Survivors Voices National Consultation on Restorative Justice



www.thrivingsurvivors.co.uk

Survivors Voices Project Outline

Thriving Survivors will lead on a Restorative Justice National Consultation and will build upon elements of previous research to include the voices of survivors which, at this moment, are not being heard.

We want to hear the voices of survivors to assess the understanding, awareness and demand for Restorative Justice Services in Scotland. This Consultation exercise will specifically seek the views and opinions of survivors of domestic and sexual abuse on Restorative Justice in Scotland. The outcome from delivery of this Consultation will be to ensure that the voices of survivors are heard and acted upon, which will also feed directly into the Restorative Justice Action Plan.

The key outputs for the consultation are:

- >> The opportunity for survivors to have their say on Restorative Justice
- >> Capture the level of understanding of Restorative Justice within the survivor community in Scotland
- >> Capture and understand the views on, and demand for, Restorative Justice being made available to survivors

The launch date for the consultation will be the 28th February 2021 and it will be live for four weeks. The closing date for all responses will be the 25th March 2021.

Thriving Survivors will lead on the consultation calling on a 'Consultation Steering Group' as progress is made. This group will support the Consultation, ensure as wide a reach as possible and act as an expert reference group as the Consultation develops. The group is already established and has had an input into the development of the Consultation thus far. Involved in the group are:

- >> Thriving Survivors Chair
- >> Community Justice Scotland
- >> First Tier
- >> Victim Support Scotland

We will be hosting a series of events to assist in raising awareness and begin to open up the conversation on Restorative Justice for survivors.

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Focus Group

We will host a survivor focus group session on the 12th of February. This will allow us to test the consultation before launch. Involved in this will be the Public Involvement Coordinator who will be there to support the survivors and the Independent Facilitator who will host and write up results. Feedback from this session will inform the consultation questions.

>> We are seeking survivors to participate in this session. Their voices and comments will shape the final draft of the consultation. If you would like to put someone forward to participate please email isobel.survivorsvoices@thrivingsurvivors.co.uk

Organisation Information Sessions

We will deliver three information sessions per week beginning week commencing – 15th February until week commencing 29th March. These sessions will be hosted by the Independent facilitator with the aim of helping organisations understand the concept of Restorative Justice for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence and why we are running this consultation. The sessions will allow for the animation to be used as an introduction to the consultation itself. The facilitator will explain the consultation and how to get involved. They will be non-bias and at all times promote the views of survivors themselves.

>> If you would like to book an information session for your organisation please contact Isobel via email isobel.survivorsvoices@thrivingsurvivors.co.uk

Open Q&A Sessions

We will host a range of live Q&A sessions on social media platforms a few times every week. This will allow us to openly discuss and raise awareness of the consultation. This will involve the public involvement coordinator, experts in Restorative Justice and survivors themselves and support organisations.

>> If you would like to have your say on Restorative Justice please let us know and we can arrange a live Q&A session for you.

Public Involvement

The public are integral to the success of the consultation and it is important that we are able to accommodate the needs that some people may have in terms of access and support. The Public Involvement Coordinator will work directly with a national portfolio of organisations to ensure survivors voices from across the Nation are included. With responsibility for promoting and arranging the organisation information sessions for the facilitator. In addition, supporting the survivors to complete the consultation.

Social Media Awareness Campaign

The National Consultation will have the name Survivors Voices and the social media campaign will go live between the 8th and the 15th February.

The Ask

Thriving Survivors is asking for everyone at the meeting to really get involved in this consultation process by helping us promote and raise awareness. Please book an information session for your staff and stakeholders, follow the social media campaign and help spread the word, encourage the survivors you work with to have their say and influence change. *This is a non-bias consultation we want to hear from everyone whether they agree or disagree with the concept of Restorative Justice.*