

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.

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.