1.0 Summary of Changes

1.1 This is a new joint policy for Essex Police and Kent Police to support the existing updated procedure/SOP.

2.0 What this Policy is About

2.1 SCAS forms part of the National Crime Agency’s (NCA) operational directorate and provides a national service for investigators of serious sexual offences. Its main objective is to use data collected from police forces to identify the potential emergence of serial killers and serial rapists at the earliest stage of their offending.

*Compliance with this policy and any linked procedures is mandatory.*

3.0 Statement of Policy

3.1 SCAS relevant case criteria - SCAS case criteria include offences which are attempts (unless specified otherwise) and crimes against any victim regardless of gender, age or occupation, etc.

3.1.1 Stranger or Unknown relationship – SCAS details this is where the offender is a stranger to the victim or where the relationship between them is unknown:

- All murders with a sexual element;
- Murders with an unknown motive, in consultation with SCAS management;
- All rapes;
- All abductions with a sexual element (does not include attempts);
- All lesser sexual offences with the following aggravating factors:
  - Presence of a weapon;
  - Excessive violence;
  - Burglary.

3.1.2 Known but no previous sexual relationship - this is where the victim and offender are known to each other, but they have not had a previous sexual relationship:

- All murders with a sexual element.

3.1.3 This policy is devised to:

- Provide the definition of and Procedure/SOP for SCAS;
- Provide comprehensive guidance to officers and staff in relation to SCAS;
- To ensure investigating officers notify SCAS when a crime under investigation meets the criteria.
3.1.4 Investigating officers under any doubt as to whether a crime under investigation meets the SCAS criteria should consult with the Kent / Essex SCAS contact officers.

4.0 Implications of the Policy

4.1 Finance / Staffing / Training / Other

4.1.1 SCAS contact officers require training and accreditation to perform the role. Training is completed out of force and there is a cost element for the training delivered by NCA SCAS.

4.2 Risk Assessment(s)

4.2.1 This policy is detailed as medium risk.

4.3 Equality Impact Assessment

4.3.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and shows the proposals in this policy would have no potential or actual differential impact on grounds of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, transgender, disability, age, religion or belief or sexual orientation.

5.0 Consultation

5.1 The following were included in the consultation during the formulation of this document:

- National Crime Agency – SCAS section.
- Major Crime
- Public Protection Unit
- SOIT
- Unison
- Federation
- Equality and Diversity Co-ordinator
- Health & Safety
- Strategic Change Team
- PSD Superintendent
- Policy/Risk

6.0 Monitoring and Review

6.1 This document will be monitored and reviewed yearly by the policy owner within SCD.
7.0 Related force policies or related procedures (Essex) / linked standard operating procedures (Kent)

- S 4101 Procedure/SOP – Serious Crime Analysis Section

8.0 Other source documents, e.g. Legislation, APP, partnership agreements (if applicable)

8.1 There are no other source documents.