

The Pan London Restorative Justice Service

The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime has commissioned Restore: London to deliver the first ever Pan London Restorative Justice Service, a victim-led approach to the provision of restorative justice across London.

The Pan London Restorative Justice Service will ensure that victims are able to access consistently high quality restorative justice services at every stage of the criminal justice system. Restore: London will develop a programme that complements and enhances existing restorative justice services across London, filling any gaps in provision.

The programme will be overseen and evaluated by a steering group, comprised of key stakeholders including victims. This ground-breaking approach will share evidence and insight with key partners, including Police and Crime Commissioners across England with responsibility for commissioning victims services.

About Restore: London

Restore: London is a non-profit consortium led by Catch22 with key partners Restorative Solutions, Khulisa and the IARS International Institute. The consortium partners bring expertise in building and evaluating victim-led services, restorative justice delivery, delivering pan London programmes, offender management and criminal justice innovation.

About The IARS International Institute

IARS is a UK-based leading international Institute with a charitable mission to give everyone a chance to forge a safer, fairer and more inclusive society. We achieve our charitable aims by producing evidence-based solutions to current social problems, sharing best practice and by supporting young people and the community to shape decision making. IARS is an international expert in criminal justice, restorative justice, human rights and inclusion, citizenship, public service and user-led research. Our Institute's role in Restore: London is split into three parts:

1. Carry out robust and independent research to design the programme's delivery model.
2. Set up and act as the secretariat of the London Restorative Justice User Scrutiny Panel ensuring that Restore: London is user led and responsive to victims' needs and practitioners' realities.
3. Act as an independent partner evaluating the delivery of the programme's frontline services.

London Restorative Justice User Scrutiny Panel: Terms of Reference

The Panel will be hosted by IARS who will also act as its Secretariat. It will run for the full duration of the project, from service model design through to actual service delivery.

The Panel will be an independent body, led by a chairperson from outside the Restore: London partnership with a high level of experience in both victim support and liaison work and restorative justice practice. After establishing the Panel, the independent chairperson will have direct leadership of the panel, with ongoing secretariat support provided by IARS. The Panel will have a total of 8 independent members comprised of 1 chair, 5 individuals with lived experience of being a victim of (any) crime and 2 restorative justice practitioners.

The Panel will meet at a minimum every two months, with additional meetings being held as deemed necessary. The first meeting of the Panel is expected to be held in **October 2016**, with bi-monthly meetings continuing until the end of the current commissioning period in January 2019.

The Role of the Panel

The central role of the Panel is to ensure that Restore: London develops and delivers a pan-London restorative justice service that has the voices of users at its core and reflects a model that has meeting the needs of victims at its central focus. The Panel will be critical to achieving this through the provision of independent advice and scrutiny.

The development of the Pan-London Restorative Justice Service will be divided into two phases. Phase 1 focuses on designing and evidence based and victim-led service model, while Phase 2 focuses on operational implementation of the model and ongoing service delivery. The Panel will have a central role throughout both phases fulfilling the following functions:

Phase 1

- Overseeing of the development of victim, offender and stakeholder surveys seeking evidence on the needs of victims of crime in accessing restorative justice services.
- Providing input into the design of the Restore: London service delivery model in relation to how it could best meet the needs of victims of crime.
- Once designed, reviewing the model to assess its compatibility with victims' needs.

Phase 2

- Providing independent scrutiny to ensure that Restore: London is meeting the needs of victims as designed (this is likely to include review of service data, service user feedback and review of representative cases).
- Providing assistance, advice and insight to Restore: London delivery team in relation to any identified challenges regarding victims' needs.

Requirements

Each Member of the Panel will be required to:

- Commit to attending bi-monthly meetings from October 2016 – January 2019.
- Fulfil their role independently of any other affiliations.

- Commit to being well-organised and prepared for attendance at each meeting, including reading all relevant documents and agenda papers ahead of each meeting.
- Sign an agreement on their role and commitments.
- Agree with all other members the boundaries and expectations of the members.

Person Specification

Individuals with Lived Experience of being a victim of (any) crime (5 vacancies)

Given the role and objectives of the Panel as outlined above, it is envisioned that the majority of members will be individuals with lived experience of being a victim of (any) crime. It is important to note that all applicants and subsequently appointed members will not be required to disclose any sensitive details of their experience which they are not comfortable sharing. In this context we are interested in any individuals who meet the following criteria:

Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lived experience of being a victim of any crime (<i>essential</i>). • A current or previous user of restorative justice services (<i>desirable but not essential</i>).
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness or understanding of victims' needs in relation to engagement with victims support services and/or criminal justice agencies and/or restorative justice services. • Strong interpersonal skills that will enable you to work effectively in a supportive group environment and be sensitive to the needs of others. • The ability to think critically and reflectively. • Well-developed verbal and written communication skills. • A basic level of IT skills (e.g. Microsoft Word, Email).
Personal Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A commitment to victims' rights and victim-led approaches. • A commitment to the values of dialogue, transparency, non-adversarial methods of conflict resolution and restorative justice. • A commitment to/experience of joint decision making. • A commitment to volunteerism.

Restorative Justice Practitioners (2 vacancies)

While the intention is that the majority of Panel members will be those with direct experience of being a victim of crime, there is likely to be scope for a limited number of members with relevant experience in working with victims of crime but who can demonstrate a strict level of independence from any service provider they may be associated with. In this context we are interested in any individuals who meet the following criteria:

Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing support services to victims of crime through restorative justice. • Victim related work within a relevant criminal justice agency. • Risk assessment experience.
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good understanding of restorative justice in the context of London. • Demonstrable knowledge of relevant restorative justice guidelines and regulations. • Understanding of victims’ needs in relation to engagement with victims support services and/or criminal justice agencies and/or restorative justice services. • Understanding of how victims’ rights and victim-led approaches might apply to designing services for victims. • Strong interpersonal skills that will enable you to work effectively in a supportive group environment and be sensitive to the needs of others. • The ability to think critically and reflectively. • Well-developed verbal and written communication skills. • A basic level of IT skills (e.g. Microsoft Word, Email).
Personal Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independence from service providers. • A commitment to victims’ rights and victim-led approaches. • A commitment to the values of dialogue, transparency, non-adversarial methods of conflict resolution and restorative justice. • Commitment to a wide range of restorative provision. • A commitment to/experience of joint decision making. • A commitment to volunteerism.

Eligibility

As Restore: London is a MOPAC funded project with the objective of developing a pan-London restorative justice service, membership of the Panel is restricted to individuals who live/work and have experience of the criminal justice system in London.

Remuneration

While membership of the Panel is on a voluntary basis, to facilitate participation, members will be compensated up to £80 per meeting to assist with travel, subsistence, child care or any other relevant costs associated with attendance at Panel meetings.

Recruitment process

To apply to be a member of the Panel, please send a short letter (no more than 2 pages) describing how you meet the person specification requirements outlined above to contact@iars.org.uk. Applications close 5pm on Wednesday 21st September 2016.

Applicants may then be invited to an informal interview during the week commencing Monday 26th September 2016. Successful applicants will then be notified during the week commencing Monday 3rd October 2016, in preparation for the first meeting of the Panel later in October. Due to resource constraints, unfortunately we will not be able to contact unsuccessful applicants.

For any further inquiries please contact IARS:

Email: contact@iars.org.uk

Office line: 020 7064 4380

Office Mobile: 07833224442

Address: The IARS International Institute, 14 Dock Offices, Surrey Quays Road, London SE16 2XU