

# Wigan Safeguarding Adults Board & Community Safety Partnership

## Multi-agency Guidance - Cuckooing



**WIGAN BOROUGH  
COMMUNITY SAFETY  
PARTNERSHIP**



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## Overview

### Who is this guidance for?

This guidance is primarily aimed at frontline staff who work with vulnerable adults. It can also be used as a source of information and advice to support individuals, families, carers and members of the public.

### Who has produced this guidance?

This guidance has been produced by a Wigan Safeguarding Adults Board Task and Finish Group with members of Wigan Borough Community Safety Partnership, established to respond to the need to address cuckooing cases across the borough. This guidance was produced following a multi-agency audit into cuckooing cases within the Wigan Borough.

### What is this guidance for?

This guidance is to raise awareness of the issue of cuckooing and provide a framework for agencies to work to when dealing with cuckooing cases. It seeks to promote a consistent approach and to ensure there is an effective multi-agency response which supports victims, alongside action to prevent, disrupt and reduce cuckooing in the borough.

## What is Cuckooing?



Cuckooing is a form of crime in which offenders take over the home of a vulnerable person in order to use it as a base for organised criminal activity. This criminal activity could involve offences relating to drugs, sexual abuse, and weapons. Criminals might also use the property to store money or stolen goods, or simply as a place to sleep. The crime is named for the Cuckoo's practice of taking over another bird's nest for its young.

Cuckooing is a form of criminal exploitation. The criminals are very selective about who they target as 'cuckoo' victims and are often entrepreneurial. Some examples of who could be victims of 'cuckooing' can be drug users, can include older people, those suffering from mental or physical health problems, female sex workers, and those living in poverty.

Once perpetrators gain control the risk of domestic abuse, financial abuse, sexual exploitation and violence can increase. Cuckooing can also be linked with county lines activities. County Lines are criminal operations where illegal drugs are moved from one area to another by people who have been coerced into criminal activity by gangs, and this can often involve children or younger people.

It is common for perpetrators of cuckooing to have access to several addresses. They move quickly between vulnerable people's homes for just a few hours, a couple of days or sometimes longer. This helps the gangs evade detection. By cuckooing, the criminals can operate from a discreet property, which is out of sight, making it an attractive option. They can use the premises to conduct criminal activity under the police radar.

Cuckooing is not only a criminal justice issue but a significant public health concern because it arises from overlapping social determinants of health e.g. poverty, housing insecurity, substance misuse, mental ill health, and social isolation. These factors increase vulnerability and perpetuate cycles of harm, exploitation, and poor health outcomes. Framing cuckooing as a preventable harm supports proportionate universalism: targeting resources where need is greatest while maintaining universal safeguarding standards. This approach enables partners to align prevention funding, reduce health inequalities, and strengthen resilience in communities most at risk.

In terms of terminology cuckooing may also be described as 'Home takeover'.

## Other forms of Abuse

Victims of cuckooing can often be exposed to other forms of abuse that can include:

- modern slavery and trafficking
- physical abuse
- neglect (including self-neglect)
- domestic abuse
- psychological abuse
- emotional abuse
- sexual abuse (including exploitation)
- financial abuse

## Who's at risk?



Criminals are usually selective about who they target. But there are a number of common vulnerability factors that make individuals more likely to be at risk of cuckooing. Individuals or families who show signs of cuckooing, should be considered at the greatest risk where they:

- have previously or are currently experiencing neglect, physical and/or sexual abuse
- have a lack of a stable home environment (now or in the past, for example through homelessness)
- have experienced domestic abuse, parental substance misuse, mental health issues or criminality
- are socially isolated, lonely or experience social difficulties
- are economically vulnerable (such as having debt, experiencing poverty, or are poor at financial management)
- have a physical disability, autism, or a learning disability
- have mental health issues
- have substance misuse issues (in particular Class A dependent drug users)
- are or have been in care
- have connections with other people involved in gangs
- have dementia
- live in an area of social deprivation which is also exposed to violent crime and gang-related activity
- are known to the police / have a criminal record
- unaccompanied minors (aged 16 to 18)6

