

### Restorative Justice

Person responsible is a 50 year old woman, charged with fraud by collecting monies for a Christmas Fund.

There are two persons harmed, who worked alongside the person responsible and are out of pocket by £500 each.

The person responsible had claimed to be an agent for Park Christmas Club; she collected monies weekly that would be exchanged for M&S and High Street store vouchers at the festive period.

Both persons harmed described how hurt and upset they had been at the breach of trust, however they felt if this was a way to recoup some of their money, they would like to try restorative justice. They indicated they would be willing to wait a reasonable time for the person responsible to repay by instalments.

Person responsible said she felt that she taken on too big a project and that it had 'ran away from her', and eventually she could not account for who was to get what and some people had probably received more than due, while others had received no vouchers at all. person responsible was very remorseful and very willing to repay monies owed.

Person responsible said she was in a position to pay back £100 per month over a 10 month period.

Prior to this case, any agreement reached which would take longer than six months to complete have always been referred back to Procurator Fiscal in case the agreement broke down.

This was put to Procurator Fiscal for consideration and it was agreed that there would be regular reviews so that if person responsible was persistently not paying, another form of action could be taken by the Procurator Fiscal sooner rather than later.

An agreement and financial schedule was drawn up. Payments were made to Sacro on a monthly basis until the full amount had been received.

Both persons harmed duly received £500 each.

**Lanarkshire Restorative Justice Service**

