visiting our [website](#).

Best wishes,

Jim Simon

Chief Executive Officer

Orcuma case management system - "FIRsT" formally endorsed by the RJC

Orcuma is a software company with extensive knowledge of public and not for profit sector working and IT implementation. Their safer communities software, FIRsT, has been designed for multi-agency case working and is extremely configurable, enabling each organisation to capture their specific operational data. The RJC has worked alongside the Orcuma team to develop a standardised version of their FIRsT software which adheres to our Registration Framework standards and Practice Guidance requirements.

The FIRsT Case Management system has been reviewed against our rigorous endorsement framework which has been developed to ensure that data is collected and stored, in line with GDPR and Confidentiality laws, and that standard requirements for data reporting can be delivered in line with multiple sectors. Having successfully demonstrated that the system meets our endorsement criteria, the RJC are delighted to announce our endorsement of the Orcuma FIRsT Case Management system.

Jim Simon, the RJC's chief executive said:

"The RJC are excited to work with the Orcuma team to develop an effective case recording tool to support RJ service delivery. We would recommend it as an easy to use, secure case management system. Being able to offer our members access to such a system will be of great benefit and ensure a more consistent approach to data recording and case management."

To find out more about Orcuma's FIRsT software and take advantage of our exclusive member offer, visit our website using the link below.

[**READ THE FULL ARTICLE**](#)

Language Barriers in the Criminal Justice System

The report of an important research project on language barriers in the criminal justice system (CJS) was launched at an online event on 15 March 2022. The report focusses on the needs of those for whom English is a second or additional language, often abbreviated to ESL or EAL.

A recording of the event is available on You Tube. [Language Barriers in the Criminal Justice System: Research and Practice](#) - YouTube

The report was funded by the Bell Foundation and supported by a partnership including Victim Support, Birbeck College, the Centre for Justice Innovation and the Institute for Crime and Justice Policy Research. It is part of a Bell Foundation Criminal Justice Programme which seeks to break down the language and cultural barriers to accessing and achieving justice and rehabilitation for individuals who speak English as a second or additional language (ESL) in contact with the criminal justice system.

Alongside the full research report, the project has published a paper about the lived experience of victims and witnesses who speak English as a second language (ESL), and guidance for practitioners. They are easily accessible on the Policy and Research Reports section of the Victim Support website.

[Reports - Victim Support](#)

This is an important suite of documents which deserve attention from the restorative justice sector as it seeks to understand the challenges it faces in working with diversity.

[**READ THE FULL ARTICLE**](#)

APPG for Restorative Justice monthly update

The Advisory Board for the Restorative Justice All-Party Parliamentary Group will be launching an investigation into implementing restorative practices in education, health and social care on the 30th March 2022.

The investigation has been established to examine the relevant issues, collect additional evidence where suitable and produce materials that support its findings. We will be considering issues related to findings outlined in the original APPG report which states:

The report has also identified some important further questions which the APPG will consider within their future workplan, particularly around the broader use of restorative practices in schools, forensic mental health, housing and a range of other key sectors.

We will do this by engaging with practitioners, public, private and charitable organisations and other key stakeholders to:

- Undertake an investigation to identify the current use, benefits and/or barriers to using restorative practices in education, health and social care settings.
- Produce a report with recommendations for effectively implementing restorative practices in education, health and social care settings.

Whilst we will be focusing on education, health and social care, we intend to acknowledge other potential sectors and/or contexts outside of the criminal justice sector where restorative practice could potentially have a positive impact. This includes for example workplaces, parenting, housing and community-based practice.

The Advisory Board, on behalf of APPG members, will issue a call for written evidence. This will include opportunities for those working restoratively within education, health and social

care to describe the work that they are involved in and provide case studies demonstrating effective practice.

We are also planning to hold a series of evidence gathering sessions which will be open to those working in education, health and social care settings. This will be followed by formal evidence hearing sessions with members of the APPG later in the year.

