

To the:

- Executive Lead for Safeguarding Children and Young People - North West London
NWL Integrated Care System
- Chairs of the Local Safeguarding Children Partnerships in NWL

Services for children and young people CYP with concerns of sexual abuse in NWL-
provided by The Havens:

A. The Havens are the specialist centres for people in London where there is an allegation of acute sexual assault and there is a request for retrieval of DNA and documentation of injuries.

Acute = cases with potential for time-sensitive forensic evidence collection (within 7 days)

a-For under 13s – all acute cases **must be referred by police** and social care must be informed (Sexual Offences Act 2003)

b-For over 13 year olds - There is the option of self-referral (non-police referral). These can be supported by other agencies (e.g. GP, social care, A&E) but the Havens will speak directly to the young person to accept a self-referral.

B. For children and young people with a concern of sexual assault that is non- acute in NWL: The service for health assessments and support for these cases is provided by the Havens.

Non-acute= outside the forensic time frame.

a-For the under 13s: (Sexual Offences Act 2003)

Referral must be made by children's social care by initially ringing to discuss with CYP team. Thereafter, the caller may be asked to complete the Havens referral form via e-mail.
kch-tr.cypmailbox@nhs.net

The Havens CYP team may be available to join strategy meetings upon receipt of a referral.

b-For over 13 year olds: the caller will be linked to the duty Havens professional taking calls. Over 13s may be offered an appointment in the Havens CYP adolescent clinics or exceptionally may be seen for a holistic medical examination – to be determined on a case by case basis.

Referrals to the Havens CYP adolescent clinics are accepted from other professionals or directly from young people.

Additional signposting may be to sexual health services, emotional wellbeing, psychology, advocacy, ISVA. These may be from local provision or the Havens.

How to contact the Havens:

Phone Numbers:

During day time hours (09.00-17.00) call: 0203 299 1599 – one number covers the 3 sites.

After hours (17.00-09.00 including bank holidays): call 0203 299 9000* ([switchboard King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London](#))

After-hours all calls **for under 13 year-olds**: will be linked to the Havens on-call paediatrician, via [King's switch board](#)*

After-hours calls for 13+ year-olds will be linked to the Havens on-call sexual offence examiner or crisis worker.

For children and young people with acute medical or surgical problems.

The CYP should be seen at an A+E first and managed via the hospital who may call the Havens for advice.

What changed in 2022?

Since September 2022 the Havens' offer has included assessments for non-acute CSA cases from Brent and Harrow, and covers all of the eight NWL boroughs.

Kindly contact us if further advice and support is needed.

A. Boroda.

Yours sincerely

Dr Arlene Boroda.

Consultant Paediatrician, Clinical Lead Havens CYP Service.

Arlene.Boroda@nhs.net