

## Important Information

- The offender must always accept responsibility for the offence, before a Restorative Justice process takes place.
- Restorative Justice is a voluntary process and participants can withdraw at any stage.
- Conferences are safe, private and run by trained facilitators.
- Victims and offenders are encouraged to involve support people including family, Whanau and/or community support.
- Participants are valued for who they are. Cultural diversity, values and preferences are honoured.
- Participants feel safe and are safe before, during and after the process.

*RESPECT, is supremely important!  
Respect for ALL, even those who are different.  
If we pursue justice as respect,  
we will do justice restoratively.*



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# Restorative Justice Service

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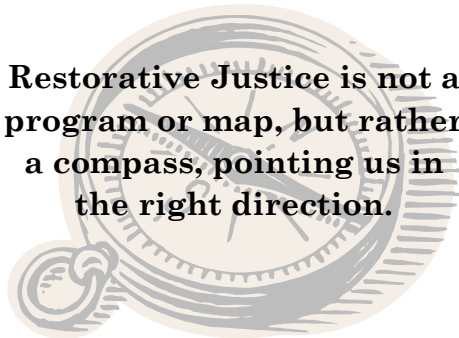
# What is Restorative Justice?

Restorative Justice is a process that:

- aims to put things right for the people who have been victims of offences.
- puts the people most affected by the crime, the victims, at the heart of the Justice system.
- offenders take responsibility and offer to put things right for victims.
- puts the emphasis on repairing harm caused by conflict and crime.

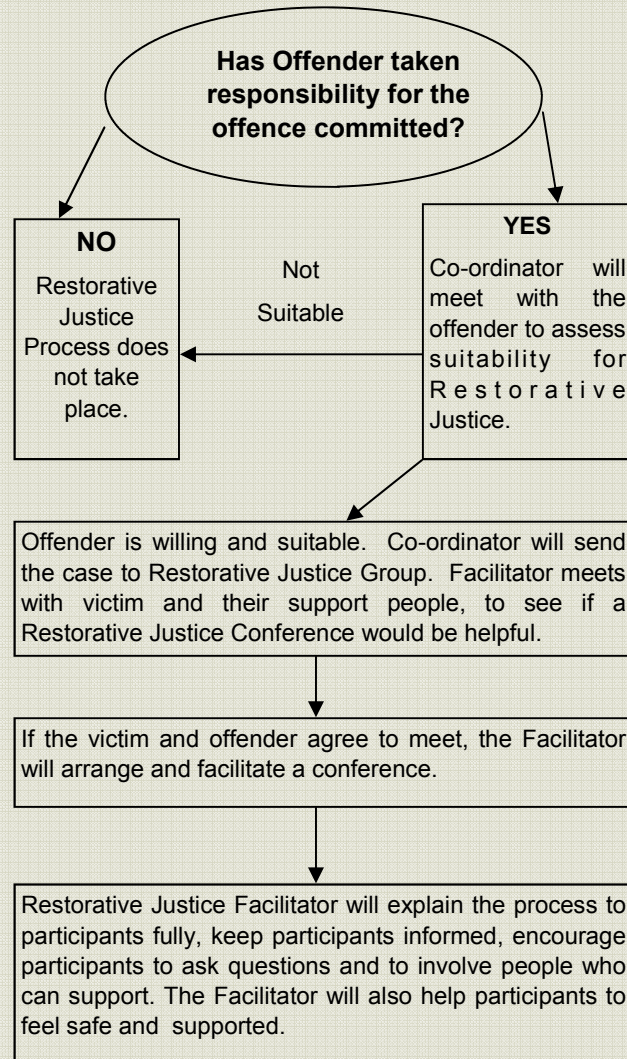
If an offender takes responsibility for an offence that has affected others, a restorative justice conference will be arranged. Restorative Justice Facilitators will meet separately with the offender, the victim and their support people, to assess whether a restorative justice conference would be helpful. Restorative Justice deals with cases involving adult offenders.

**Restorative Justice is not a program or map, but rather a compass, pointing us in the right direction.**



# Restorative Justice Process

**Offender referred to Service through the Court**



# Restorative Justice Conference

**Who will attend the conference?**

- Facilitator
- Victim
- Offender
- Support people (Facilitator can help set up support networks if required)
- Police, Probation Officer, Lawyer (by invitation only)

**Where is the conference held?**

Victims and offenders can choose to meet at a place that is appropriate to them, eg: marae or at a cultural centre. Conferences are safe and private.

**What happens at the conference?**

- Victims can tell the offender how they have been affected, have a say in how the harm can be repaired and begin to resolve some of the effects of the offence.
- Offenders can apologise directly to the victim, take responsibility and hear about the impact of their actions, be part of deciding how the harm can be repaired and take steps to avoid offending again.

**What happens if I change my mind?**

Participation is voluntary and you can withdraw or choose whether you want to continue at all stages.