

## COGNITIVE BEHAVIOURAL THERAPY (CBT)

CBT is a useful tool to help people learn ways of coping with everyday life. Sessions are offered over a short period of time with a chance to try out different strategies to see what works for you.

## EYE MOVEMENT DESENSITISATION AND REPROCESSING (EMDR)

We offer EMDR sessions over a short period of time. The therapy uses eye movement and memory to reduce the emotional distress caused by a traumatic event.

## INDEPENDENT SEXUAL VIOLENCE ADVISORS

An Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) is a trained specialist who works to ensure the support, safety and wellbeing of anyone who has suffered sexual violence. They can provide support and information with practical matters such as:

- **housing and financial matters**
- **your health, including support with substance misuse**
- **reporting to the police**
- **the court process**
- **accompanying you on visits to the police, court, solicitors, clinics etc**
- **your rights and the services you can access**

Our ISVAs are employed by Notts SVSS. They are not managed or influenced by any other agencies you may come into contact with.

## SURVIVORS' SUPPORT SERVICE

Our survivors' support service is for adults who are survivors of child sexual abuse and were let down by an institution. The support offered is similar to that offered by our ISVA service and helps survivors to gain greater choice and control in their lives.

An institution might be a care home, a school, a hospital or medical setting, a religious organisation, sports club or youth club or a charity or state organisation. We are also able to support people who were sexually abused and reported it to a person in charge (eg a police officer, teacher, social worker) who then ignored the report or did not act on it properly.

## THE TOPAZ CENTRE

We work in partnership with the Topaz Centre (Nottinghamshire's Sexual Assault Referral Centre) which can meet the physical and emotional needs of adults who have been sexually assaulted in the last 7 days. This includes the opportunity for a forensic medical examination, to report to the police as well as access to immediate, short-term support.

<https://www.topazcentre.org/> 0800 085 9993

## EMCYP SAS

The East Midlands Children and Young People's Sexual Assault Service supports survivors of sexual abuse aged 0-17.

<https://www.emcypsas.co.uk/> 0800 183 0023.



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE SEXUAL VIOLENCE SUPPORT SERVICES  
30 CHAUCER STREET, NOTTINGHAM, NG1 5LP

TELEPHONE | 0115 947 0064  
HELPLINE | 0115 941 0440  
EMAIL | SUPPORT@NOTTSSVSS.ORG.UK  
WEB | WWW.NOTTSSVSS.ORG.UK

INFORMATION FOR LGBTQ+  
(for those aged 18 and above)



WE LISTEN  
WE BELIEVE  
WE SUPPORT

NOTTS  
SVS  
SERVICES

LISTEN  
BELIEVE  
SUPPORT

PROUDLY DELIVERING  
ASA SERVICES

Asa  
Support after sexual violence

WWW.NOTTSSVSS.ORG.UK



## AN AFFIRMING SERVICE

At Notts SVS Services we know that there is no typical survivor. We treat anyone who comes to us for support around sexual violence as an individual. Our services are confidential and non-judgmental. We will listen to and support you no matter when or how it happened.

We know that those who identify as LGBTQ+ may have specific fears about:

- **Being perceived as responsible for the abuse**
- **Encountering homophobic, biphobic or transphobic services**
- **What will happen to them or their loved ones if they get help**

**We believe that:**

- **Responsibility always sits with the perpetrator**
- **Sexual violence can happen in any relationship**
- **Sexual violence or child sexual abuse is not the result or cause of a person's gender identity or sexuality**
- **Someone always has the right to say no or withdraw consent, even if they have been engaging in consensual sexual activity or have consented in the past**
- **An adult does not need to report to the police to get support.**

We will never judge you, focus on or out your sexuality or trans status. We will always respond to you in your self-defined gender using your preferred pronoun. We will listen to you and support you no matter when or how the abuse happened.

All our services are provided free of charge.

## ABOUT NOTTS SVS SERVICES

A survivor's life can be totally shattered by a sexual assault. We provide support to help reduce the impact of such an experience and to help a survivor regain control of their life.

**Our service offers:**

- **Helpline & drop-in service**
- **Counselling and therapies**
- **Email support - [support@nottssvss.org.uk](mailto:support@nottssvss.org.uk)**
- **Independent Sexual Violence Advisor Service**
- **Survivors Support Service**
- **'Creating Safety' online self-help programme**
- **Access to creative therapies and groups**

## ASA HUB

The ASA Hub includes our helpline and drop-in. It is the best way of getting support and referring into all our services. You can contact the hub via our helpline, fill in our online contact form <https://nottssvss.org.uk/contact/> or email: [helplineadmin@nottssvss.org.uk](mailto:helplineadmin@nottssvss.org.uk)

## HELPLINE

The helpline provides a safe space to talk about any concerns, either for yourself or for a friend or family member. It can be an opportunity to begin to explore the impact of an assault on your life or simply to request information. You can use it to refer into any of our other services.

The helpline is staffed by female support workers. We can arrange for a male worker to call you back if you prefer.

**The helpline is open at the following times:**

Monday – Friday, 10am – 1pm and then 4:30pm – 7:30pm  
Saturday & Sunday 10am – 1pm

**The helpline number is 0115 941 0440.**

At other times you may leave a message and a support worker will get back to you. Outside of these hours you can phone the 24hr sexual and domestic violence helpline on 0808 800 0340.

## DROP IN

Our drop-in gives you time for a longer conversation with one of our support staff. This can be helpful if you are really struggling and need time to speak to a trained counsellor. We can also look at what you need and refer you into our other services. Drop-in sessions can be booked through our helpline.

## COUNSELLING AND THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

Our range of counselling and therapeutic services is for anyone aged 18 and above, whether the abuse happened recently or in the past. The services are free of charge and are provided by trained and experienced staff. We see people in-person or via secure online counselling rooms, with daytime, evening and weekend slots available.

Some therapies are okay to use as stand-alone, while others are better used with or after other support. We will discuss this with you when you make a referral into our service.

## COUNSELLING

We offer a range of short-term, medium and long-term counselling options.

**Short-term counselling** can help to lessen any initial distress. It can also help you to identify any needs, risk factors and put in place any coping strategies. We can also use this time to refer you into any other services and support.

**Medium and long-term counselling** offers a safe and non-judgmental space. Here you can begin to express and explore your thoughts and feelings in a way that may not be possible with family and friends.

Whatever option you choose, we will listen to you and we will support you and we will not judge.

## GROUP SUPPORT

Our Beyond Survival support group is an 8-week course. Group aims are to gain self-acceptance, build trust in self and others, to experience a more fulfilling life and meet other survivors. These are run as male-only and female-only groups throughout the year.

**We can also offer support to families and friends of those who have experienced abuse, which can also help them support those they are close to.**