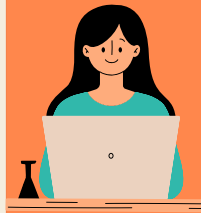


CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCESS

Step-by-step process
from report to court



REPORTING TO THE POLICE

You can report to the police either online, by phone (101) or by attending your local police station. An Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA) can discuss your options if you are thinking of reporting any form of sexual violence or if you are unsure of the process and need support.



ACCESSING SUPPORT

The police will contact you after reporting to gather more details of the crime, they will check your safety and refer you to support agencies. They may advise you to attend the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) for forensic examination and to check your overall health and wellbeing. The police have to follow the Victim's Code to ensure you are treated fairly and supported throughout the process.



POLICE INVESTIGATION

The police will complete your video recorded interview (VRI/ABE) and interview the suspect. During the investigation the police will gather all relevant evidence that can be used to help prove the crime. Once the police think they have enough evidence they will submit this file to the Crown prosecution service (CPS).



CROWN PROSECUTION SERVICE

CPS are made up of legal barristers who decide if the evidence provided from the police is enough to meet their legal threshold to charge someone with a crime, they have to be sure that they would be convicted if put forward to a jury. If a defendant is charged then the case will be sent to the courts for him to plead guilty or not guilty at a hearing.



COURT AND TRIAL

If the defendant pleads not guilty then the case proceeds to trial, if they plead guilty the case goes straight to sentencing. You will have support through the court process and special measures in place to help protect you when giving evidence in court. After the court process your ISVA will support you with a moving on plan for any ongoing support.

If you need to speak with one of ISVA's at KSAAS for support through the criminal justice process, please contact us on **01227 826900** or email isva@ksaas.org.uk