



Safety Net Eligibility Criteria/ Information for Professionals

Safety Net supports the recovery of those affected by rape, sexual and domestic abuse. We work with children, young people, families and adults across North and West Cumbria. We work in partnership with services in the south of the county to ensure equal access to service provision. To successfully support, our clients need to be safe from harm.

Services include:

- **Information, advice and signposting and advocacy** - to individuals and professionals
- **Integrated Support Team** who offer: short term (Average 12 weeks in exceptional circumstances this can be increased) 1:1 needs-led, practical and emotional support, advocacy and stabilisation work. We will work with individuals and/or families to support recovery, and engagement with the therapeutic services where needed. Integrated support can be provided as a stand-alone service, in advance of therapy, or whilst therapy is ongoing.
- **Therapeutic team** who offer: Specialist trauma focussed therapy and counselling for adults, children, young people and their families.
- **Training and professional support** – Consultation, support and specialist training in Sexual Violence and trauma to other professionals and partner agencies.

Eligibility criteria:

Eligibility and access to the service is based on the following criteria and is informed in every case by a needs assessment, risk assessment and where required a therapeutic assessment:

- We offer specialist support and therapy to those who have been affected by rape, sexual abuse and domestic violence abuse, recent or in the past.
- We work with children, young people, families and adults across North and West Cumbria (and in partnership with the Birchall Trust in South Cumbria)
- We do not normally work with perpetrators of abuse, recent or in the past. If these issues are present we will look at individuals on a case by case basis, before a decision is made.
- We do not provide crisis intervention; those referred must be safe from harm.

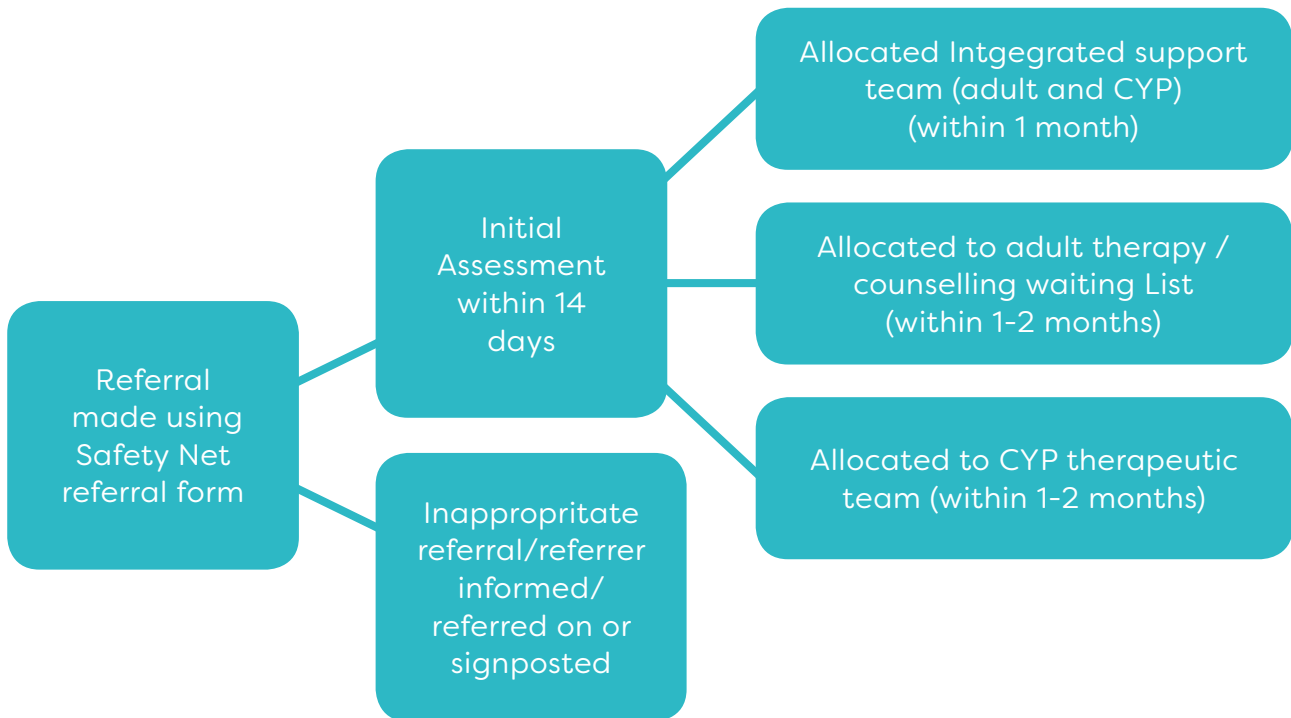
How to refer:

