



SUPPLEMENTARY APPENDIX

EVALUATION OF THE NSW YOUTH JUSTICE CONFERENCING SCHEME OFFENDER QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you for agreeing to take part in this study. We hope to find out how well conferences are working and what people think of both conferences and the outcome plans. So, we're surveying people like you who have been involved in a conference. Your opinions are very important.

Please answer **all** the questions honestly. Your answers will be kept confidential. No-one at the conference will ever see your answers, including the convenor. Only the researchers will see your answers. We are completely separate from the court, the police and the department which runs conferences, including conference staff.

To make sure that no-one else sees your answers, when you have answered all the questions, please put your completed form in the attached envelope, seal the envelope and return it to the convenor. The envelope will then be sent to the researchers.

Thank you for your co-operation.

The following questions are about what happened *before the conference took place*.

Q1. How satisfied were you with the amount of notice you got about when the conference was to be held?

(please circle one response)

not at all satisfied	satisfied a little	satisfied	very satisfied
1	2	3	4

Q2. How much did the convenor tell you about what would happen at the conference?

(please circle one response)

convenor told me nothing	convenor told me a little	convenor told me quite a bit	convenor told me a lot
1	2	3	4

Q3. How much did the convenor tell you about what was expected of you at the conference?

(please circle one response)

convenor told me nothing	convenor told me a little	convenor told me quite a bit	convenor told me a lot
1	2	3	4

Q4. How much did the convenor talk to you about possible tasks to be included in the outcome plan?

(please circle one response)

convenor told me nothing	convenor told me a little	convenor told me quite a bit	convenor told me a lot
1	2	3	4

Q5. In the lead up to the conference, did the convenor talk to you about your right to get advice from a lawyer?

(please circle one response)

no	yes
0	1

People have different opinions about what’s important at conferences. For each of the following questions, please circle the response which best reflects what **you** think.

In deciding whether you’d attend the conference, did you want to:

Q6. Describe, in your own words, what happened?

(please circle one response)

no	yes
0	1

Q7. Make up for what you did by doing some work or paying money?

(please circle one response)

no	yes
0	1

Q8. Apologise to the victim?

(please circle one response)

no	yes
0	1

Q9. Let the others at the conference know the behaviour won’t happen again?

(please circle one response)

no	yes
0	1

The next set of questions are about what happened *at the conference*

Q10. How fair was the conference on you?

(please circle one response)

very unfair	unfair	fair	very fair
1	2	3	4

Q11. How fair was the conference on the victim?

(please circle one response)

very unfair	unfair	fair	very fair
1	2	3	4

Q12. Overall, with how much respect were you treated by the others at the conference?

(please circle one response)

no respect at all	some respect	quite a bit of respect	a lot of respect
1	2	3	4

Q13. How easy was it to understand what was going on in the conference?

(please circle one response)

very difficult to understand	difficult to understand	easy to understand	very easy to understand
1	2	3	4

Q14. How satisfied are you with the opportunity you got during the conference to explain the circumstances surrounding the offence?

(please circle one response)

not at all satisfied	satisfied a little	satisfied	very satisfied
1	2	3	4

Q15. As a result of the conference, how well do you understand the impact of the offence(s) on the victim?

(please circle one response)

I don't understand at all	I understand a little	I understand fairly well	I understand very well
1	2	3	4

Q16. To what extent will the conference encourage you to obey the law in the future?

(please circle one response)

will not encourage me at all	will encourage me a little	will encourage me a fair bit	will encourage me a lot
1	2	3	4

Q17. Was an outcome plan decided on?

(please circle one response)

no	yes
0	1

(skip to Q22)

Q18. In deciding the outcome plan, to what extent do you think that the conference participants considered your opinion?

(please circle one response)

did not consider my opinion at all	considered my opinion a little	considered my opinion a fair bit	considered my opinion a lot
1	2	3	4

Q19. How satisfied are you with the outcome plan?

(please circle one response)

not at all satisfied	satisfied a little	satisfied	very satisfied
1	2	3	4

Q20. How fair is the outcome plan on you?

