

#BreakTheSilence



Survivors Manchester

Your information:

*A guide to how it's used and
how you can gain access to it*

confidential support

www.survivorsmanchester.org.uk

support@survivorsmanchester.org.uk

Tel. 0161 236 2182

@SurvivorsMcM 

We're tackling
**Male Sexual
Abuse** in Greater
Manchester

Your information

Survivors Manchester as an organisation works hard to be and remain compliant with the 'Data Protection Act 1998'.

We also adhere to the following documents (available upon request):

- ['Confidentiality: NHS Code of Practice'](#)
- [Survivors Manchester Confidentiality Policy](#)
- [Survivors Manchester Access to Client Records \(agreed with the Crown Prosecution Service\)](#)
- [BACP Ethical Framework for Good Practice in Counselling and Psychotherapy](#)
- [BACP Ethical Guidelines for Researching Counselling and Psychotherapy](#)

The documents ensure that everyone who works or volunteers for Survivors Manchester has a set of guidelines that ensure confidentiality is respected.



All information we collect, whether paper or electronic records is private and confidential, including any referral forms, assessments, client records and outcome forms; and the process of collecting, storing and retrieving your information must be secure.

You have the absolute right to expect any information collected that contains data on you must be kept private and stored securely. You also have rights to confidentiality under data protection, human rights legislation and the common law.

Why do we keep information?

Survivors Manchester keeps information about you to enable us to provide safe and effective services, which meet both your needs and the needs of the community we serve.

Therefore we need to collect demographic information such as:

- [Ethnicity](#)
- [Age](#)
- [Gender](#)
- [Employment](#)
- [your GP practice](#)

and clinical information such as:

- [diagnosis](#)
- [type of service accessed](#)
- [scores on clinical measures](#)
- [health conditions](#)

Your information is stored either in paper form, in locked filing cabinets in a secure location, or electronically on a secure server with restricted access via username and password.



How do we use your information?

Your worker, their supervisor/manager and admin worker will usually be the only people authorised to access your information. These workers are authorised so they can record data in the relevant place and system that will help us ensure we are providing an effective service for you.

Other members of the management team may need to access your information to investigate complaints, incidents or to audit services.

Information is also used more generally to monitor performance and evaluate the effectiveness of services; in these circumstances your name and any other details which may identify you will be removed prior to analysis and publication.

An example of when we would use this type of data would be in our annual report, which we are required to submit every year to the Charity Commission; or when we are reporting to our funders on the activities we have delivered.

When can you share your information?

Sometimes we will need to share information to people outside of Survivors Manchester who are involved in your care. This would include people like your GP or agencies and organisations within your care plan that are there to help you safeguard your health and wellbeing.

We will discuss with you about sharing information with these people and seek your permission first. You will be informed of the type of information shared in this way the reasons for it.

However, there are times when we may have to share information without your permission. These situations would be when:

- there is a serious and immediate risk of harm to you or others (e.g. children and vulnerable adults); or
- information is required to be used in court and a court order has been issued by a judge

We always aim to discuss any breach of confidentiality with you when we need to share information, however we cannot guarantee this. It is important to us that we make this transparent as possible.

Your information will not be shared with anyone else without your written consent, which is why we ask you specifically during assessment if there is anyone or any agency you would like adding to the list of 'consent to share information'.

All our staff and volunteers are required to adhere to our confidentiality and information security policies. If anyone breaches our data and confidentiality policies, we will inform you and we will take appropriate action.

How do you see the information we keep on you?

You have the absolute right to view the information we keep about you. It is good practice for us to show you this information and explain it if necessary.

You should ask your worker if you can see a record of your access to the service and would only refuse if they feel that it could harm you or someone else if you viewed the information.

You may also obtain a copy of the information we keep about you or authorise a third party to be provided with your information.

However there are some exceptions to this and depending on the work involved you may be charged a fee.

Please note also that we cannot provide private reports.

Privacy Statement

When you request information from Survivors Manchester or sign up to any of our services, Survivors Manchester obtains information about you. This statement explains how we look after that information and what we do with it.

We have a legal duty under the Data Protection Act to prevent your information falling into the wrong hands. We must also ensure that the data we hold is accurate, adequate, relevant and not excessive.

Normally the only information we hold comes directly from you. Whenever we collect information from you, we will make it clear which information is required in order to provide you with the information, service or goods you need. You do not have to provide us with any additional information unless you choose to. We store your information securely on our computer system, we restrict access to those who have a need to know, and we train our staff in handling the information securely.

If you have signed up to a class or other service we will also pass your details to the professional worker providing that service. That worker may hold additional information about your participation in these activities.

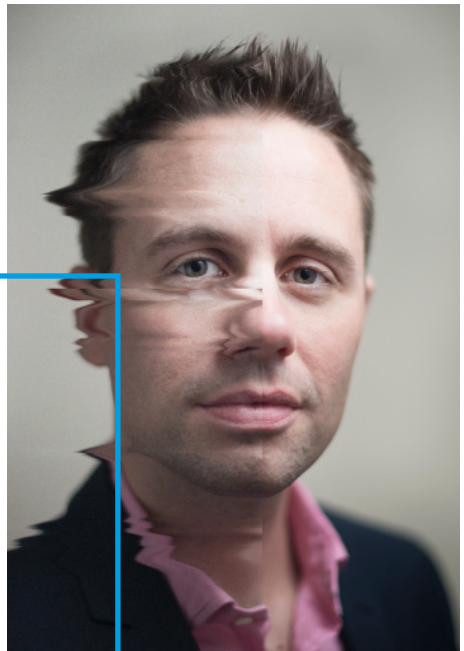
We would also like to contact you in future to tell you about other services we provide, to keep you informed of what we are doing and ways in which you might like to support Survivors Manchester. You have the right to ask us not to contact you in this way. We will always aim to provide a clear method for you to opt out. You can also contact us directly at any time to tell us not to send you any future material.

You have the right to a copy of all the information we hold about you (apart from a very few things which we may be obliged to withhold because they concern other people as well as you).

To obtain a copy, either ask for an application form to be sent to you, or write to the Information Governance Lead at Survivors Manchester.

There is a charge of £10 for a copy of your data (as permitted by law).

We aim to reply as promptly as we can and, in any case, within the legal maximum of 40 days.



For further information please contact
Chris Speed
Operations & Information Governance Lead
P.O Box 4325
Manchester
M61 0BG
info@survivorsmanchester.org.uk
0161 236 2182