

1. Background

Financial abuse is the term used to describe harming someone by taking or defrauding them of their money, goods or property.

Financial abuse is never acceptable no matter how minor it may seem – it is a crime.

2. Why it matters

Adults at risk of harm are people aged 18 or over who are unable to protect themselves from harm or exploitation due to learning or physical disabilities, sensory impairment, frailty or mental health problems.

3. Information

Financial abuse can happen to people anywhere and at any time and affects people from all types of backgrounds.

It can happen in a person’s home, care home, day centre, hospital or in a public place.

7. Report a Concern

During office hours you can report work or non-work-related concerns through the Prevention Locality Safety Manager (LSM) or in their absence the DGM (This process is outlined in the policy on the intranet and in Corp docs #232.)

If it is personal issue and you do not want to report via work, you can do this via the Adult Social Care Team within the Local Authority of

6. Questions to Consider

Look out for:

- An unexplained ability to pay for household shopping or bills;
- Personal possessions which go missing from the person’s homes; and
- Living conditions are low compared to the money the person receives

4. Definition of Financial Abuse

Financial abuse is the use of a person’s property, assets, income, funds or any resources without their informed consent or authorisation. It includes theft, fraud, exploitation, undue pressure in connection with wills, property inheritance or financial transactions. It is also the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or

5. What are the signs of Financial Abuse

Unexplained withdrawals from the bank, unusual activities in bank accounts, unpaid bills, unexplained shortage of money. Reluctance on the part of the person with responsibility for the funds to provide basic food and clothes etc., an unusual interest from a family member, friend, carer or salesperson in the financial affairs of the adult at risk



7 Minute Briefing

