

Project Restore has a unique process that:

makes safety a priority for the survivor

understands harm can be emotional, psychological and/or physical

gives the survivor a large amount of control over what happens

gives everyone a right to speak honestly and safely

allows difficult emotions within the family to be challenged, talked about and worked through

can help start or support the healing journey

prepares everyone emotionally so they can feel safe and supported



Types of referral

To access restorative justice or an alternative process via Project Restore a referral can be made as follows:

- **Legal system referral** – through Courts, Police or Corrections
- **Community referral** – through therapists, counsellors, sexual harm or other agencies in the community
- **Self-referral**
 - Survivor or,
 - Person who caused the harm (if these are willing to acknowledge the harm and commit to making amends for it)
- **Organisational referral** – through employers, churches, schools, sporting or social clubs

For more information, please visit our website:
www.projectrestore.nz

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A way forward following sexual harm or sexual violence



project
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Is restorative justice right for me?

Project Restore is the national provider of restorative justice for those affected by sexual harm or sexual violence

We provide an opportunity for people to come together to talk about what happened and why, how it has affected them, and some of the ripple effects on whānau and the wider community.

Those who have been harmed, those who have caused that harm, their families and supporters have a range of ways that they can participate in a restorative justice process with Project Restore. Your specialist will discuss all these options with you.

We will work with all involved to tailor-make a process that meets the needs of the survivor at all times, while also helping the person who caused the harm to gain tools to take responsibility.



The 'three-legged stool' model

Our 'three-legged stool' model consists of:

- A Facilitator Specialist who ensures the process is safe, fair and meets participants' needs.
- A Survivor Specialist who works with the survivor to prepare them and to help them decide what justice and healing looks like for them.
- A Harmful Sexual Behaviour Specialist who works with and ensures that the person who caused the harm is ready to be accountable. They work on options of what that might look like.

Each of our Specialists work to support the outcomes defined by the participants

All Specialists have an in-depth understanding of restorative justice and the sexual harm dynamics for all parties involved.

The process is strictly voluntary. At any time the participants or the Project Restore team can call a halt to the process if they feel that going ahead will cause further harm.

Project Restores main concern is to offer a safe and supported environment. Our Specialists will discuss what this means for you personally, once you are engaged in our service.

Reported benefits

Our service contributes to the following benefits/outcomes:

Survivors of sexual harm have said;

They feel more empowered, that the emotional heaviness has been lifted and that justice has been experienced. They feel they have been heard. There is an opportunity to ask questions and to understand more about why that person harmed them, which can help healing and recovery.

People who have caused the harm have said;

They had the opportunity to gain more understanding about how their actions have affected others. This assisted them in taking responsibility for the sexual harm and changing future behaviour.

Support people have said;

There was an opportunity to engage with and provide support throughout the process and to challenge any minimisation of the harm caused. They left with the tools to provide support to participants.

