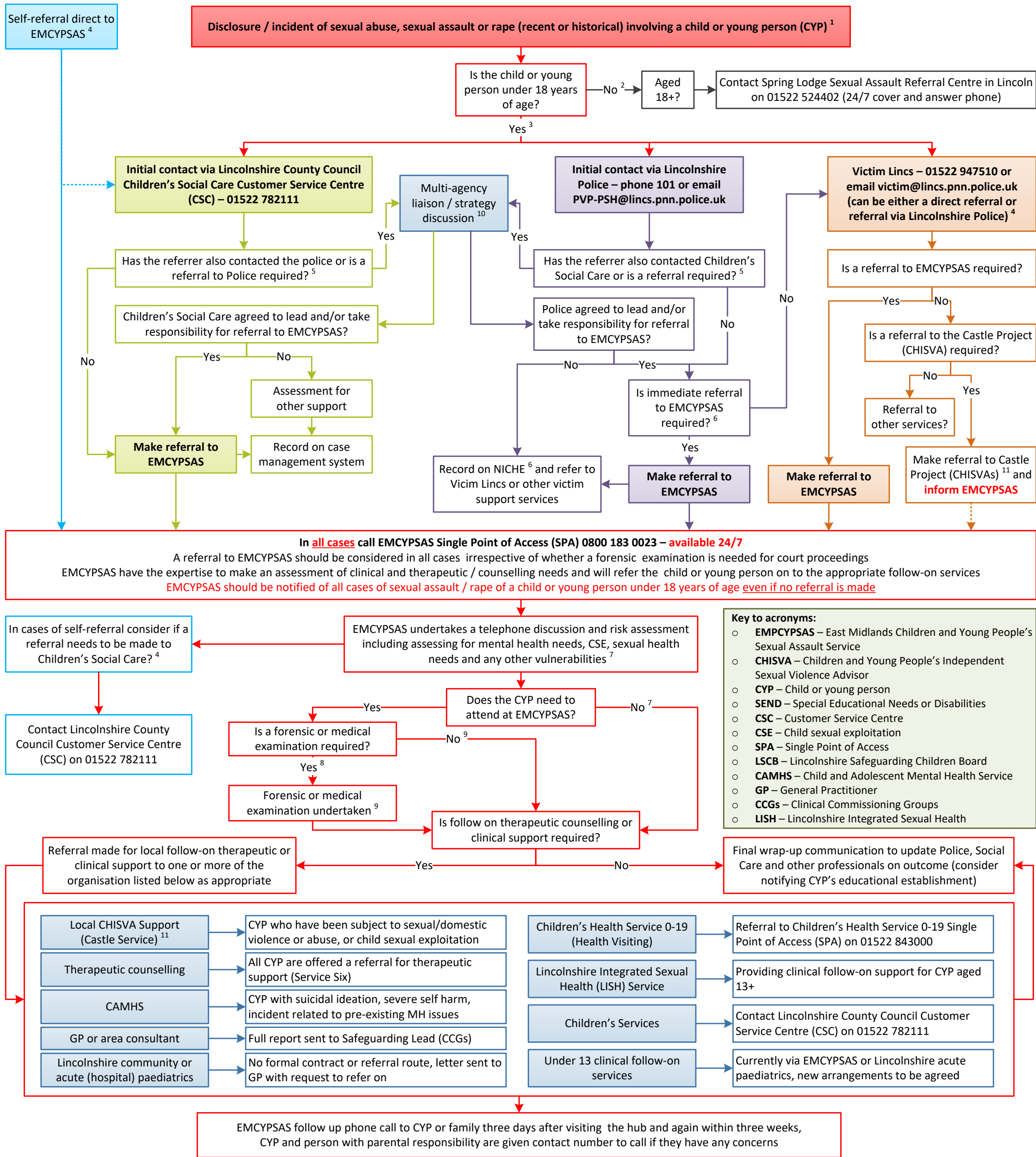


Lincolnshire Paediatric Sexual Assault Referral Pathway (v6.0)



¹ See Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) Policy and Procedures. If you're unsure what steps to take please go to the LSCP website <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/safeguarding/lscp>

² Young people under the age of 18 cannot choose the Adult SARC Service but must be referred to EMCYPSAS. **In cases where a young person over 18 and under 25 has SEND the referrer should consider and discuss with the agency whether Adult or Paediatric SARC is the more appropriate.**

³ Recipient of disclosure can refer to either Children's Social Care, Lincolnshire Police or Victim Lincs, professional to make judgement on most appropriate route in line with LSCB Policy/Procedure. A referral to Victim Lincs does not require police involvement where the CYP does not wish this (see <https://lincolnshire-pcc.gov.uk/victim-services-and-information/victim-lincs> for more information).

⁴ Use Fraser guidelines to assess competence to give consent. If there is a safeguarding issue EMCYPSAS will refer to Children's Social Care or the CYP may choose to do so themselves. If the parent might be the abuser, if there is more than one parent then other parent should provide consent, in any safeguarding scenario where CYP is at risk of significant harm then consent may be overridden in order to protect the child.

⁵ Often both Children's Social Care and Police will be involved in the case and a strategy meeting or discussion should take place at this initial stage. Therefore, check if referral has already been made to other agency and if not consider whether a referral should be made. Agree which agency takes responsibility for referral to EMCYPSAS. Do not assume this has been done.

⁶ Use EMCYPSAS referral template; referrals to other services such as Victim Support may be made at the same time. **Only in cases where the incident does not require immediate forensic, medical or therapeutic examination or follow up Victim Lincs may complete an initial needs assessment upon request by the police. In most cases this would be in respect of cybercrimes, on line grooming etc. but VL should also consider whether a referral to EMCYPSAS is required if further information indicates it would be appropriate.**

⁷ Crisis Support Worker (CSW) completes a Risk Assessment with referrer over the phone, ascertains any additional needs and whether parent/person acting in place of parent can provide consent. CSW arrange strategy discussion between referrer and Doctor/Forensic Medical Examiner. If a forensic examination or medical examination are not required, an assessment for other services can be done over the phone.

⁸ Appointment timing will depend on whether case is acute (i.e. happened within 21 days) or non-recent. Police, Victim Lincs or Social Worker must ensure the CYP is transported (along with any parent or carer as appropriate) to EMCYPSAS and either attend with them or ensure that another officer/suitable professional attends with them. For referral through other agencies or self-referral the professional advising should ensure that the CYP is able to attend EMCYPSAS and if it is not possible for them to directly support the CYP to attend, they should contact the Police, Victim Lincs or Children's Services.

⁹ A forensic or medical examination (FE / ME) is not always necessary. FE includes a risk assessment for HIV/Hepatitis B, PEP, pregnancy testing, emergency contraception, STI screening, self-harm and exploitation. The examiner obtains the history from Police/Social Worker and consent for exam from CYP or parent/carer. ME (head to toe check) consists of similar checks including risk assessment and referral at request.

¹⁰ If allegations involve a person who works with the CYP, referral should be made to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), call 01522 554674 (answer phone out of hours) or use online LADO Referral Form on LSCB website..

¹¹ Referral for victim support from the Castle Service CHISVAs can be made via Victim Lincs on 01522 947510 (Mon-Fri, 8am-4pm) or call the out of hours Supportline for free on 08 08 16 89 111.