**Therapeutic Support to child and family**

* SW to send strategy meeting document to refer for therapeutic support for child & family.
* West Sussex - Lifecentre (0808 802 0808)
* B&H - CSA Support Service, Partners in Change Hub (01273 295970)
* East Sussex – SWIFT (01323 463800)
* Service to make contact with family/carer within one working day of receipt of the referral.

**Police and Social Care**

**Make child safe**

**If the child gives a clear disclosure go straight to ABE Interview.** Ensure child has appropriate support for ABE interview

**Key Numbers**

* **Aged 13 or under**(and up to 19 if the young person has severe learning difficulties):

Children’s SARC / Pebble House: 01273 242288

(or Brighton General Hospital 01273 696011).

* **Aged 14 and over**:

Saturn Centre, Crawley: 01293 600469.

* If SW or Police are in doubt, contact the Children’s SARC for advice: 01273 242288.

**Weekend and Bank Holidays**

* As above

**Overnight**

Advice - call contact Saturn or 0330 223 0099

**Age 13 or under:**

(between 17:00 and 09:00)

If there are any **forensic** concerns;

* Ensure the child’s safety is prioritised.
* Police to use Early Evidence kit, seize underwear and bedding etc.
* Child not to be washed before being put to bed.
* Assume child will be seen the following morning and call children’s SARC from 9am onwards to arrange.

**Aged 14 and over**:

Saturn Centre, Crawley: 01293 600469.

**Initial Strategy Discussion**

* Should include Social Work, Health, Education and

Police, Initial referrer /responder

Contact SARC team to discuss

(**Do not email – please telephone**)

**See Key Numbers**

To consider:

* Action plan to make the child safe
* Consider forensic evidence – in all cases refer to SARC Doctor for a view (see Key Numbers)
* Consent/ seek legal advice if consent not forthcoming.
* Consider any risk to siblings/other children in contact with perpetrator.
* Consider any intermediary support required

[See Appendix B in Achieving Best Evidence in Criminal Proceedings (MOJ 2011)](https://www.cps.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/legal_guidance/best_evidence_in_criminal_proceedings.pdf)

* Consider therapeutic support required
* Decision regarding need for S.47 enquiry/ICPC

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**Strategy Discussion Document to contain following information**

* Childs details to include DOB/tel number
* Siblings’ details
* Parents/carers details
* Household composition
* Alleged perpetrators -details/DOB and relationship to child
* Details of Allegation
* Initial presentation of child; safe caregiver and wider family
* Circumstances of disclosure
* Action/intervention required/outcome
* Actions to be circulated to group within 24hrs

**Medical follow up**

* SARC Dr to arrange medical care as appropriate
* SARC nurse to refer to CISVA

**Police:**

* Early evidence Kit considered in all cases
* Mouth, urine & swab modules. Clothes, underwear, bedding to be seized by CSI/police

**ABE interview**

**Joint Police and Social Care**

In accordance with [Achieving Best Evidence in Criminal Proceedings](https://www.cps.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/legal_guidance/best_evidence_in_criminal_proceedings.pdf)

[(MOJ 2011)](https://www.cps.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/legal_guidance/best_evidence_in_criminal_proceedings.pdf)

In accordance with [Achieving Best Evidence in Criminal Proceedings: Guidance on interviewing victims and witnesses, and guidance on using special measures (Home Office 2011)](https://www.cps.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/legal_guidance/best_evidence_in_criminal_proceedings.pdf)

**Review Strategy Meeting**

* Social work
* Police
* Education
* SARC Doctor
* Purpose to review outcome of medical /ABE/criminal safeguarding enquiry.
* Review all actions from the initial strategy discussion/meeting.

**Making the Child Safe:**

* Acute medical needs must be prioritised
* Consider Police Protection Powers and subsequent placement

**Outcome of medical assessment**

* If forensic evidence available SARC Doctor to provide Police with written evidence immediately, following medical.
* If no forensic evidence available SARC Doctor to provide verbal report to SW and police. SARC Doctor to follow up with written report within 10 working days. Report to be sent to SW, Police and GP.

**SW / Police contact SARC admin:**

* Book medical assessment
* Social worker, Police attend medical

(CSI if forensic)

**Non Forensic Route**

**Forensic Route**

**Referral to MASH/Police**

**Medical Assessment**

* SW with full information to attend
* Police/(CSI to attend if forensic)
* Safe carer/parent to attend

Police to notify CSI and alert them of need to attend medical

**Forensic Route**