(please circle one response)

very unfair	unfair	fair	very fair
1	2	3	4

Q21. How fair is the outcome plan on the victim?

(please circle one response)

very unfair	unfair	fair	very fair
1	2	3	4

Q22. How satisfied are you with the time it took for the conference to be held?

(please circle one response)

not at all satisfied	satisfied a little	satisfied	very satisfied
1	2	3	4

Q23. Overall, how satisfied are you with how this case was handled?

(please circle one response)

not at all satisfied	satisfied a little	satisfied	very satisfied
1	2	3	4

Q24. Would you recommend conferencing to friends who might get in trouble?

(please circle one response)

no	yes
0	1

Please tell us why you would or would not recommend conferencing to others?

Q25. Are you male or female?*(please circle one response)*

Male 0

Female 1

Q26. Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?*(please circle one response)*

No 0

Yes 1

Q27. What is the highest level of education you have completed?*(please circle one response)*

Still in school 1

Completed year 9 or below 2

Completed year 10 3

Completed year 12 4

Completed a trade certificate or diploma 5

Completed a university degree 6

Q28. What is your current employment status?*(please circle one response)*

Full time employment 1

Part time/casual employment 2

Unemployed, seeking work 3

Not in paid employment and not seeking work 4

Q29. Are you currently receiving a government benefit?*(please circle multiple responses if applicable)*

No 1

Yes unemployment benefit 2

Yes disability support benefit 3

Yes other government benefit 4

Q30. In which country were you born?

(please circle one response)

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Australia | 1 |
| United Kingdom | 2 |
| China | 3 |
| New Zealand | 4 |
| Vietnam | 5 |
| India | 6 |
| Philippines | 7 |
| Italy | 8 |
| Lebanon | 9 |
| Other | 10 (please specify country) _____ |

Q31. How old are you?

_____ years old

Please check you have answered all the questions.

To make sure that no-one else sees your answers, please put your completed form in the attached envelope, seal the envelope and return it to the convenor.

The envelope will then be sent to the researchers.

Thank you for your co-operation.

EVALUATION OF THE NSW YOUTH JUSTICE CONFERENCING SCHEME VICTIM BASELINE QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you for agreeing to take part in this study. We hope to find out how well conferences are working and what people think of both conferences and the outcome plans. So, we're surveying people like you who have been involved in a conference. Your opinions are very important.

Please answer **all** the questions honestly. Your answers will be kept confidential. No-one at the conference will ever see your answers, including the convenor. Only the researchers will see your answers. We are completely separate from the court, the police and the department which runs conferences, including conference staff.

To make sure that no-one else sees your answers, when you have answered all the questions, please put your completed form in the attached envelope, seal the envelope and return it to the convenor. The envelope will then be sent to the researchers.

Thank you for your co-operation.

The following questions are about what happened *before the conference took place*.

Q1. How satisfied were you with the amount of notice you got about when the conference was to be held?

(please circle one response)

not at all satisfied	satisfied a little	satisfied	very satisfied
1	2	3	4

Q2. How much did the convenor tell you about what would happen at the conference?

(please circle one response)

convenor told me nothing	convenor told me a little	convenor told me quite a bit	convenor told me a lot
1	2	3	4

Q3. How much did the convenor tell you about what was expected of you at the conference?

(please circle one response)

convenor told me nothing	convenor told me a little	convenor told me quite a bit	convenor told me a lot
1	2	3	4

Q4. How much did the convenor talk to you about possible tasks to be included in the outcome plan?

(please circle one response)

convenor told me nothing	convenor told me a little	convenor told me quite a bit	convenor told me a lot
1	2	3	4

Q5. How much pressure did the convenor place on you to attend the conference?

(please circle one response)

no pressure at all	some pressure	quite a bit of pressure	a lot of pressure
1	2	3	4

People have different opinions about what’s important at conferences. For each of the following questions, please circle the response which best reflects what **you** think.

In deciding whether you’d attend the conference, did you want to:

Q6. Hear the offender’s account/description of what happened?