Alongside the vulnerability factors already listed, certain groups face compounded risks due to health inequalities and barriers to support. These include migrants with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF), unpaid carers, individuals recently discharged from inpatient mental health or drug treatment services, and victims of violence against women and girls (VAWG). People in these circumstances may experience heightened isolation, financial hardship, and fear of statutory services, making them more susceptible to exploitation. It is essential to consider cultural and language access needs at every stage e.g. providing professional interpreting, translated materials, and advocacy support to ensure

communication is clear, consent is informed, and safeguarding interventions are equitable and inclusive.

Cuckooing and Adult Exploitation relies upon a power imbalance. Victims are often isolated from their support networks, families and those that care about them. They may feel responsible for what is happening, and they may feel terrified of the consequences of speaking up.

Mental capacity under [Mental Capacity Act 2005](#) is a factor in safety planning with, or on behalf of, adults who are at risk of cuckooing. The adult's mental capacity in respect of the specific concerns associated with the case should be discussed. If there are doubts about the person's capacity, then a mental capacity assessment should be undertaken in relation to this decision.

## The signs of Cuckooing



Frontline workers are best placed to observe the signs of cuckooing. There are several signs that may indicate an individual could be subject to cuckooing. Signs to look out for, outlined below, indicate a greater level of risk:

- ✓ usually takes place in a multi-occupancy or social housing property
- ✓ an increase in number of comings and goings / people entering and leaving at all times of the day and night
- ✓ increase in cars or bikes outside - offenders will often have new vehicles outside the property, or frequently use taxis or hire cars
- ✓ possible increase in anti-social behaviour in and around the property
- ✓ increase in litter outside including takeaway food containers etc
- ✓ disengagement with support services/healthcare services
- ✓ the property may appear almost sparse of valuable possessions inside and go into a state of disrepair
- ✓ signs of drug use
- ✓ people entering the property who are not normally associated with the resident/s
- ✓ unknown individuals pressing the buzzers to gain access to shared buildings
- ✓ resident/s leaving the property for extended periods of time or sleeping at other places, or seen sleeping rough or begging on the street



- ✓ resident/s seen carrying or having weapons, weapons being stored close to the door etc.
- ✓ damage to doors and windows
- ✓ doors and windows are propped open
- ✓ increased need for lock changes
- ✓ significant changes in physical health or emotional wellbeing of the resident/s
- ✓ resident is withdrawn from social networks
- ✓ signs of physical assault or unexplained injuries to the resident/s
- ✓ unexplained acquisition or gifts of money, new clothes, or new mobile phones
- ✓ family concerns for resident/s
- ✓ abandoned and broken bikes left outside property/in communal areas
- ✓ lack of food in the fridge
- ✓ kitchen appears to be unused for cooking
- ✓ drug paraphernalia such as snap bags, needles etc.
- ✓ curtains are being kept closed
- ✓ resident/s being accompanied by unknown people when attending appointments, and these people answering on the resident/s behalf
- ✓ resident disengaging with support agencies
- ✓ makeshift beds in the property

Frontline workers need to look out for signs that the resident has lost control over their home. Contractors should also be equipped to look out for warning signs, the rationale being that residents are less likely to be concerned about what a tradesperson might see or hear than a visiting housing officer or support worker. With an 'all-eyes' approach, visits can expose cuckooing cases a lot earlier.

As intelligence on cuckooing cases can come from a variety of sources such as neighbours, partner agencies and the wider public, it is important that frontline staff apply Professional Curiosity to explore and understand what is happening, rather than making assumptions or accepting things at face value. It is essential that appropriate referrals are made if there are suspicions, as this will help to build up the full picture of what is actually happening and ultimately help to safeguard the victim and the wider community.

## Impacts of Cuckooing

Often the person being cuckooed will be reluctant to raise concerns. Victims may be fearful of going to the police this could be due to fear of repercussions. They may also be fearful of being identified by agencies as being part of criminal gang or in cases of drug related activity of legal repercussions for any involvement.

