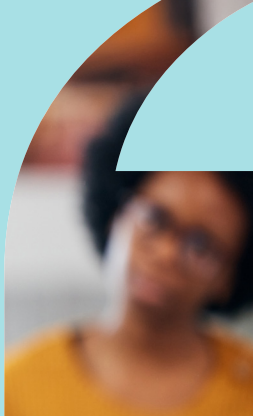




TELLING NOT REPORTING

Your Voice Matters

What it means to 'tell' police instead of 'report' a rape or other serious sexual offence.



What is ‘telling not reporting’?

As a victim-survivor of a sexual offence, your priority may be getting the vital medical help and support you need. Telling the police may feel less essential, but it is important.

We know that some people do not want to report what happened to the police. This could be for many reasons, such as feeling worried about what could happen next, fears about reliving events during the investigation or concerns about not being believed.

That's why Sussex Police has introduced ‘telling not reporting’. If you decide to tell us without making a report, we will keep a record of what you told us, but we will respect your wishes and only ask for more information if it's absolutely necessary.

We won't pursue the incident further or act without your say so.

You can also ‘tell not report’ if a rape or other serious sexual offence has happened to a friend or family member.

How do I 'tell' you what has happened without reporting?

If an incident has happened, you can contact Sussex Police on 101, via sussex.police.uk or by calling 999 in an emergency.

When you speak with the call handler, say that you want to tell the police about what happened, but not report it to us or be contacted by an officer after providing the information.

Or, you can report all sexual offences online via a dedicated portal at:
sussex.police.uk/rape-sexual-assault-support
or by scanning the QR below:



If you have someone who is supporting you, they can report on your behalf via both methods.

You or the person supporting can provide as much or as little information as you feel comfortable with, including keeping your details anonymous. The more information about the offence, where it happened and if you know who did it, helps ensure we can protect others in your community.



Our promise to you

We know how difficult it can be to decide what to do next. If you decide to 'tell not report' an incident, we will:



Respect your wishes and not contact you unless you ask us to



Ensure you have the time and space to tell us what happened



Support you if, in future, you decide you do want to make a report, no matter how much time has passed



Listen to and believe what you tell us



Keep your information secure and confidential, any information used to support the deployment of police resources is anonymised



Thank you for your courage, bravery and for trusting us to support you.





Why *'tell not report'*?

Put simply, telling us what happened could help keep you and other people safe. While we won't begin an investigation, it does tell us vital information such as locations that could be a risk to others.

It also helps Sussex Police understand overall safety, to help us make the right decisions about things like where neighbourhood officers or PCSOs patrol.

However, all information you share will be treated with the highest levels of confidentiality.

Created by Sussex Police in collaboration with:



mankind[↑]



For further support and advice visit:



sussex.police.uk/rape-sexual-assault-report

Report online at **www.sussex.police.uk**
or **call 101**. In an emergency always **call 999**.

Find us on social media

