

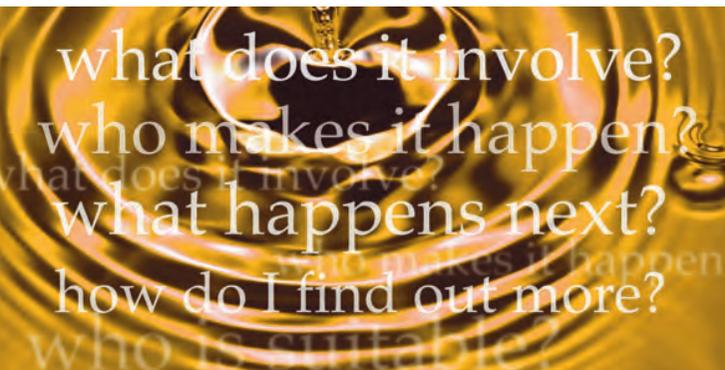
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

If the offender is eligible and suitable and the PSR proposes a Specified Activity Requirement with RJ alongside a Supervision Requirement, then the Court may make such a Requirement.

The PSR author will liaise as necessary with the service provider (TV RJS) to confirm that appropriate arrangements can be made to implement the Order.

Within 15 days of sentence the offender will be contacted by an RJ Facilitator to arrange for the assessment meeting. The victim will then be contacted and their views taken into account. If the victim does not wish to meet the offender then some form of indirect communication or reparation will be agreed.

The preparation and intervention meetings will follow. Some time later a review meeting will take place to review what has been achieved and to look forward to the future.



A multi-agency partnership working to provide restoration for victims and offenders in the Thames Valley.



making Amends

INFORMATION FOR SENTENCERS

Restorative Justice (RJ) as a Specified Activity Requirement of a Community Order, or a Suspended Sentence Order



To find out more contact:

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Talisman Road
Bicester
Oxon OX26 6HR

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WHAT IS RJ?

Restorative Justice is the opportunity for an offender to put right the harm they have caused. It may involve meeting the victim to talk about:

- What happened.
- Who was affected, and how.
- What can be done to make things better.

If the victim does not want to meet the offender, other ways will be explored to repair the harm.

WHO IS SUITABLE?

An offender who has committed a violent offence with a personal victim (not domestic violence) or an offence of domestic burglary, is eligible for the Requirement. The use of RJ for other offences may be appropriate where there is a personally harmed victim. The offender will be expected to:

- Accept some responsibility for causing harm.
- Be willing to meet the victim, if the victim chooses to do so.
- Follow through the programme, if a Requirement is made subject to Probation National Standards.

WHAT DOES IT INVOLVE?

The Requirement involves taking part in at least four meetings which will include:

1. An assessment meeting to explore the possibilities of making amends.
2. A preparation meeting to prepare for the reparation event, which could be a meeting with the victim, or some other form of reparation.
3. The meeting with the victim, or reparation activity, which may involve an activity such as writing a letter of apology.
4. A review meeting with the Offender Manager and the RJ Facilitator.

The offender may come to a voluntary agreement with the victim to further repair the harm in some way, but that is not a requirement of the Order.



WHO WILL BENEFIT?

Victims often want to understand why the crime happened to them. They also want to play some part in the process of what happens to the person who committed the crime. Victims want to know that they are not likely to be harmed by the same person again.

By helping the offender to face up to the consequences of what s/he has done, RJ provides the offender with the chance to make a real difference to the person to whom they have caused harm. RJ can help the offender to use their sentence to achieve a positive outcome for themselves and the victim. It means that the offender has the chance not just to say sorry and feel sorry, but to do something about it.

WHO MAKES IT HAPPEN?

The Thames Valley Restorative Justice Service provides a trained RJ Facilitator who will meet the offender at each meeting. **Restorative Justice, as a Specified Activity Requirement, can only be made alongside a Supervision Requirement.** The Offender Manager and the RJ Facilitator will work closely together to make sure that the offender gets the most benefit from the experience.