

## Client confidentiality

I respect your privacy and entitlement to client confidentiality. I abide by the BACP's Ethical Framework and as part of this have regular supervision such that I work as effectively, safely and ethically as possible. When discussing my casework your identity will be protected.

There are situations however when I would be legally required to break confidentiality. These are:

- If I became aware of any information which I knew or believed might help prevent an act of terrorism or bring a terrorist to justice in the UK. (The Terrorism Act 2000)
- If I became aware of drug trafficking and money laundering I may be required to report this. However I would seek legal advice to clarify my position on this. (The Drug Trafficking Act 1994, Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 and the Money Laundering Regulations 2007)
- If a girl under the age of 18 tells me that she has undergone Female Genital Mutilation or I see signs or symptoms indicating she has undergone FGM I am obliged to report it to the police (The FGM Act 2003)
- Under s.21 of the Road Traffic Act 1991, if the police require information about the driver of a vehicle at the time of an offence, I would be required to give it and failure to do so would be considered a criminal offence by myself.
- If I were issued a Serious Crime Disclosure Order by the courts under the Serious Crime Act 2007. This would require me to disclose, usually to the police or a court, information and documents relevant to an enquiry about a serious crime. Refusal to answer the questions of a court may constitute contempt of the court.

There are other times when I **may** break confidentiality:

- If I believe you or somebody else is at serious risk of harm or death and it is not already known to the relevant authorities.
- Where a serious crime was, is being or will be committed that the relevant authorities are not aware of. Serious crime would include such things as murder, manslaughter, child abuse, rape, kidnapping, as well as crimes that pose a threat to the security of the state or involve financial crime on a substantial scale. In cases such as these I will endeavour to work with you to agree how to disclose such information.