There is a spectrum of harm, exploitation is widespread, and impact can be further broken down into material and personal consequences.

## Material consequences of cuckooing

This can include becoming homeless, facing criminal charges and loss of money or assets.

## Personal consequences of cuckooing

This can include escalating addiction, decline in mental and physical health, loss of dignity and self-control, and feeling powerless. Interventions of support are most effective when the victim is able to fully engage with services. In the interim it is essential to make sure there are regular checks on the safety and wellbeing of the individual. Subsequent to being cuckooed victims may need access to a range of services such as help with their drug addiction or support with managing any relapse. This too could be applicable to the mental health needs of a victim.

## Impact on the community

Cuckooing has a significant impact on the surrounding community. If a home is being used, the impact can include noise nuisance, increased rubbish, vandalism and vehicle movements. Residents in the wider community or direct neighbours can also experience a general sense of insecurity or fear of the perceived threat.





## Approaches on tackling cuckooing



Criminal exploitation including cuckooing puts the safety of vulnerable groups, including children and adults with care and support needs, and the wider community at risk. It is important individuals, communities and public services all work together to prevent and protect vulnerable groups and our communities from this harm.

Whilst cuckooing itself is not a crime, there are many types of interventions that can be used to tackle cuckooing ranging from informal to formal enforcement action. It is key that each case is dealt with on an individual basis.

Agencies should use the appropriate powers available to them in a coordinated way to tackle the issue and work together to support police interventions. The ultimate aim is to prevent cuckooing taking place at addresses in our borough. We want to make our communities safer and protect our vulnerable residents by disrupting and deterring gang-related drug dealing and violence, and reducing the antisocial behaviour associated with it.

Please note that for cases where we identify adults at risk who:

1. Have care and support needs (regardless of whether the local authority is meeting those needs)
2. Are experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect
3. Are unable to protect themselves as a result of those care and support needs

[Wigan Safeguarding Adults Policy](#) and procedure needs to be followed. Please see [How do I report abuse or neglect concerns?](#)

In addition to the above if you are concerned about the welfare or safety of a child please report this via the following link [Worried about a child?](#)

If someone is in immediate danger or a crime is occurring **always call 999.**

## Data Sharing



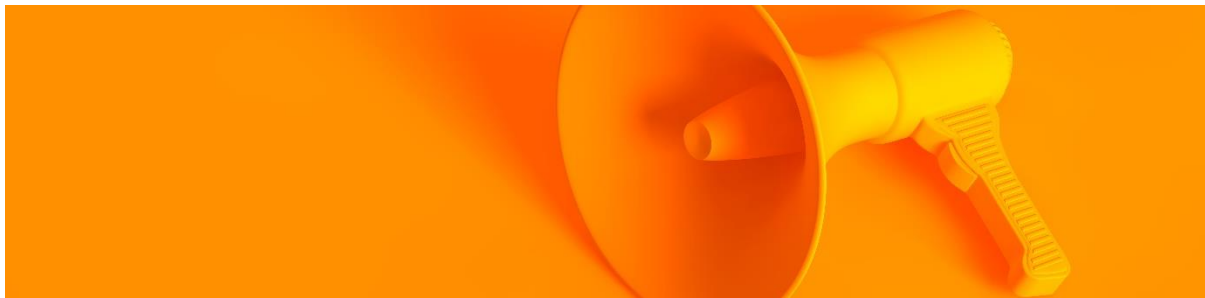
GDPR aims to refocus data protection to remind us that people are at the heart of the process; people whose personal information matters to them. It therefore gives people rights in relation to their information and also requires organisations and public bodies to operate in a fair, lawful and transparent manner when they, for example, obtain and collect; use, share and publish; store, archive and delete people's personal information. But the GDPR also specifically recognises that "data protection" should not be an excuse to prevent proper sharing of personal data. It reminds us that we can, and sometimes we have a legal obligation to share personal information. Information sharing can be vital in emergency situations.

