Newham Safeguarding Adults Board – Cuckooing

NEWHAM SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

Signs of Cuckooing: High volume of unknown visitors; multiple unknown vehicles parked; damage to property; more litter/ rubbish; increased criminality in local area; anti social behaviour, victim's social isolation; unexplained victim's injuries; unusual financial behaviour; change in presentation and behaviour; subtle signs such as: excessive amount of mail and packages being delivered.

Definition of Cuckooing: Leeds university research (2024) define Cuckooing as highly exploitative and predatory practice that involves vulnerable people being conned, coerced, controlled or intimidated into sharing, providing or offering up their accommodation to others.

Targeting Residences

Criminal tactics include: distributing drugs or using a residence as a hub for other illegal activities; enabling unlawful rentals; breaking in to commit theft; and pressuring victims.
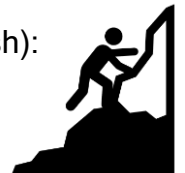
Preventative Strategies

Cultivate a sense of professional curiosity; promote efficient and prompt information exchange; maintain high standards in documentation; provide education to the community; remember to focus on your own professional growth.

7 Minute Briefing

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Risk factors

These include complex or transient vulnerabilities; health challenges or disabilities; reliance on support or being in recovery; a background of being in care; financial hardship; involvement in sex work; belonging to a marginalized community; lack of engagement with services; a history of abuse experienced by the victim; and issues related to housing.

Assistance for Victims is

provided by Local authorities; Police; London Fire Brigade; Ambulance services; Housing support; Community safety partnerships; Primary and Secondary care providers.

Steps to Take if Cuckooing is Suspected

- Make a safeguarding referral to Adult Social Care (ASC): ASCsafeguardingconcerns@newham.gov.uk

- Submit a referral to the police (Operation Monkash): NEMailbox.OPMonkash@met.police.uk

- Contact the Community Safety Department

- Call 999 if there is immediate danger!

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