

2022 in brief

Communications and events



We held 7 online events involving 327 participants. Topics covered included **restorative policing**, the place for **restorative justice in forensic mental health** and its role in **addressing online harms**.

92% of the 100+participants giving feedback gave a score of 8-10 for their likelihood of sharing what they had heard with others.

Participants shared many examples of things they planned to act on, personally or in their teams or services.

Encourage reporting online harms via the platform channels.

It gives me some inspiration to get a similar program started here.

Trying to establish a partnership locally who can support the work with young people who have a learning disability or autism.



40+ people joined us for a **conference on** *Communicating Restorative Justice and Practice*, looking at messages and approaches most likely to grow support and understanding from different audiences. Here are a just a couple of examples of actions participants planned to take.

Making more use of storytelling

Communicate RJ by talking about shared values.

We produced **blog posts exploring restorative justice and practice** from a range of different angles and making links with topical concerns.

can restorative justice play a part in our response to online harms?

changing the conversation: reframing restorative justice

We also **worked with other restorative organisations to amplify each other's messages**. Our network mailing list more than doubled, reaching close to 500 by the end of the year, while our Twitter following passed the 1000 mark.



We continued to **convene informal thematic networks** on Restorative Cities and for communications specialists working in restorative justice, creating spaces for peer support, information exchange and collaboration.

Training and support



52 members of Oxfordshire's children's workforce joined us for introductory or practitioner training, training for managers or training geared to a specific team.

Feedback from participants pointed to the impact of the training in helping them better understand the needs of families, feel more confident of having difficult conversations, work collaboratively with families and share techniques with families and foster carers.

We **developed practice guidance** for use by the county's children's workforce. The guidance gives ideas and examples of how restorative practice can be embedded in work with children and families in a range of different contexts, with prompts and resources to support this.



38 practitioners and others shared ideas and took away resources from our **online workshop on** '*Sharing tools to support restorative conversations*'.

Examples of learning that participants planned to act on included reflecting on their own bias, being more conscious of the language used and looking at ways of using the restorative conversations framework as part of creating a positive youth work culture.



We retained our **registered training provider status** with the Restorative Justice Council, also growing our training team and developing new training geared to community groups.

Advancing and sharing learning



We joined with Warwick University in research on barriers to, and opportunities for, **restorative justice and practice in higher education**, sharing the findings at the annual conference of the Restorative Justice Council. We hope to build on this work in the coming year.



We were pleased to contribute to the second phase of work of the **All-Party Parliamentary Group on Restorative Justice**, in particular through inputs into a Literature Review of restorative practice in social care.



We launched a **survey of our network** to better understand the make-up of our growing community and how we can best support them. Feedback points to a continuing **high level of interest in exploring restorative practice in different contexts**, including but not limited to criminal justice; in hearing and learning from lived experience and in sharing skills with a chance to practice these.

And finally...



We were pleased to facilitate a **listening circle at the conference of the Howard League for Penal Reform**. Participants shared their appreciation for this powerful exercise in deep listening on the conference theme of navigating uncertainty.

We look forward to working with others in 2023 and beyond to grow understanding and use of restorative justice and practice, working for a world marked by dialogue, respect and mutual understanding.