

## **Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment:**

There are a number of support services available for those worried about perpetrating sexual violence and survivors of sexual violence or sexual harassment, and every experience will be different. It is entirely your choice of the survivor about whether and how they wish to seek support. If you would like to:

**(a) Consider Your Options** before making an official report to the authorities:

REACH Centre:

[https://www.northumbria.police.uk/advice\\_and\\_information/advice\\_for\\_victims\\_of\\_crime/reporting\\_rape\\_and\\_sexual\\_assault/guide\\_to\\_reach\\_centres/](https://www.northumbria.police.uk/advice_and_information/advice_for_victims_of_crime/reporting_rape_and_sexual_assault/guide_to_reach_centres/)

REACH can preserve evidence to allow survivors the time to consider their options. This Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) allows you to undertake a professional incident report, medical examinations, forensic samples, counselling, advice, preservation of evidence for a number of years, and support throughout the Criminal Justice Process. The support provided is from a team of specially trained doctors and counsellors. REACH is open to all survivors, irrespective of gender, who were aged 16 or over at the date of the incident. All of this support is available whether or not the survivor ever decides to report to public authorities, and no report will be processed without the survivors' consent.

**(b) Report to public authorities:**

Police: Call 999 if the crime is in progress; someone suspected of a crime is nearby; and/ or there is danger of serious harm. Call 101 to report a crime or other concerns that do not require emergency responses. There are specially trained police officers, experienced in collating reports from survivors of sexual violence.

Police University Liaison Officers: we have a campus Police Officer who has a drop-in service at NUSU's Student Advice Centre (SAC) on Tuesdays 12-2pm and at the University's Kings Gate Building on Thursdays 12-2pm term time only. You can speak to the police officer confidentially and report an incident at that time. The police officer will maintain confidentiality unless there is a perceived risk of serious harm to either yourself or others.

Security Service Staff: ([security.control@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:security.control@ncl.ac.uk), 0191 208 6817). Security staff are available 24 hours every day, including weekends. If you are worried about yourself or another student and/or need some assistance, you can call security and they should be able to advise you. They are located on the ground floor of Barras Building on Newcastle University's campus (to see location go to [www.ncl.ac.uk/documents/Campus-Map-Print.pdf](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/documents/Campus-Map-Print.pdf)). They house campuswide CCTV systems and they have direct radio links with Northumbria Police, allowing them to respond quickly if you are in imminent danger.

ARCH: ([www.archnortheast.org/](http://www.archnortheast.org/)) Here there is an Independent Sexual Violence Advisory service (ISVA), which is a free and confidential service, made up of a team of advisers who can support you throughout every stage of the Criminal Justice System. They will work with various agencies on your behalf, to ensure you have all the relevant information about your case, and to ensure your voice and opinion is heard. ARCH is independent of the police therefore if you change your mind about reporting they should support that decision.

**(c) Report/ Disclose to the University/ Union:**

University's Complaints Procedure:

A student can bring a complaint against a staff member or the University by accessing the Student Complaints and Resolutions Procedure.

[https://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/progress/assets/documents/Student-Complaints-and-ResolutionProcedure18\\_19\\_final.pdf](https://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/progress/assets/documents/Student-Complaints-and-ResolutionProcedure18_19_final.pdf)

This is the University's formal complaints procedure under the Student Charter by which students are able to make a formal complaint about a School, Service or member of staff within the University. This procedure applies to all formal complaints, including those related to harassment and racial equality.

Complaint about another student of the University

If a student wishes to complain about another student at the University they should contact the Casework Team by emailing [casework@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:casework@ncl.ac.uk). The email should contain a full explanation as to the nature of the concern, with supporting evidence. Student Progress Service may invite you to a meeting as part of the investigation.

The allegation will normally be investigated under the University's Student Disciplinary Procedure.

Please Note:

Complaints made anonymously will not normally be investigated. Exceptionally, however, an anonymous complaint may be considered when the University accepts that there is a compelling case supported by additional evidence.

All complaint investigations are carried out with complete transparency whilst being mindful of the Data Protection Act.

NUSU's 'It Happens Here' Online reporting/disclosure system: (<https://www.nusu.co.uk/support/ithappenshere/>) The 'It Happens Here' reporting form has two options. The first option is to disclose to the Police anonymously via NUSU's Welfare and Equality Officer (WEO). The second option is to request an appointment with NUSU's independent Student Advice Centre (SAC).