- Safety Net accepts referrals from all relevant agencies across the sectors using secure e-mail and our referral form. Forms can be download from www.safetynetuk.org or requested from the office: office@safetynetuk.org
- Referrals can be e-mailed using our secure e-mail address: office@safetynetuk.org
- Clients can self-refer by telephoning the office on 01228 515859
- Referring agencies can call the office for support with new or existing referrals during normal office hours on 01228 515859
- Out of hours our services can be accessed via the Bridgeway on 0808 1186432
- A fully completed Referral form which includes a risk assessment is required to access the service.
- If a client is aged 16 and under and has been allocated for Therapy or Support we will normally ask the parent/carer to attend an initial session with us without their child. **(*If a Young Person is deemed capable of making their own decisions and expressly doesn't want parental involvement we will work with that Young Person to facilitate accessing this service in a way that works for them).**

our funders



Safety Net referral process



- Please be aware that due to the current volume of referrals clients may have to wait longer than 1-2 months before they can access the service. The service will remain in contact with the client during this waiting time and the client can make contact with the service for interim support where this be needed.
- At Initial Assessment Safety Net will seek and obtain consent and authority to share information with the GP and other professionals deemed appropriate to support the client at referral and thereafter.
- Our staff will arrange a day and time that the client can meet them. Where the child is under 16* the parent/carer must accompany their child and remain in the building for each session, we do not offer waiting facilities for adults in session. Clients will be offered regular weekly/fortnightly appointments.
- Safety Net will endeavour to engage clients who have been referred. If attempts to contact the client have been unsuccessful creative ways of contacting the case client will always be considered in discussion with colleagues, referring agency and at case allocation and review meetings. The service will inform the referring agency before closing the case.
- Clients always have the right to refuse a service as they may not be ready at this stage, we will always inform the referrer and they can re refer in the future if they wish to do so.

Additional guidance for referring agencies

Children and Young People	Adults
<p>Where the referral is for a child or young person they should be living with a carer who is assessed as safe, and <u>not</u> living with an alleged adult perpetrator.</p> <p>We do not normally work with children who are subject to safeguarding (S. 47) proceedings unless as part of an agreed plan. (Agreed with Children Services and Safety Net)</p> <p>Where there are concerns about a child safety we will make relevant safeguarding referrals to the safeguarding hub. It is unlikely we will continue to work with the child until risk is managed by the LA.</p>	<p>High risk domestic abuse should be referred to IDVA (Let Go) and MARAC (we will work in partnership with Let Go)</p> <p>We are able to work with <u>parents</u> of children who are subject to S.47 proceedings where it is appropriate to do so.</p>
<p>Our service aims to support the involvement of parents and carers in their child's / young person's recovery. We cannot work with families where there are concerns about the parent/carers ability to protect the child or where the carer does not wish to support the work.</p>	<p>In some cases it may be more appropriate to first work with the parent/carers to support their child.</p>
<p>We can provide support and services to children young people and their families who are subject to a child in need plans, and team around the family (TAF) if they meet the criteria above, and where Safety Net's services are agreed as part of the agreed multi-agency plan.</p>	<p>We can provide support and services to families who are subject to a child in need plans, and team around the family (TAF) if they meet the criteria above, and where Safety Net's services are agreed as part of the agreed multi-agency plan.</p>
<p>We will take referrals from statutory mental health services providing the client has capacity for self-regulation or containment and has stability. A mandatory risk assessment must be fully completed. All mental health diagnosis and current status are required.</p>	<p>We will take referrals from statutory mental health services providing the client has capacity for self-regulation or containment and has stability. A mandatory risk assessment must be fully completed. All mental health diagnosis and current status are required</p>
<p>Services are available on a short or long term basis depending on need, and are free of charge to those who need to access the service.</p>	<p>Services are available on a short or long term basis depending on need, and are free of charge to those who need to access the service.</p>
<p>We do not NORMALLY work with clients who are currently dependant on drugs/alcohol.</p> <p>However if a client is involved with a recovery agency and is addressing the issue, we will judge each case on the individual and their ability to engage. If they are still using substances/alcohol Therapy may not be appropriate but Integrated work may be considered.</p>	<p>We do not NORMALLY work with clients who are currently dependant on drugs/alcohol.</p> <p>However if a client is involved with a recovery agency and is addressing the issue, we will judge each case on the individual and their ability to engage. If they are still using substances/alcohol Therapy may not be appropriate but Integrated work may be considered.</p>