

# Information for victims following a crime



**After becoming a victim of crime, it is vital that you're aware of the services that are available to help you cope and recover from your experience.**

A huge amount of work has been undertaken to improve victim services across Cheshire. This includes providing funding for specialist services to support survivors of sexual and domestic abuse.

Please don't suffer in silence, there are people out there who are able to support you.

**John Dwyer**

Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire

**Cheshire CARES** (Cope and Recovery Enhanced Service) is my dedicated service providing free support to all victims of crime in Cheshire.

You don't have to have reported the crime to the police to receive support from Cheshire CARES.

**You can contact Cheshire CARES by:**

Telephone: **01606 36 6336**

Email: **[cheshire.cares@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:cheshire.cares@cheshire.pnn.police.uk)**



**John Dwyer**  
Police & Crime  
Commissioner  
for Cheshire

# Reporting a crime to the police

If you've been the victim of rape or sexual assault, there are many different ways you can report it to the police. We understand it can be very difficult to tell the police. You might not be completely sure what happened or how to talk about it. Our trained officers and partner organisations are here to listen and work together to support you in any way we can. Importantly, your information could help us bring the offender to justice and make sure you, and other people in a similar situation, are kept safe.

## Is it an emergency?

Is someone in immediate danger? Is a crime taking place or has one just happened? If so, call **999** now and ask for the police. If you're deaf or hard of hearing, use our textphone service **18000** or text us on **999** if you've pre-registered with the emergency SMS service.

## Report online

If you'd like to report online, rather than speaking to an officer by telephone in the first instance, you can securely and confidentially report rape and sexual assault to us online [www.cheshire.police.uk](http://www.cheshire.police.uk)

All reports made using this service are reviewed by our 24/7 contact centre within a few hours and an officer will get back to you in a maximum of two days (although usually quicker).

## Call 101

If you'd like to talk to someone, our national non-emergency telephone number is staffed 24/7. Call us on **101** and report what happened or just get some advice.

## Visit a sexual assault referral centre

If you don't want to go to the police, you could contact the rape and sexual abuse support centre (RASASC) [www.rapecentre.org.uk](http://www.rapecentre.org.uk) or seek support from your local sexual assault referral centre (SARC) [www.stmaryscentre.org](http://www.stmaryscentre.org)

The trained staff there can give you confidential medical help and advice. They can also gather evidence to use at a later date, if you decide to report the assault to the police. They won't contact the police unless you want them to.

## Report a crime on someone else's behalf

If someone you know has been raped or sexually assaulted, and doesn't feel able to speak to the police directly, please report it yourself using any of these methods. We'll record the incident and help you to support the victim if needed.

## Provide information anonymously

Information provided anonymously via Crimestoppers is extremely valuable, you can contact them through their website [www.crimestoppers-uk](http://www.crimestoppers-uk) or by calling **0800 555 111**.

Contact Cheshire Police **101**  
In an emergency dial **999**  
[www.cheshire.police.uk](http://www.cheshire.police.uk)

**CrimeStoppers.**  
**0800 555 111**  
100% anonymous. Always.

