

Service Description

This document describes a service commissioned for the Avon and Somerset area by B&NES CCG, Somerset CCG and BNSSG CCG. The lead commissioner for the service is BNSSG CCG and funding is provided by NHS England (Health and Justice) and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Avon and Somerset as co-commissioners.

Sexual Violence Therapies Service

Description

This will be an all-age service to support survivors of rape and serious sexual assault. The service is available to all genders. The service provides therapeutic interventions and counselling to:

- Adults (aged 18years +) who have experienced rape and serious sexual assault within the last 12 months
- Children regardless of when the assault or abuse took place

Interventions should comply with CPS guidance relating to vulnerable victims (see appendix 1) and be NICE compliant (see appendix 2). The service must reflect evidence-based practice relating to sexual violence and should be trauma-informed. The service will offer individual and/ or group interventions where clinically indicated. The service will offer a range of interventions, appropriate to different levels of complexity and need.

The service will offer a comprehensive assessment to ensure that people are referred into the most appropriate model of intervention and support. Where indicated in the assessment, this will include support for families and friends of the survivor.

The service will work collaboratively with other providers of sexual violence support services such as Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) services, SARC, health services, family services, statutory and voluntary agencies. The service will operate as part of the wider sexual assault pathway (see appendix 3) and should not be viewed in isolation. Individuals will be supported to move through the system in accordance with their changing needs.

The service will operate a clearly defined and agreed referral process, ensuring that service users experience a seamless pathway. The service will monitor and work towards a reduction in waiting times for access to therapeutic services. The service will signpost individuals to other relevant services/organisations in Bristol, Somerset, Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire.

The service will work in line within NHS England's 'Strategy on Sexual Assault & Abuse' (See Appendix 4) and will take into consideration the

<p>recommendations from the 'Sexual Violence Needs Assessment' (see Appendix 5).</p> <p>The service should be culturally aware and language-appropriate, with an understanding of the needs and wishes of diverse communities and people. The service will deliver services across the diverse geographical area of Bristol, Somerset, Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire and will identify premises accessible to service users' areas of residence.</p> <p>The service is encouraged to design innovative and effective services which meet and exceed the requirements of this specification. The service must comply with the relevant clinical and legal frameworks, including Safeguarding.</p>	
<p>Referral route</p> <p>This is an open referral route.</p>	<p>Referral criteria</p> <p>Under this commissioning arrangement, individuals registered with a GP practice and/or resident in the Avon & Somerset area (including Somerset, B&NES and BNSSG) can be referred, or refer themselves, to this service.</p> <p>The service is expected to make reasonable adjustments for meeting the needs of service users with Protected Characteristics.¹</p>
<p>Indicative staffing</p> <p>The provider is responsible for ensuring sufficient staffing is in place to meet the requirements of the service specification. Appropriate skill mix will be provided to ensure sufficient clinical expertise for this client group.</p> <p>The provider is responsible for ensuring staff are suitably trained, qualified, registered and supported to deliver the interventions proposed in the delivery model.</p>	<p>Operating hours</p> <p>To be decided by the provider, based on need of the service users (eg. consideration for delivering sessions in the evenings and weekends).</p> <p>It is anticipated this service will be operated on a sessional basis.</p>
<p>Whole System Approach</p>	

¹ Protected characteristics include but are not limited to: disability, gender reassignment, sex, homelessness, substance misuse, religion or beliefs, race

This service should be considered one component of whole health and social care system and forms part of the wider sexual violence pathway, aimed to prevent, treat and manage people's needs post sexual assault.

Reporting requirements

Providers will operate robust data collection, collation and reporting processes, in line with Information Governance requirements.

Providers will evaluate service outcomes and facilitate service user feedback mechanisms.

Reporting requirements are detailed in the service outcome document (see Appendix 6).