## Collecting Evidence

Earlier in this document the signs to look out for in cuckooing cases were outlined. It is essential that these concerns are recorded accurately and submitted to Police to build a picture of concern at properties.

Not all neighbours or members of the community are willing to provide evidence, so it is essential that all agencies promote reporting and encourage the use of anonymous routes such as those offered via Crimestoppers. The use of diary sheets should be encouraged as this gives a structured approach to the collation of evidence. These cannot be accepted anonymously however agencies can protect the identity of the witness through giving third party evidence in court.

## Raising the awareness of Cuckooing



By raising awareness of the methods used by criminals, cuckooing victims and the signs to look out for, the aim is to protect vulnerable people from becoming involved in the first place or to help them get out of the often dangerous situations they might find themselves in and encourage people to report information about cuckooing to the police. There is a lot of work underway to tackle exploitation across the borough but there is a growing need for people in the community and frontline staff to report any suspicious activity in neighbourhoods.

A key priority is protecting the vulnerable and by knowing what to look for, residents and frontline staff can help to build up a clear picture that will be used to inform enforcement and safeguarding activity. It is important to use a wide range of methods to raise awareness of cuckooing. This includes social media, posters in key locations with high footfall, or locations where more vulnerable parts of the community access regularly, at community events, neighbourhood days or community safety promotion days.

The wider the reach, the more awareness there will be of the issue and signs to look out for. Preventative and targeted interventions include the collation and analysis of data enabling agencies to profile those most likely to be targeted by perpetrators and in the areas, it is most likely to take place. This allows the police and their partners to raise awareness to deter cuckooing taking place or stop it before it escalates. This sends a message to perpetrators that such activity will not go undetected, especially if the key message is 'see it, report it'.

### Reactive Interventions

There is a need for robust working practices to deal with premises that have been cuckooed. This includes gathering intelligence, executing warrants, closing premises quickly and using the ASB Act powers, when necessary, to bring relief to neighbours, supporting vulnerable or displaced residents and taking direct action against perpetrators of crime.

Please be aware for powers to be used under the [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014](#) require the test for Anti-social behaviour to be met.

In this Part of the act "anti-social behaviour" means—

- a. conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person,
- b. conduct capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person's occupation of residential premises, or
- c. conduct capable of causing housing-related nuisance or annoyance to any person.

Therefore, it is important to discuss these options with expert support to ensure we are communicating effectively and managing expectations, this will likely involve advice from legal teams.

There are a number of legal remedies that can be used to stop activity at a property, if, for example the resident/s do not or are unable engage with services, they do not see themselves as a victim and as a result cannot disconnect themselves from the perpetrators, or if they are too frightened to take any action themselves.

This can include:

**Injunctions and exclusion orders** - These are normally used when there is an urgent and pressing need that must be addressed or where there is a significant risk. If there is extreme violence then the police will take appropriate action. However, when the activity is putting other vulnerable residents at risk, a landlord is able to seek immediate action through the courts. An injunction is an order which tells someone that they have to do something or that someone is prohibited from doing something. An exclusion order prevents someone from living in the property. An exclusion order is useful when the resident/s are too frightened to tell perpetrators to leave a property and puts the onus on the court telling that person(s) that they have to leave. If breached, then there is a risk of imprisonment.

**Closure orders (full or partial)** - In the more extreme cases, the council and Greater Manchester Police will work together to obtain closure orders on the cuckooed properties. Closure orders restrict who can enter the property. These can either be a full or partial closure. Breaking a closure order is a criminal offence punishable by imprisonment, meaning that the police can immediately arrest those found to be in a property who have been prohibited from being there as stated in a closure order. Closure orders provide landlords with mandatory grounds for possession. However, this process can take some time for cases to be heard by the courts and legal costs are incurred

**Community Protection Notices** - are intended to stop a person or a body (e.g. a business) continuing with conduct which unacceptably affects victims and the community. They can be issued by authorised persons such as council officers, police officers, police community support officers (PCSOs), and social landlords. They can be issued in circumstances where there are reasonable grounds to believe the subject's conduct:



- is having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, and
- is unreasonable, and
- the behaviour is of a persistent or continuing nature.

