

Youth Justice

Groupwork Case Study

Five young people were referred to Sacro as they were alleged to have been involved in vandalism to a local school within their community. There was extensive damage, resulting in thousands of pounds worth of damage.

The groupwork followed the Restorative Justice Processes looking at *The Facts, The Consequences and The Future*.

A meeting was held between the Youth Justice Worker and the head teacher from the school. He explained the damage caused to the school and the possible safety issues, for both the young people responsible and the students of the school.

He explained the harm caused to the school, and how this impacted onto the wider community. The safety of both the young people responsible, pupils of the school and staff were all jeopardised. There was also a significant financial cost to the school to repair the equipment that had been damaged, paying contractors and school staff for their time. They also told us of the emotional distress experienced by staff, pupils and parents and how they felt about the offence now.

The consequences of the offence were made clear to the group through Shuttle Dialogue with the School and the Young People involved. In order to emphasise the consequences to the young people Sacro worked with the Fire Service to reinforce the risks to themselves and others. A Fire officer came and spoke to the group about their experiences of similar situations.

Sacro contacted Community Education and a worker involved in the area attended the group to discuss facilities and opportunities in the area. After Sacro's involvement ended the young people were keen to continue meeting with the Community Worker to organise activities for themselves and hopefully reduce the risk of any of them re-offending.

At the end of the groupwork a football match was held between the young people involved and Sacro staff.

Fife Youth Services

