

Restorative Justice - a way forward for victims

Restorative justice enables victims of crime to meet or communicate with the person who committed the crime, to explain the impact of their actions. Victims have their questions answered and feelings explored, and offenders have the chance to make amends.

Specialist provider Remedi has been commissioned to undertake restorative justice services in Nottinghamshire and will work in partnership with Nottinghamshire Police and Victim Support to help victims of crime recover from their experiences.

Between April and mid-July 2015, 47 victims were referred to Remedi and only two declined the service offered. Many cases are ongoing, with 17 so far successfully completed.

Making things more difficult for criminals

Sadly, some properties are more vulnerable to burglary than others. Figures suggest that if you have been burgled once, there is a high chance you or your neighbours will be burgled again in the near future. "Target hardening" is a way of improving security and reducing the chance of repeat victimisation.

Since July 2014, a target hardening service has been introduced which has provided crime prevention advice to over 1500 victims of crime and their neighbours. By the end of the 2014-15 financial year the number of burglary crimes in people's houses had gone down by over 9%.

Do you need help to cope with crime, anti-social behaviour or hate incidents?

The services I have commissioned to help are free and confidential. You can use these services even if you haven't reported the problem to the police..

Call Victim Support's Nottinghamshire team on 0300 303 1967

The lines are open Monday to Friday 9am to 7pm and Saturday 10am to 1pm. Your call will be charged at a local call rate or be free if 03 numbers are included in your landline or mobile package. Outside of these hours call the **24 hour National Victims' Information Line** on **0808 168 9293**. The Information Line is free to call from landlines and mobiles.

If you are a woman affected by domestic abuse or sexual violence call the 24-hour Nottinghamshire Helpline:

0808 800 0340

(Language Line available in over 200 languages).

If you are hearing impaired you can use Text Relay:

- to make a telephone call dial **18001** + the Helpline number
- to make a textphone call dial **18002** + the Helpline number

Calls are free from landlines and these mobile networks and will not appear on your bill: 3, EE O2, Orange, T-mobile, Virgin and Vodafone. Other mobile networks may charge and may appear on your bill. If in doubt contact your network.

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Arnot Hill House, Arnot Hill Park, Arnold, Nottingham NG5 6LU.

Telephone: **0115 844 5998**

Email: **nopcc@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk**

www.nottinghamshire.pcc.police.uk



Nottinghamshire

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

Putting Victims First and at the heart of criminal justice

Victims Services



Paddy Tipping

Nottinghamshire
Police and Crime
Commissioner



Victims are at the heart of my priorities

"Following my election as your Police and Crime Commissioner in 2012, I began making changes to deliver the kind of support you told me you wanted. In October 2014 I became responsible for commissioning services for victims in Nottinghamshire – which helps me to ensure better support for victims of crime. This new responsibility has allowed me to do even more to improve – and expand – the range of help available.

Since 2012, I have invested £4.6m into protecting victims, witnesses and vulnerable people through a range of agencies including Victim Support and specialist domestic and sexual violence organisations.

The abuse of children, in any form and whether it happened yesterday or years, perhaps decades ago, is wrong. It can have a long-lasting impact on the emotional and psychological well-being of those affected and it is important to me everyone has access to the type of support they need.

My focus now is on working with our partners on achieving joined-up services to provide seamless support when and where it is needed. This is well underway, and includes Restorative Justice being offered to victims of crime, in partnership with Nottinghamshire Police."

Paddy Tipping

Stepping up support to victims

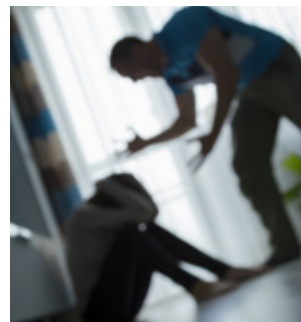
In my view, victims are the most important part of any crime, it's not all about the offender.

I am clear that the services provided to those affected by crime should be tailored to their needs and delivered locally. That's why I have awarded a contract for a new integrated service, based in Nottinghamshire, which prioritises support for vulnerable victims. It has new, longer, opening hours and four full-time caseworkers working from different locations across the county to provide intensive support to the most vulnerable victims, including victims of hate crime. This service is provided by Victim Support, which works closely with other agencies to make sure that victims get the help they need.

Between October 2014 and March 2015, 1,425 victims who requested help were supported, with nearly 90% reporting they were satisfied with the service. On-going support to help people cope and recover is provided by telephone and face to face visits.

This support is being supplemented by the implementation of the Victims' Code and linked initiatives such as 'Track my Crime'.

We know that many people do not report their crime to the police. To tackle this, I am working closely with Nottinghamshire Police and other partners to encourage greater reporting by victims of hate crime, ASB, domestic abuse and sexual violence, so that appropriate support can be provided while enabling the true scale of these issues to be gauged.



Specific support for victims of different types of crime

Some crimes, such as domestic or sexual abuse, are so serious that victims need support from specialist services.

Support for survivors of domestic abuse has been strengthened and additional funding provided to help teenagers and women with complex needs.

A new, improved, integrated domestic abuse service has been commissioned across the County, jointly funded by the Commissioner and Nottinghamshire County Council. This will be delivered by Nottinghamshire Women's Aid and Women's Aid Integrated Services from 1 October 2015.

In the City, the Commissioner is working with Nottingham Clinical Commissioning Group and the City Council to commission new integrated domestic abuse services from 1 April 2016.

Demand for sexual violence support services has increased and, in response, the Commissioner has invested additional funding to help survivors recover.

Victims of anti-social behaviour have benefitted from the additional funding provided to Victim Support's specialist ASB service, which ensured that victims across the City and the County had access to the same levels of practical and emotional support.

Victims of hate crime or incidents are now supported through the Commissioner's new integrated service, delivered by Victim Support.

The Commissioner has also funded work with very vulnerable victims with mental health and complex needs, which helps to improve their wellbeing, better supports them in the criminal justice system and reduces their calls on emergency services.



If you are a victim of crime or anti-social behaviour call **Victim Support's Nottinghamshire team** on **0300 303 1967**.