Before a Community Protection Notice can be issued, the subject must be given a written warning stating that a Community Protection Notice will be issued unless their conduct ceases to have the detrimental effect. Failure to heed to the warning after sufficient time and where that effect continues, may then lead to the issue of a Community Protection Notice requiring them:

- to stop doing specific things and/or
- to do specified things and/or
- to take reasonable steps to achieve a specified result where those requirements are reasonable and have the aim of either preventing the effect of the conduct, or reducing it, or reducing or preventing the likelihood of it continuing or recurring.

A failure to comply with a Community Protection Notice without a reasonable excuse is a summary offence carrying a penalty on conviction of a fine, or alternatively, an authorised person may issue a Fixed Penalty Notice. Items used in the commission of an offence on any premises may be seized under a Warrant and may, following conviction, be ordered to be handed over for destruction or disposal in another way. A right of appeal against a Community Protection Notice or its terms can be made to a Magistrates' Court within 21 days of issue



**Civil injunctions** - are a powerful remedy that can be ordered at the discretion of a civil court. They can offer fast and effective protection for victims and communities and set a clear standard of behaviour for perpetrators, stopping the person's behaviour from escalating. Only local authorities, social landlords or the police are able to apply for an injunction in respect of the 'housing-related' provisions, where it concerns a person's occupation of residential premises.

**Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBO)** - These focus on more serious offenders who engage in criminal activity as well as anti-social behaviour. It can only be issued in conjunction with a sentence that is already imposed or if the individual has a conditional discharge. The order will either prohibit specified acts or require the offender to participate in specified acts, for example, attendance at a course to reduce behaviour. Before imposing an order, the court must be satisfied that the



offender has engaged in such behaviour causing harassment or distress and making the order would encourage the offender to stop said behaviour.

An example of when a CBO may be issued would be when an individual has committed a drug-related offence and as part of the order has to attend a course educating offenders on the effects of substance abuse. Failure to comply is a criminal offence and as such can result in imprisonment and/or a fine.

**Criminal Justice Outcome:** Albeit cuckooing is not a standalone offence many other criminal offences may form part of cuckooing, for example assault, fraud etc.

**Modern Slavery:** Cuckooing is an emerging form of modern slavery. Modern slavery is a serious crime that violates human rights. Victims are forced, threatened or deceived into situations of subjugation, degradation and control which undermine their personal identity and sense of self.

Modern slavery encompasses:

- human trafficking
- slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour
- The definition of a victim of human trafficking, slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour is set out in [the Slavery and Human Trafficking \(Definition of Victim\) Regulations 2022](#)

Further information around Modern Slavery can be found on attached link: [Modern Slavery: statutory guidance for England and Wales \(under s49 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015\)](#)

In cases of suspected modern slavery [designated first responder agencies](#) are required to notify the home office about any potential victims of modern slavery. Agencies will make a referral to either the national referral mechanism or (in cases when consent is not given by the person at risk) the Duty to Notify (DtN). More details can be found here: [National referral mechanism guidance: adult \(England and Wales\) - GOV.UK](#)

**Crime and Policing Bill 2025:** Although not yet an act of parliament this bill aims to create a standalone offence for cuckooing. More details can be found below around the proposal and via the link in the footnote on the following page.

Under proposals within the bill, it will be an offence to control a person's dwelling in connection with criminal activity without that person's consent. A person cannot consent to control of their dwelling if: they are under 18 years old; do not have capacity to give consent; have not been given sufficient information to enable them to make an informed decision; have not given consent freely; or have withdrawn their consent. The consent of an occupant may not freely be given where it is obtained by coercion, deception or other forms of abusive behaviour.

