

## **Perpetrators of Sexual Abuse**

SV2 provides counselling, advocacy and other support to anyone, all genders and age, within the county of Derbyshire who has suffered rape or sexual abuse of any kind, at any time.

Whilst SV2 does not work with sexual perpetrators of any gender, SV2 acknowledges there may be perpetrators of sexual abuse may have also experienced sexual abuse.

It is SV2's view that anyone who has experienced sexual abuse has the right to access safe, confidential support without the fear of meeting their abuser. To help safeguarding and provide reassurance to our clients, all clients will access an initial options assessment. This will include asking all new referrals whether they have any interactions with perpetrators or the family and friends of preparators.

If during the referral or at assessment stage, or whilst accessing support, a client is identified as a potential sexual perpetrator then the staff will discuss the risk and needs with their line manager before any support is offered or continues.

The staff member will explain that we are not able to support perpetrators of sexual abuse and their referral needs will be discussed with a member of the management team, SV2 will communicate the outcome of the discussion to them. The staff member should also make it clear that we may have to report any safeguarding concerns to the relevant authority.

All risk and needs will then be reviewed on a case by case basis with a member of the management team to decide next steps. Staff should consider contacting the referrer (if referred by an external service) signposting or obtaining advice from services which are available to support perpetrators, whilst always considering actions that do not put victims, children or vulnerable people at a greater risk.

The outcome of the discussion and any actions will be shared directly with the person identified as a sexual preparator by the staff member undertaking the assessment or providing support. In some circumstances the outcome may be delivered by a manager.