(please circle one response)

no	yes
0	1

Q7. Tell the offender the impact of the offence(s) on you?

(please circle one response)

no	yes
0	1

Q8. Have the offender apologise for what he/she did?

(please circle one response)

no	yes
0	1

Q9. Receive financial compensation from the offender?

(please circle one response)

no	yes
0	1

Q10. Get the offender’s assurance that it won’t happen again?

(please circle one response)

no	yes
0	1

The next set of questions are about what happened *at the conference*

Q11. How fair was the conference on you?

(please circle one response)

very unfair	unfair	fair	very fair
1	2	3	4

Q12. How fair was the conference on the offender?

(please circle one response)

very unfair	unfair	fair	very fair
1	2	3	4

Q13. Overall, with how much respect were you treated by the others at the conference?

(please circle one response)

no respect at all	some respect	quite a bit of respect	a lot of respect
1	2	3	4

Q14. How easy was it to understand what was going on in the conference?

(please circle one response)

very difficult to understand	difficult to understand	easy to understand	very easy to understand
1	2	3	4

Q15. How satisfied are you with the opportunity you got during the conference to explain the impact of the offence(s) on you?

(please circle one response)

not at all satisfied	satisfied a little	satisfied	very satisfied
1	2	3	4

Q16. As a result of the conference, how well do *you* understand why the offender committed the offence(s)?

(please circle one response)

I don't understand at all	I understand a little	I understand fairly well	I understand very well
1	2	3	4

Q17. By the end of the conference, to what extent do you think that the *offender* understood the impact of the offence(s) on you?

(please circle one response)

offender didn't understand at all	offender understood a little	offender understood fairly well	offender understood very well
1	2	3	4

Q18. To what extent do you feel the *offender* took responsibility for what they did?

(please circle one response)

offender took no responsibility	offender took some responsibility	offender took a fair bit of responsibility	offender took full responsibility
1	2	3	4

Q19. Was an outcome plan decided on?

(please circle one response)

no	yes
0	1

(skip to Q24)

Q20. In deciding the outcome plan, to what extent do you think that the conference participants considered the impact of the offence(s) on you?

(please circle one response)

did not consider impact at all	considered impact a little	considered impact a fair bit	considered impact a lot
1	2	3	4

Q21. How satisfied are you with the outcome plan?

(please circle one response)

not at all satisfied	satisfied a little	satisfied	very satisfied
1	2	3	4

Q22. How fair is the outcome plan on you?

(please circle one response)

very unfair	unfair	fair	very fair
1	2	3	4

Q23. How fair is the outcome plan on the offender?

(please circle one response)

very unfair	unfair	fair	very fair
1	2	3	4

Q24. To what extent did your participation in the conference help you to cope with the effects of the incident?

(please circle one response)

conference didn't help at all	conference helped a little	conference helped quite a bit	conference helped a lot
1	2	3	4

Q25. How satisfied are you with the time it took for the conference to be held?

(please circle one response)

not at all satisfied	satisfied a little	satisfied	very satisfied
1	2	3	4

Q26. Overall, how satisfied are you with how this case was handled?

(please circle one response)

not at all satisfied	satisfied a little	satisfied	very satisfied
1	2	3	4

Q27. Would you recommend conferencing to other victims of crime?

(please circle one response)

no	yes
0	1

Please tell us why you would or would not recommend conferencing to others?

Q28. Was the offence(s) which was dealt with by the conference committed against:

(please circle one response)

You personally	1
A business you own	2
A company/organisation for which you work or represent	3

Q29. Are you male or female?

(please circle one response)

Male	0
Female	1

Q30. Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?*(please circle one response)*

No	0
Yes	1

Q31. What is the highest level of education you have completed?*(please circle one response)*

Still in school	1
Completed year 9 or below	2
Completed year 10	3
Completed year 12	4
Completed a trade certificate or diploma	5
Completed a university degree	6

Q32. What is your current employment status?*(please circle one response)*

Full time employment	1
Part time/casual employment	2
Unemployed, seeking work	3
Not in paid employment and not seeking work	4

Q33. Are you currently receiving a government benefit?*(please circle multiple responses if applicable)*

No	1
Yes unemployment benefit	2
Yes disability support benefit	3
Yes other government benefit	4

Q34. In which country were you born?