Complaint to Students' Union: (<https://www.nusu.co.uk/complaint/>). Where the incident occurred during any Students' Union activity, including sports and society events, a complaint can be made internal to our institution.

**(d) Anonymously Report:**

NUSU's 'It Happens Here' online reporting system: (<https://www.nusu.co.uk/support/ithappenshere/>)- The 'It Happens Here' reporting form has two options. The first option is to disclose to the Police anonymously via NUSU's Welfare and Equality Officer (WEO). The second option is to request an appointment with NUSU's independent Student Advice Centre (SAC).

For sex workers: National Ugly Mugs (NUM): <https://uknswp.org/um/>. If you are a sex worker and have been sexually abused or harassed, but are feeling unable to report this incident to the police, NUM offer an anonymised reporting system, where warnings are sent directly to other sex workers and frontline support projects to warn them of these alleged perpetrators within the industry.

**(e) Seek Support:**

Stop SO UK : Specialist Treatment Organisation for the Prevention of Sexual Offending is an organisation that works with those at risk of sexual offending or reoffending, to enable them to stop acting out, thus reducing the risk to society and lessening the number of victims. We are also work with the families of sex offenders, who also have to come to terms with being related to a sex offender <https://www.stopso.org.uk/>

At Stop it Now! UK and Ireland offer confidential help and support for those concerned that may sexually offend against children. [https://www.stopitnow.org.uk/concerned\\_about\\_your\\_behaviour.htm](https://www.stopitnow.org.uk/concerned_about_your_behaviour.htm)

Tyneside Rape Crisis: (<http://www.rctn.org.uk/>). A charity, independent of the police, which provides professional counselling and support for women and girls aged over 13.

ARCH: (<https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/your-council-and-democracy/equality-diversity-and-citizenship/our-equality-services/reporting-racist-andhomophobic-incidents>). They provide counselling to all individuals, of all genders. They also have a specialist Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA) which can support people involved in or exploited through the sex industry who have experienced rape or sexual assault.

MESMAC: (<http://mesmacnewcastle.com/>). Provides support for men survivors of rape, sexual assault, domestic abuse, and childhood sexual abuse. They also provide thorough sexual health checks.

Newcastle Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (NIDAS): (<https://www.newcastleidas.co.uk/page/our-support>). They provide specialist accommodation and support for anyone experiencing domestic or sexual abuse in Newcastle.

Streetwise Clinic: (<https://www.streetwisenorth.org.uk/>). Provides counselling support for men, women, girls and boys aged between 11-25.

Victims First: (<http://www.victimfirstnorthumbria.org.uk/>). A local charity which helps people affected by crime. They provide free and confidential support to help survivors or victims to cope with their experiences whether or not they decide to report this to the police.

The Angelou Centre: (<http://angelou-centre.org.uk/>). Provide a comprehensive model of support for BME women, children and young survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

WAIS – 24 hour Domestic & Sexual Violence helpline (0808 800 0340): This helpline is for any woman affected by sexual or domestic violence. It is available 7 days a week, 365 days a year. There is a specialist team of women staff and volunteers who are specially trained to provide immediate and urgent support for survivors of sexual violence and domestic abuse.

Refuge - 24 hour domestic abuse helpline (0808 2000 247): A national 24-hour helpline, offering confidential support for women experiencing domestic violence or for any concerned family or friends. All calls are completely confidential. There are translation facilities for callers whose first language is not English, and there is a service for callers with hearing impairments.

Student Wellbeing Service, Newcastle University: (**0191 208 3333**) ([www.ncl.ac.uk/students/wellbeing/support](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/wellbeing/support)). The Student Wellbeing Service offers time focused therapy of up to six sessions of counselling to help anyone concerned about sexual violence, explore long terms support options. The service is confidential and students can request the gender of their therapist.

Student Advice Centre (SAC): ([www.nusu.co.uk/welfare/sac](http://www.nusu.co.uk/welfare/sac)) The SAC staff can discuss the different options available to survivors or victims.

Welfare and Equality Officer (WEO): ([welfare.union@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:welfare.union@ncl.ac.uk)) The WEO is not qualified to give advice, but can discuss the options available and signpost survivors or victims in the right direction.