If you would like to contribute to the inquiry or would like to keep up to date with its progress, visit the APPG website using the link below.

[VISIT THE APPG WEBSITE](#)

How you can support the RJC to continue its work with the APPG for Restorative Justice

The RJC are committed to supporting the work of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Restorative Justice and believe that it is crucial for the restorative sector and our members that we are actively involved with the groups Advisory Board.

It is through the generosity of our members and supporters that we are able to dedicate funds to this important activity.

You can support us to continue our involvement in the APPG by making a [one off donation](#), a regular [monthly contribution](#) or by becoming a [member](#) of the RJC.



All Party Parliamentary Group on
appg | **Restorative Justice**

Funding for the use of Restorative Justice in tackling Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

The Government launched Round 4 of its Safer Streets Fund on Friday 18 March and has included in the prospectus a mention of restorative justice as a potential intervention to tackle ASB.

“Enhancing local awareness of, and use of, restorative justice practices to increase community cohesion and avoid potential reoffending (including strengthening local Community Remedy processes)” Page 13 Para 3.11

[Safer Streets Fund Round 4 Prospectus](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)
(publishing.service.gov.uk)

This is the first time that tackling ASB has been eligible for funding from this source and the mention of restorative justice is noteworthy. A link is made to community remedy so it is worth thinking about the distinctive contribution RJ can make when the use of community remedy is being considered. More information about community remedy is available here -

[Community Remedy - Anti Social Behaviour Act 2014](https://www.asbhelp.co.uk) (asbhelp.co.uk)

The Safer Streets Fund has its origins in the Government’s [Beating Crime Plan](https://www.gov.uk) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk), and is also a commitment in the Levelling Up White Paper. It is intended to focus efforts on reducing crime in hot spot areas of between 500 and 3,500 households (or 1,000 to 9,000 residents), referred to as local super output areas LSOA). Bids can include more than one hot spot and they do not have to be coterminous but could share common problems. Recent rounds have included a particular focus on violence against women and girls (the Safety of Women at Night Fund) alongside other interventions but other types of crime and ASB are also eligible.

The bidding process is designed to promote collaboration between Police and Crime Commissioners or Mayors with Policing and Crime Responsibilities, local authorities and eligible civil society organisations (CSOs). The British Transport Police are also able to bid. PCCs / Mayors are expected to prioritise bids from their areas with a maximum of four per area.

Bids are allowed up to the value of £750k, with £500k to be spent by 31 March 2023 and the remainder by 30 September 2023. PCCs and local authorities are required to find 50% match funding which poses a challenge in many areas. This is not a requirement of bids from CSOs, although they are encouraged to find matched funding where possible. This may mean that bids led by CSOs are attractive to some PCCs.

RJC member organisations who already work with PCCs are in a good position to offer their assistance in the development of bids and are encouraged to contact OPCCs and Combined Authorities to find out what approach is being taken in their area. The bidding window closes in May, so such approaches need to be made as a matter of urgency.

This opportunity is especially relevant as it potentially provides RJ to victims of ASB – a group who are not eligible for funding from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) local victims’ services grant.

Contact details for your PCC / Mayor are available here

[Find your PCC](https://apccs.police.uk) (apccs.police.uk)

David Smith
Policy Officer

Northern Ireland launches adult restorative justice strategy

The first ever Adult Restorative Justice Strategy for Northern Ireland has been formally announced in mid-March 2022. It runs from 2022-2027 and has been developed with statutory, voluntary and community sector partners. The results of a wide ranging consultation were reported in May 2021.

A link to the strategy and action plan is given below.

[Adult Restorative Justice Strategy and action plan](https://justice-ni.gov.uk) (justice-ni.gov.uk)

Justice Minister Naomi Long, quoted in the Irish Times, said: "The use of restorative approaches in our youth justice system in Northern Ireland has long been a great success, but there has been no overarching strategic approach for its use in the adult system until now.

