

Dear Jane,

## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Thank you for coming in to see me at my casework surgery in Pendeen on Saturday.

As I explained, I am sorry that you've had difficulty getting through to me, but I hope that you will appreciate that my office are under intense pressure at the moment as they are short staffed and yet the demands and expectations seem to be increasing! I apologise nevertheless.

I appreciated our opportunity to discuss the merits of restorative justice – something which, as I indicated, I strongly support.

I note what you told me that, although restorative justice is now relatively well established in youth justice it is barely used or advanced in adult justice services. I agree that it is very desirable to extend the use of restorative justice more widely and I strongly support this becoming a “normal” (as you put it) part of criminal justice and community expectations.

I'm pleased to hear that RJ Working is making good progress in advancing the case for the use of restorative justice more widely in Cornwall and I strongly endorse this initiative.

We discussed the possibility of extending the scope of restorative justice both in criminal but also in community settings and I would be keen to do all that I could to encourage and to enable this to happen.

As I explained, I have long been an advocate for the use of “empathy” lessons in schools and, similarly, would advocate the use of restorative justice in circumstances where both the ‘perpetrator’ and the ‘victim’ consent to a restorative justice process.

Thank you for letting me know about the public engagement event in Falmouth on the 21st and I look forward to hearing more about this. Unfortunately my diary is already full so it looks, at this stage, that I will not be able to attend. I also noted what you said about an event taking place on 16th January – the morning of which you thought might be appropriate for me to attend. I look forward to receiving further information about this in due course.

As I said, I was very grateful to you for coming to see me about restorative justice and I would be happy for you to use this letter, if you thought it would be helpful, as evidence of my endorsement of your initiative.

With every good wish.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew

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