

What is sexual violence?

Sexual Violence is any act of a sexual nature committed without consent, or any act that violently targets a person's sexual function. Sexual violence is broader than just unwanted sexual penetration – it can include any form of sexual contact, forcible nudity and harassment.

What is an independent Sexual Violence Advisor?

An independent sexual violence advocate offers confidential advice and support to both males and females who have been the victims of recent or historic sexual violence.

What can I expect from the service?

- ✚ A service led by you and what you would like. Giving you the information you need to decide what it is you would like and need. For example:
- ✚ Practical advice on reporting to the police, the legal process and attending court
- ✚ Refer you for counselling and other appropriate services
- ✚ Help to co-ordinate different agencies, such as sexual health, mental health, substance misuse and housing
- ✚ Liaise with the police for regular case updates, if you choose to report the sexual assault
- ✚ Regular and ongoing telephone contact and/or Face to face meetings and support

If you wish they can also go with you to the following:

- ✚ Sexual Assault and Referral Centre (SARC) at Treetops
- ✚ Police, if you choose to report
- ✚ Sexual Health Clinic
- ✚ Court
- ✚ Doctors



Your ISVA will only provide the support you choose. The role is not to tell you what to do but helping you make informed choices

There is a myth that only strangers carry out sexual attacks. Many assaults are committed by someone the victim knows, including family, partner, spouse or close friends.

There are no excuses for sexual violence. Whoever the attacker is the important thing to remember is that it's not your fault.

All our services are confidential; however we have a legal duty to share information with the police and/or children's social care if you are considered to be at risk of harm.

Whilst we would in most cases be able to respond to contact within 48 hours the ISVA service is not a 24 hours service. If you are in crisis then please phone the appropriate numbers below. The ISVA service is not a counselling service and so does not offer weekly face to face sessions. However, if you would like to access a counselling service then the ISVA can refer you.

For further information, please contact:

Email: isva@hamptontrust.org.uk

Emergency Numbers:

- 🚓 Police: always phone 999 if in immediate danger. If a non-emergency please call 0845 0 45 45 45
- 🚓 Treetops, Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC): 03001236616
- 🚓 Samaritans: 0845 7 90 90 90
- 🚓 National Rape Crisis Freephone: 0808 802 9999
12.00 – 14.30 and 19.00 – 21.30 everyday of the year
- 🚓 Sexual health Clinic St Mary's IoW: 01983 534202
- 🚓 Yellow Door (Southampton Rape Crisis) 02380636312
helpline: 023 8063 6313 (Wednesdays 4 – 7pm)
- 🚓 24 Hour National Domestic Violence Freephone helpline: 0808 2000 247

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**Isle of Wight
Independent Sexual Violence
Advisor
(ISVA)**



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