"Public consultation held in 2020 showed there was considerable support for the development of an adult strategy and my department has now delivered on this. Our vision is that the use of restorative justice becomes second nature across the criminal justice system.

"We know from experience both here and elsewhere that when delivered professionally and sensitively, the restorative approach can bring significant benefits for the victim of crime, for individuals who have offended and for families and communities."

Naomi Long's full statement is available on YouTube. <https://youtu.be/2cQdk7U8nkY>

A multi-year action plan for implementation of the key priorities identified through the consultation process has also been developed alongside the strategy.

Victim Support NI – who recently achieved Registered Restorative Organisation status from

the Restorative Justice Council, will be working with the Northern Ireland Executive to look at developing victim-initiated pathways to promote and encourage victims' engagement in the process.

[Victim Support NI achieve Registered Restorative Organisation status | Restorative Justice Council](https://www.rjc.org.uk) (rjc.org.uk)

Jim Simon, the RJC CEO said

"Northern Ireland's new strategy and action plan, based on the RJC's principles for restorative justice, are a very important step forward in achieving our vision of a society where high-quality restorative justice is available to all. It's noteworthy that both Scotland and Northern Ireland have action plans in place, and we hope that in the near future the UK Government can commit to putting a similar plan in place for England and Wales."

One aspect of the strategy that is of particular interest are the proposals for the development and accreditation of community-based restorative justice schemes. These schemes emerged in Northern Ireland during the peace process to provide an alternative to paramilitary systems of justice. A review of the protocol for such schemes, which was put in place in 2007, is to be reviewed.

The provision of RJ where the offender is under eighteen, is the responsibility of the Youth Justice Agency and the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2002 formalised RJ approaches by including youth conferences in the youth justice system.

David Smith
Policy Officer

RJC APPROVED COURSES



Whether you are just starting your restorative practitioner career or you are an experienced practitioner seeking continued professional development opportunities, selecting the right course is vital to ensuring high quality practice. You can be confident that by opting for an Approved Course, delivered by our [Registered Training Providers](#), your course meets our practice standards.

Restorative Justice Level 2

Location: Hybrid

Provider: [Restorative Engagement Forum](#)

Start Date: 6 April 2022

[APPROVED COURSE DETAILS](#)

RA Level 5 Programme: Module 1

Location: Hybrid

Provider: [Royal Borough of Greenwich](#)

Start Date: 20 April 2022

[APPROVED COURSE DETAILS](#)

Restorative Facilitator Training

Location: Hybrid

Provider: [Royal Borough of Greenwich](#)

Start Date: 28 April 2022

[APPROVED COURSE DETAILS](#)

Are you interested in becoming a Registered Training Provider?

As a Registered Training Provider, you will be demonstrating that you are committed to delivering high quality restorative practice training to nationally agreed standards.

Having your courses approved provides confidence to participants and training commissioners that your training meets the required standards. For participants who may consider becoming a [Registered Practitioner](#), completion of an RJC Approved Course is preferred and reduces the amount of evidence they need to provide. Our Registration Frameworks for [Service Providers](#) and [Restorative Organisations](#) also encourage leaders to commission approved training.

You can find more information about becoming a Registered Training provider with the RJC by visiting our website using the link below.

[REGISTERED TRAINING PROVIDER](#)

[VIEW ALL RJC APPROVED COURSES](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS AND COURSES

The Spikey Profile! - Working Restoratively with SEND

Location: Online

Provider: Frances Jessie

Start Date: 20 April 2022

[READ MORE](#)

Finding a place for restorative justice in forensic mental health

Location: Online

Provider: The Mint House

Start Date: 27 April 2022

[READ MORE](#)

Working Restoratively with Bullying

Location: Online

Provider: Frances Jessie

Start Date: 27 April 2022

[READ MORE](#)

Freshen Up with Restorative Approaches

Location: Online

Provider: Frances Jessie

Start Date: 5 May 2022

[READ MORE](#)

Complex and Sensitive RJ Facilitator Training

Location: Online

Provider: Restorative Engagement Forum

Start Date: 10 May 2022

[READ MORE](#)

3 Day Restorative Practitioner Training for schools and community

Location: Birmingham

Provider: Peacemakers

Start Date: 16 May 2022

[READ MORE](#)

Why me? Annual Conference 2022: Promoting Equality in Restorative Justice

Location: London

Provider: Why me?

