

Restorative justice conferencing – conference proceeding outline

1. The convenor will open the conference by reminding everyone that the conference:

- is to discuss:
 - what has happened
 - what the impacts have been
 - what can be done to repair the harm.
- must be respectful and personal details must not be shared outside of the conference
- can be paused at any time for people to take a break.

2. The police officer reads out the offences and the young person:

- admits to the offences
- speaks about the circumstances leading to the offence, the offence and its aftermath
- shares what they think the impacts might have been.

3. The person harmed by the offence may choose to share:

- their experience of the offence
- the impacts on them and those close to them
- questions they have for the young person.

Their support person may also speak about the impacts of the offence on the victim.

4. The support person of the young person can share:

- what the impacts of the offence have been on them and those close to the young person
- insight into the young person 's background and their hopes for them.

5. Community representatives share insights to services and programs:

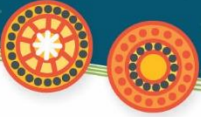
Community representatives often talk about the service they provide and how this may help the young person try and repair the harm. For example, if the young person talks about substance misuse, a drug counsellor may be invited and offer counselling sessions as an agreement outcome.

A community representative may also be someone from the cultural group that the young person or victim identifies with. They may speak about the impacts on the local or wider cultural community. The representative may also speak about the strength found in strong cultural relationships and how this might help conference participants.

6. The police officer can outline:

- general impacts of the type of offence
- consequences for the young person if the offending continues.

If the police officer made the referral, they can discuss their expectations for sending the offence to restorative justice.



7. The young person is asked to reflect on the restorative justice process.

The young person reflects on what they have heard from other participants in the conference and is provided an opportunity to express how they feel about their offending. The person harmed and other participants are also given the opportunity to share how they are feeling about the restorative justice process.

8. The young person and the person harmed negotiate an agreement that repairs the harm caused by the offence.

An agreement is negotiated between the person harmed and the young person that:

- includes how the young person is able to help repair the harm
- is meaningful to the person who has been harmed
- may include suggestions from anyone at the conference
- is lawful, fair, achievable, culturally appropriate and no more severe than what a court would order
- is signed by the person harmed, young person, police officer and convenor.