



The audit of 24th August 2022 reviewed the records of six adults who were identified through Adult Safeguarding under the theme of Financial Abuse. The aim of the audit was to ascertain whether there were good multi-agency standards for managing cases and whether organisations have implemented a robust and consistent response in line with statutory and good practice guidance, SGSAB policies and procedures and the six key principles underpinning all adult safeguarding work.

The adults reviewed for this multi agency audit are aged between 31 and 96. Five of them are male and one is female. 4 of the adults live in their own home and 2 in a residential home.

The adults in the audit have a range of issues including end of life care, romance fraud, theft/fraud by family members, mental health needs, cuckooing, substance misuse, dementia, debt

- What we are worried about?**
The audit group saw concerns in terms of:
- Vulnerability of people as repeat victims
 - Lack of flagging on GP records
 - 'Revolving door' of repeat circumstances and cycles not being broken
 - Reports from a family member about potential fraud not being reported to the police
 - Disclosures were not reported appropriately by professionals

There has been a 350% increase in fraud crimes since the start of the covid pandemic

Organisations that audited their involvement with the six adults were: Adult Social Care, Sirona, NBT, Next Link, Avon & Somerset Police, SWAN Advocacy, GPs, AWP



Theme: Romance Fraud
This is in the top five fraud type seen by the police.

- More common to be a male victim
- Additional vulnerability for someone who is widowed
- Victims are groomed and believe they have a genuine friendship or relationship with the perpetrator – 80% are international offenders

Professionals can refer to VOCAS (victims of crime advocacy) for support
Click here for more information

Make sure that family reports are taken seriously and referrals made on their behalf

Third party concerns are treated in the same way by police as if the victim shared this themselves

Multi Agency Quality Assurance Audit: Financial Abuse August 2022

REMEMBER!
Any professional can call a multi agency meeting to share information to improve the support for an adult

- What Good Practice did we see?**
- Referral from Bank to Police when money being withdrawn that seemed unusual
 - Social Prescribing for an adult by GP
 - Engagement with wider family as a protective factor
 - Good joint working with Adult Social Care and Police
 - Protocol established between Banks, Trading Standard and Police about sharing information and action when financial concerns identified
 - Good multi agency response with the right referrals made, although remains currently

Click these shapes for more information

Refer to VOCAS
Click Here

The A&S Police Fraud Team can provide Awareness Raising Sessions
Click here to email them

Exploitation of Adults Training
Click here