Start Date: 25 May 2022

[READ MORE](#)

Annual Restorative Practice CPD Symposium

Location: Online

Provider: Restorative Justice Council

Start Date: 27 June 2022

[READ MORE](#)

[VIEW ALL UPCOMING COURSES & EVENTS](#)

LATEST VACANCIES

Operational Development Manager

Location: Cardiff

Employer: Wales Restorative Approaches Partnership

Closing Date: 4 April 2022

[READ MORE](#)

Hate Crime Practitioner

Location: Cheshire

Employer: Remedi

Closing Date: 4 April 2022

[READ MORE](#)

Restorative Police Practitioner

Location: Cheshire

Employer: Remedi

Closing Date: 4 April 2022

[READ MORE](#)

Personal Wellbeing Coach

Location: Cardiff

Employer: Wales Restorative Approaches Partnership

Closing Date: 5 April 2022

[READ MORE](#)

RJ Conference Co-ordinator

Location: Kent

Employer: Salus

Closing Date: 11 April 2022

[READ MORE](#)

Restorative Practitioner

Location: Hull

Employer: Remedi

Closing Date: 15 April 2022

[READ MORE](#)

Administration Support - Directors Team

Location: Home based

Employer: Remedi

Closing Date: 18 April 2022

[READ MORE](#)

Young Persons Restorative Domestic Abuse Practitioner

Location: Rotherham

Employer: Remedi

Closing Date: 25 April 2022

[READ MORE](#)

[VIEW ALL CURRENT VACANCIES](#)

SUPPORTING THE RJC

Donate via AmazonSmile

You can now support the RJC every time you shop!

Amazon donates 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT, returns and shipping fees) of eligible purchases to the charitable organisation of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.

Support us by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.co.uk and selecting the Restorative Justice Council as your preferred charity.

[**REGISTER WITH AMAZONSMILE**](#)

MAKE A DONATION

Your support will help us to campaign for the widespread use of restorative justice, raise the profile of restorative justice in the media and with the public and enable victims to access restorative justice wherever and whenever they need it.

You can make a one-off donation or become a regular supporter from as little as £3.00 per month.

[**MAKE A DONATION**](#)

BECOME A MEMBER

Anyone can become a member of the Restorative Justice Council. We are the independent, national voice for restorative justice in the United Kingdom. Our constitutional objectives are to promote restorative justice for the public benefit as a means of resolving conflict and promoting reconciliation by:

- A. Promoting the use of restorative justice in the criminal justice system, in schools, in the workplace and elsewhere in the community in situations where conflict may arise
- B. Developing and promoting agreed standards and principles for evaluating and guiding restorative practice
- C. Advancing education and research on restorative justice and the publication of the useful results of that research

Membership brings along with it many benefits including:

- Access to the RJC's quarterly publication *Resolution* and an opportunity to promote your own work within it
- Networking opportunities with academics, researchers and practitioners from the UK and beyond
- Reduced fees for RJC conferences and seminars
- Ability to nominate for the RJC Annual Award for exceptional contribution to the field
- Exclusive access to the member's section of the website
- A voice in the decision-making of the RJC

[**BECOME A MEMBER**](#)

[**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT SUPPORTING THE RJC**](#)

About us

About the RJC

The Restorative Justice Council (RJC) is the independent third sector membership body for the field of restorative practice. It provides quality assurance and a national voice advocating the widespread use of all forms of restorative practice, including restorative justice. The RJC's vision is of a restorative society where everyone has access to safe, high quality restorative practice wherever and whenever it is needed.

Restorative Justice Council

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Company no 4199237

Charity no 1097969

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