* ‘Restorative justice in Northern Ireland:’

Tim Chapman, University of Ulster
Community system
* Community restorative justice Ireland
* Alternatives NI
* CARE

School system

Children’s Services
* Family Group Conferences
* Children’s Units

Criminal Justice System
Pre-sentence
* Low risk – Police restorative cautioning
* Medium risk – Public Prosecution Service referral for diversionary conference by Youth Conference Service
* High risk – Youth Court referrals to Youth Conference Service

Post sentence
* Prison Service – desistance and resettlement
* Probation Service – Victims Unit

* Northern Ireland and Restorative Justice
* Statutory since 2002
* Mainstream within the youth justice system
* Prosecution referred
* Youth court referred
* Offenders and victims decide
* All offences other than those with a mandatory sentence
* Referrals and ratification by PPS or Youth Court
Number of youth conferences now almost 13,000
Nearly 80,000 people have participated in a youth conference

Victim attendance; 50/70%
Victim and young person satisfaction; 90% and 95%
100% victims would recommend conferences to others

26% serious or very serious offences, 53% intermediate, 21% minor

94% successful completion of plans
Reoffending 35.4% (22% for serious harm)
Reoffending for all other community disposals 53.5%; for custody 68.3%

England and Wales put three times as many young people into custody as Northern Ireland
* A flexible, inclusive and participative model
* Strong principle led leadership
* Appropriate performance management and quality assurance
* Quality accredited training
* Support and supervision
* A community of practice
* Quality research
* Patience and persistence
Thank you

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