

## Appendix 4 - Checklist to identify any vulnerabilities the service user may have which may increase their risk of exploitation

Vulnerabilities	Yes	No	Unsure	Comments
<p><b>Drug/Alcohol dependency</b></p> <p>Is the victim accessing a drug/alcohol service for support?</p> <p>Do you have consent to contact service providers to ask about the victim's engagement, change of behaviour, drug usage if you are unable to get the information from the service user?</p> <p>Are you seeing signs of increased drug usage, lack of engagement and change of behaviour? (All indicators the service user is being exploited and a victim of cuckooing.)</p> <p>Does the service user's capacity fluctuate when they are under the influence?</p> <p>Is the service user dependent on the perpetrator?</p>				
<p><b>Mental health</b></p> <p>Does the person have a mental health condition such as depression, anxiety disorders, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, neurodevelopmental?</p> <p>Does the person pose a risk to themselves or anybody else?</p> <p>Have you seen a deterioration in the persons mental health, have they stopped engaging in support or stopped taking their medication? All this information is important to highlight when making a safeguarding referral.</p>				
<p><b>Brain injury, cognitive problems, dementia</b></p> <p>Are you able to have a conversation with the service user about your concerns?</p>				

<p>Does the service user get confused or show drowsiness?</p> <p>(If you do not think the person has capacity to understand what you are asking with consent, you could ask to speak to their GP to see if there is a diagnosis or any history you need to be aware of to support a safeguarding referral.)</p> <p>Can the person retain the information you share if you ask the person a question about what information you have provided? (Long term alcohol or substance misuse can cause cognitive problems. If the service user is being exploited, they may not understand they are a victim.)</p>				
<p><b>Physical health</b></p> <p>Including conditions such as diabetes, epilepsy, heart problems, COPD.</p> <p>Does the person's physical health impact their ability to leave the property? (Some perpetrators may offer informal care such as offering to take the person shopping, go to the bank.</p>				

If you have identified the person has vulnerabilities, you will need to add them to the safeguarding referral form and consider how the persons vulnerabilities impact their wellbeing and ability to keep themselves safe. Consider when and what methods would be the best way for adult social care to contact the service user. Add any recommendations to the referral form/email.