

Receiving a Disclosure of Sexual Misconduct and Violence (SMV)

What to do if a student or colleague discloses an incident of SMV to you.

Listen with Empathy

- Listen actively and accept the disclosure without questioning it.
- Give your full attention, respond calmly and acknowledge their courage in making the disclosure.
- Only ask enough questions to check their safety/risk and to ensure that you are signposting to the right support options.
 - Incident - who, what, when, where, how, risk to individual or wider community.
 - Support needs - immediate/wider: wellbeing, health, academic, workplace, housing, financial.

Signpost to Support

Ask them if they would like to hear their options for accessing support.

You can find a summary of the support available here: durham.ac.uk/sexualviolence/getsupport

Further support:

- **Contact an SMV Case Manager** - student.cases@durham.ac.uk
- **University SMV Webpages** - durham.ac.uk/sexualviolence
- **Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)** - The Meadows, themedowsdurham.org.uk, 0330 223 0099
- **Rape & Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre** - email cmh.service@durham.ac.uk to request a referral.
- **College Student Support Offices** - College Support Teams (SharePoint)
- **University Support Services for Students** - durham.ac.uk/student-support-hub
- **Support for Staff** - durham.ac.uk/sexualviolence/getsupport
 - Includes information on Employee Assistance Programme and RSACC Support for Staff.

Explore Reporting Options

You can find information, guidance and reporting options at durham.ac.uk/sexualviolence/report

These include:

- **Reporting to the Police.**
- **Reporting to the University.**
- **Making no report and seek support only.**

Record the Disclosure

- Always complete a disclosure recording form, available at durham.ac.uk/sexualviolence
- Email this as soon as possible to student.cases@durham.ac.uk and offer a copy to the person who has disclosed (Reporting Party).
- An SMV Case Manager will review this, confirm receipt and offer the Reporting Party a meeting to discuss their reporting and support options further.
- No action is usually taken unless the Reporting Party decides to make a report, apart from when safeguarding concerns dictate otherwise.

It can be difficult to hear a disclosure of SMV and support is available to anyone affected by this. Visit durham.ac.uk/sexualviolence/getsupport for information.

If you require advice, guidance or support, you can contact an SMV Case Manager by emailing student.cases@durham.ac.uk



Scan the QR code or visit durham.ac.uk/sexualviolence to find out more and access support.