

### **EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS**

- Informal links were established with the Commission for Racial Equality for restorative justice opportunities. *Swindon*
- All victims from minority ethnic groups were referred to the Racial Inclusion Project, younger victims to Connexions, and the elderly to social services if appropriate. *North Somerset*
- Due to the geography of the area, a set of community venues had been identified, so that referral panels could be held in a location that best suited the needs of the victim. *North Somerset*
- There was an arrangement for the diversity officer (seconded from the Valley's Race Equality Council) to accompany the victim liaison officer to black or minority ethnic victims and there was access to interpretation facilities. *Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent*
- A group, Strong Voices, was provided by two voluntary sector partners and the YOT for those affected by crime in the eight to 13 age group. This had made a significant impact in increasing victim confidence and reducing re-victimisation. *Newham*

## **VICTIMS AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE**

### **RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF THE INDIVIDUAL**

- Through the reparation worker, the YOS was able to offer a variety of general reparation packages at 20 sites. Sessions were arranged to meet individual needs and diversity requirements, with particular emphasis given to language, gender and ethnicity. *Brent, Calderdale*
- Reparation projects were held where possible at a locality close to the child or young person's home. Transport was provided where necessary. Some reparation projects were particularly suitable for children and young people of all abilities or with disabilities. Allocation to projects took account of both gender and any specific needs such as Attention Deficit & Hyperactivity Disorder. *North Somerset*
- The YOT had a proactive policy of attempting to ensure that victims' views were represented in pre-sentence reports. The victim liaison officer actively promoted the use of victim impact statements with the victim. This had resulted in a considerable increase in the number of pre-sentence reports with information about the victim and their wishes. *Calderdale*
- The reparation coordinator, together with a support worker, provided 12 half-day reparation sessions to children and young people focusing on basic skills and the provision of constructive reparation to the community. Those considered to be vulnerable were provided with one-to-one delivery. *Gateshead*

**HMI Probation  
YOT INSPECTIONS – GOOD PRACTICE in DIVERSITY**

**In relation to: VICTIMS AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE**

Example	YOT	Date	Page No
Work between children and young people and their victims routinely took account of diversity issues. Examples included recruiting a diverse group of sessional workers and 'matching' arrangements to inform the placement of children and young people with sessional workers. The YOS also operated some of its restorative justice interventions in female only groups when required.	Hounslow	April 2006	34
Children and young people were the most likely group to be victims of crime. This was a target area for the Children and Young People's Strategic Plan in the borough.	Kingston Upon Thames	July 2006	9
Informal links were established with the Commission for Racial Equality for restorative justice opportunities.	Swindon	November 2006	8
All victims from minority ethnic groups were referred to the Racial Inclusion Project [sadly, no explanation in the report what this was], younger victims to Connexions, and the elderly to social services if appropriate.	Somerset	2005	28
Due to the geography of the area, a set of community venues had been identified, so that referral panels could be held in a location that best suited the needs of the victim.	North Somerset	2006	9
Reparation projects were held throughout the area, where possible at a locality close to the child or young person's home. Transport was provided where necessary. Some reparation projects were particularly suitable for children and young people of all abilities or with disabilities. Allocation to projects took account of both gender and any specific needs such as Attention Deficit & Hyperactivity Disorder.	North Somerset	2006	9 [Also P42 for more detail]
There was an arrangement for the diversity officer (seconded from the Valley's Race Equality Council) to accompany the victim liaison officer to black or minority ethnic victims and there was access to interpretation facilities.	Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent	2006	43
The Race Equality Audit had identified actions to develop the support made available to children and young people from black or minority ethnic and faith groups as victims of youth crime.	Gateshead	2006	8

<p>The reparation coordinator, together with a support worker, provided 12 half-day reparation sessions to children and young people focusing on basic skills and the provision of constructive reparation to the community. Children and young people considered to be vulnerable were provided with one-to-one delivery.</p>	Gateshead	2006	17
<p>A specialist worker undertook work with victims under the age of 13. In addition a group, Strong Voices, was provided by two voluntary sector partners and the YOT for those affected by crime in the eight to 13 age group. This had made a significant impact in increasing victim confidence and reducing re-victimisation.</p>	Newham	2006	37
<p>Through the reparation worker, the YOS was able to offer a variety of general reparation packages at 20 sites, using volunteers or YOS staff. Sessions were arranged to meet the individual's needs and diversity requirements, with particular emphasis given to language, gender and ethnicity.</p>	Brent	2006	36
<p>The YOT had a proactive policy of attempting to ensure that victims' views were represented in pre-sentence reports. The victim liaison officer actively promoted the use of victim impact statements with the victim. This had resulted in a considerable increase in the number of pre-sentence reports with information about the victim and their wishes.</p>	Calderdale	July 2005	37
<p>The work undertaken was judged to have met the known individual needs of both the victim and the child or young person, with some cases judged as excellent. Additionally, a female sessional worker was available to work with victims if required. There was a broad range of reparation schemes provided in partnership with local groups and organisations, covering a spectrum of work from involvement in arts and the environment, work with the elderly and disabled and in the minority ethnic community.</p>	Calderdale	July 2005	37