

DATE

## **SEXUAL VIOLENCE - Support**

### **STOs**

Nottinghamshire Police has continued to invest in training our Specially Trained Officers (STOs) who are used to attend offences of reported serious Sexual Violence. We now have a cadre of approximately 100 officers who can attend, gather the best possible evidence, and offer the victim support and reassurance.

The STOs undertake regular refresher training to ensure they remain up to date with the latest practices, this includes training for victims of spiking and key forensic opportunities and retrieval within the tight timescales.

### **ISVAs**

We continue to utilise the services of the ISVAs through Notts SVSS. Referrals are made from the SARC or via the officers that deal with the cases.

We continue to work closely with the ISVAs allocated to Police investigations with a long-term plan to have ISVAs co-located within the police station.

### **RASSO 24**

We continue to see an increase in demand for RASSO crimes together with further government publications including recommendations and National action plans (vulnerability/VWAG and Op Soteria) all of which the Public Protection department are working towards.

The 'End to End' Report has provided national direction around mobile telephones and that no adult rape victim will be left without a mobile phone for more than 24 hours. Notts Police have been successful in-home Office bids in relation to securing additional staff and equipment in our Digital Forensics Unit (DFU).

The funding has resulted in the creation of RASSO digital vans. These vans contain digital forensic examination equipment which means we can visit victims and examine their devices quickly and without removing their phones for long periods of time.

These vans have been deployed in numerous investigations. Good use of these vans has included deployments whilst victims are at the SARC or giving a DRI.

Key data surrounding this work is being collated and shared with the Home Office.

DATE

### **SARC**

The new SARC building is now complete. The premises will allow the police and partners to provide better care in surroundings that are more appropriate than the previous building. The premises will also provide additional functionality with more DRI suites available without the need for the survivor to move between locations.

### **Early Advice**

Nottinghamshire Police continue to make use of the Early Investigative Advice process available with CPS. This allows officers to contact CPS at an earlier stage in the investigation to share investigation strategies with emphasis to expedite key areas of concern in agreement with the CPS. In doing so, this is reducing secondary CPS action plans and contributes to reducing the timeliness of rape investigations whilst maintaining nationally recognised positive outcomes.

The process allows us to ask specific questions of CPS to obtain their views on aspects of a case. This is reviewed at the monthly performance meetings with CPS (JOIM) and managed through monthly RASSO performance meetings held by Public Protection and delivered by the Detective Inspector lead for RASSO to all Detective Sergeants.

Further scrutiny is conducted at the department monthly performance meetings chaired by the Detective Superintendent where particular focus is on victim service. We are seeing a reduction in the action plans from CPS with an increase in the early investigative advice, however it is recognised that this is a progressive change for both detectives and CPS reviewing lawyers.

Early Advice is being promoted at the regional CPS / Police RASSO conference to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Sexual Violence Action Network**

Nottinghamshire Police continue to engage with key stakeholders to collaborate on projects and community engagement.

The projects can range from providing advice and facilities that enable wider training to providing targeted support to develop crime prevention initiative