(please circle one response)

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Australia | 1 |
| United Kingdom | 2 |
| China | 3 |
| New Zealand | 4 |
| Vietnam | 5 |
| India | 6 |
| Philippines | 7 |
| Italy | 8 |
| Lebanon | 9 |
| Other | 10 (please specify country) _____ |

Q35. How old are you?

_____ years old

Thank you for taking the time to complete the questionnaire. We would like to phone you in 4 months time to ask a few more questions about conferences and outcome plans. Your opinion is very important to us. Your answers will be kept confidential. Only the researchers will see your answers.

To help us contact you, could you please fill out as many details below as you can. You can just write your first name. You do not need to give your surname. After you complete the telephone survey, the researcher will send you a \$50 voucher to Coles or Woolworth's to make up for your time.

Your first name:

Your mobile phone number:

Another contact phone number like home or work:

Your email address:

The name and phone number of someone else who we can call to leave a message for you:
.....

Please check you have answered all the questions.

To make sure that no-one else sees your answers, please put your completed form in the attached envelope, seal the envelope and return it to the convenor. The envelope will then be sent to the researchers.

Thank you for your co-operation.

EVALUATION OF THE NSW YOUTH JUSTICE CONFERENCING SCHEME
 VICTIM FOLLOW-UP TELEPHONE SURVEY

Hello. I am [insert name] from the NSW Attorney General’s Department and we have been asked to evaluate how well conferences are working and what people think of them.

You may recall you filled out a questionnaire after a youth justice conference you attended in [month of conference]. You might also remember that at the end of the questionnaire you gave your contact details agreeing to be contacted for a follow-up survey. I would like to ask you a few questions about that conference. This will take about 20 minutes, and once the survey is completed I will send you a \$50 supermarket voucher. If you have any comments about any of the questions or if anything is unclear please let me know and I can explain it in another way.

All your answers will be kept completely confidential and separate from your contact details. We are a separate agency from those who run the youth conferences so no one from the conference will see your answers, including the convenor or other conference staff. Other researchers working on this project may access your responses. So, I’d appreciate it if you could answer all the questions fully and honestly.

Are you happy to participate in the survey?

(IF YES) Is it OK to do the survey now?

(IF NO) Do you mind telling me why you don’t want to answer these questions?

1. Did you know the young person prior to the offence being committed?

No 0

Yes 1

a) If yes, what was the nature of your relationship (be specific, i.e. sibling/child not family)

2. What aspects/parts of the conference did you like?

3. What aspects/parts of the conference did you not like?

4. How fair was the conference on *you*? (please circle your response)

very unfair	unfair	fair	very fair
1	2	3	4

Why do you say that? _____

5. How fair was the conference on the *offender*? (please circle one response)

very unfair	unfair	fair	very fair
1	2	3	4

Why do you say that?

*My next set of questions asks about the effect of the offence on you. Could you tell me a bit about what happened? (*use this information to code whether the interviewee is a direct victim or not*)

6. Did the offence result in any of the following (select all that apply):

You being physically injured	No	0	Yes	1 (ask part a below)
You losing money	No	0	Yes	1 (ask part b below)
You being fearful	No	0	Yes	1 (ask part c below)
Any other negative consequence	No	0	Yes	1 (ask part d below)
(Specify details _____)				

(IF ALL NO SKIP TO Q7)

a) To what extent have you recovered from the physical injury?

Not at all recovered	0
Partly recovered	1
Completely recovered	2

b) To what extent have you recovered the money you lost?

Not at all recovered	0
Partly recovered	1
Completely recovered	2

c) To what extent do you still feel fear?

Very fearful	0
Somewhat fearful	1
Not at all fearful	2

d) To what extent have you recovered from [insert other negative consequence]?

