



Survivors' experiences of reporting to the police

These are honest, real accounts of experiences reporting to the police. Please be mindful that all experiences are different, and just because one was bad does not mean yours will be.

'When I reported even though the verdict ended in not guilty I did have quite a positive experience with the police, when I first reported the 2 officers were amazing and my OIC made sure throughout the whole process everything was in order and every form of evidence was taken, she kept in regular contact with me etc, they also ensured I have my ISVA contact me within 48 hours which was fantastic, the only thing I will say is the day of the verdict as I didn't attend court I had a call from my officer to tell me it was not guilty and she assured me she'd check on me a few days later (never heard anything back which affected me more as I felt like I was dropped like a fly) when I had my ABE interview done it was a male officer who questioned me and he assured me to not blame myself and we had a good chat once the interview finished and he reassured me a lot because in those moments I couldn't even be in a room with a male on my own it was petrifying! Overall, my experience was good, but it definitely could have been better. I feel like I failed during the trial as they allowed my abuser to have 9 family members in court the day I was called up and I was only allowed my mum which made 0 sense to me. I definitely think there needs to be more support for survivors when reporting to the police, especially as trusting the police nowadays is incredibly more difficult.'