

### 3 What happens at the end of a conference?

The agreement is signed by:



victim



young person



convenor



The agreement lists what the young person must do to try and heal the harm caused.



This is a legal document which is enforceable under law.



It must be completed within an agreed upon timeframe.



The agreement includes details of who will support the young person to finish.

### What happens if the young person doesn't go to a conference, reach an agreement or finish the agreement?



The matter will be returned to the police or court.

You have the right to legal representation at the conference.

### Supports and services

The Queensland Government is actively working to support victims and witnesses of crime. Here are some services that can help you to understand your rights, find support or claim financial assistance.



For more information about your rights and support services, please visit [qld.gov.au/law/crime-and-police/victims-and-witnesses-of-crime](http://qld.gov.au/law/crime-and-police/victims-and-witnesses-of-crime).



You can phone Lifeline to speak to a Crisis Supporter on **13 11 14**, text **0477 131 114** or chat to Lifeline online at [lifeline.org.au](http://lifeline.org.au) (all services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week).



If you Identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, you can seek advice from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service (Queensland). Please visit [atsils.org.au](http://atsils.org.au) or call **1800 012 255** if you require assistance or advice.



More information about restorative justice can be found at [qld.gov.au/YouthJusticeServices](http://qld.gov.au/YouthJusticeServices).

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## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE CONFERENCING

For people and their families  
impacted by crime



## What is restorative justice?

Restorative justice recognises the harm that criminal offences cause to people and communities. It gives those impacted a chance to be involved in the legal process.



## About restorative justice conferences

When a young person admits to, or is found guilty of, an offence, they may be referred to a conference by the police or the court. Involvement in a conference is voluntary for all participants.



## What is the purpose of a conference?

For the people most affected by the offence to work out an agreement about what the young person responsible can do to try to repair the harm.

### 1 What happens before a conference?

#### Pre-conference interview

A convenor is a person who is approved to run a conference. A convenor will contact all participants and arrange a time to meet before the conference.



#### At this meeting the convenor will:

- talk to you about support options available
- explain what will happen at the conference, including the different ways you can be involved
- help you get ready for the conference, if you choose to attend
- listen and answer your questions
- talk about your right to legal advice and confidentiality.

*In Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, members of the local community justice group, Elders and/or extended family members may also be invited to participate.*

### 2 What happens at a restorative justice conference?

#### During the conference

You will meet in a safe place to talk about what happened and what the impacts have been.



#### The victim can:

- tell their story
- ask questions
- suggest ways the young person can repair the harm.

#### The young person can:

- tell their story
- face up to their actions
- learn how their actions have affected other people.

Together, everyone can talk about how to start to repair the harm.