Not at all recovered	0
Partly recovered	1
Completely recovered	2

7. Did you want an apology from the offender?

No 0
 Yes 1

Why or why not?

a) Did the offender apologise to you for what he/she did?

Yes, said sorry before the conference 1 (skip to b)
 Yes, said sorry at the conference 2 (skip to b)
 Yes, wrote an apology letter as part of outcome plan 3 (skip to b)
 No apology 4 (continue to Q8)

(IF YES)

b) To what extent, did the offender’s apology seem sincere?

Not at all sincere 1
 Somewhat sincere 2
 Sincere 3
 Very sincere 4

Could you explain why?

c) To what extent, did the offender’s apology make you feel better about what he/she did?

Not at all 0 (*why not?*)
 Yes a little better 1
 Yes a lot better 2

IF Not at all, why not?

d) Have you accepted the offender’s apology?

No 0 (*why not?*)
 Yes 1

IF NO, why not?

e) How did the apology make you feel towards the offender?

- Positive 1
- Negative 2
- It made no difference 3

8. Did the outcome plan include a: (select all that apply)

Verbal apology No 0 Yes 1 (ask part a)

a) How satisfied were you with the verbal apology?

- not at all satisfied 1
- satisfied a little 2
- satisfied 3
- very satisfied 4

Written apology No 0 Yes 1 (ask part b)

b) How satisfied were you with the written apology?

- not at all satisfied 1
- satisfied a little 2
- satisfied 3
- very satisfied 4

Personal development/behavioural program No 0 Yes 1 (ask part c)

c) How satisfied were you with the offender being required to attend a personal development/behavioural program?

- not at all satisfied 1
- satisfied a little 2
- satisfied 3
- very satisfied 4

Why do you say that?

Community work No 0 Yes 1 (ask part d)

d) How satisfied were you with the offender being required to do community work?

- not at all satisfied 1
- satisfied a little 2
- satisfied 3
- very satisfied 4

Why do you say that?

Number of tasks to complete: _____ (do not ask victim, count number of tasks from above).

9. How fair was the outcome plan on you?

very unfair	unfair	fair	very fair
1	2	3	4

10. How fair was the outcome plan on the offender?

very unfair	unfair	fair	very fair
1	2	3	4

11. How important was it to you for the young person to complete the outcome plan?

not at all important	a little important	important	very important
1	2	3	4

12. Overall, how satisfied are you with the amount of information you received from the conferencing staff about the completion of the outcome plan?

not at all satisfied	satisfied a little	satisfied	very satisfied
1	2	3	4

Why do you say that?

13. Have the conference convenor or other conference staff informed you if the outcome plan has been completed?

No 0

Yes 1

14. How satisfied are you with the time it took for the conference to be held?

not at all satisfied (ask b)	satisfied a little (ask b)	satisfied	very satisfied
1	2	3	4

Why were you not at all satisfied or satisfied a little?

15. Overall, how satisfied are you with how this case was handled?

not at all satisfied (ask b)	satisfied a little (ask b)	satisfied	very satisfied
1	2	3	4

b) Why were you not at all satisfied or satisfied a little?

16. Would you recommend conferencing to other victims of crime?

No 0

Yes 1

Why / why not?

17. Has your level of satisfaction with the outcome plan changed since the conference?

No 0

Yes 1

If yes, are you:

(1) more satisfied now than you were immediately after the conference?

(2) less satisfied now than you were immediately after the conference?

Why do you say that?

18. Have you been the victim of another offence since the conference

No 0 (proceed to Q19)

Yes 1

a) If yes, what offence?

b) Did you attend another conference for that offence?

No 0

Yes 1

c) Would you attend another conference if offered in the future? (Skip to Q20)

No 0

Yes 1

Why or why not?

19. If you were the victim of another offence, similar to the one you experienced, would you attend a conference if offered?

No 0

Yes 1

20. Would you allow us to contact you some time in the future for another follow up?

No 0

Yes 1

Other comments

Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions. If you are happy to provide me with your mailing address I can post you the \$50 voucher.