## Putting the person at the centre of interventions

In many cases the resident does not see themselves as a victim of exploitation, and they find it hard to break away from the perpetrators. It is essential that the right agencies are able to provide the right type of support to help the victim reflect on their circumstances and work towards making an effective change to their lives. There are often significant levels of fear.

This can range from potential violence, to being afraid of being alone. Reassurance from agencies working with the victim is important to help them gain perspective. Safety planning is also key, helping the victim to identify the risks for themselves and also helping them to put in place mechanisms to reduce the risk. Much of the success of interventions does depend upon the desire or ability to make a change, and the 'trust' or professional relationship that the victim has with agencies they are working with.

**Relationship-based practices** - These are an effective way of supporting victims of cuckooing. The central characteristic of relationship-based practice is the emphasis it places on the professional relationship as the medium through which the practitioner can engage with and intervene in the complexity of an individual's internal and external worlds.

**Person-centred interventions** - These are a way of engaging victims and tailoring support to effectively meet the needs of and influence the victim to make changes for themselves.

Successful engagement depends upon making a connection with the victim. Having empathic understanding is important, as is explaining how you are going to support the victim so that there are realistic expectations about the professional relationship and the recovery process.

**Motivational interviewing (MI)** is a practical, evidence-based approach that can help reduce resistance and stigma when supporting individuals affected by cuckooing. It focuses on building a collaborative, non-judgmental relationship and empowering the person to explore their own reasons for change. Practitioners should use open-ended questions to invite discussion, reflective listening to show understanding, and affirmations to reinforce strengths. Summarising key points and highlighting the individual's priorities helps shift the conversation toward safety and control. These techniques create trust, reduce shame, and support the person in identifying steps they feel ready to take, which is critical for engagement and long-term recovery.

**Supporting the resident/s through managed moves** - This is used when the person at risk can engage, and other options have been exhausted. Social tenants will be required to have the support of Police and other relevant partners outlining the risk. It is essential while sourcing accommodation, that contact, and relationships are maintained with the victim. Care should be given to consider the

ongoing risks linked to the location of any future move, as cuckooing can be linked to organised crime. Moves may be through police led safe and well checks, or through other agencies visiting or support. A multiagency approach is essential to ensure interventions are coordinated and the victim is prepared for the move. An appropriate support package is important, so the victim has continuity of service interventions and is helped to make a new life in their new home. This should consider tackling isolation, keeping safe, making new positive connections etc. A managed move is also a way of protecting the security of tenure of victims if they are a social housing tenant. Options through the private sector can also be considered.

**Presenting as Homeless** – This option should always be a last resort having considered other options within this guidance; however, it is recognised that in some instances this approach is necessary to keep those at risk safe. If there is a significant risk of serious harm or risk to life and a household needs to flee their home, they can make an application to the Homelessness Solutions Team for an assessment [Homelessness](#). The team will review the full circumstances of the case whilst gaining advice from Police on the level of risk in their home and make a determination regarding homeless duty. When making a referral to the Homeless team careful consideration should be given around the location of any new accommodation an example would be a household is safe in borough, as a homeless application to another local authority may be necessary. A multiagency approach is essential to ensure interventions are coordinated and the victim is prepared for the move.

## Further Police Activity

Greater Manchester Police (GMP) is firmly committed to tackling cuckooing and associated offences. We recognise the serious impact these crimes have on vulnerable individuals and communities, and we work closely with partners to identify, disrupt, and prevent such exploitation. Through proactive enforcement, safeguarding measures, and community engagement, we aim to protect those at risk and bring offenders to justice.

As such regular intelligence searches will be undertaken and a regular multi-agency tactical meeting on a regular basis will be established to triangulate data around addresses where cuckooing is suspected. In addition to this the tactical meeting will establish new initiatives to raise the awareness of cuckooing. From this tactical meeting Operations will be directed both overtly and covertly to disrupt criminal activity linked with cuckooing.

Governance around such operations will remain with GMP Neighbourhood Policing Teams.

## What to do?

Please see below key considerations when handling cuckooing concerns in a multi-agency way, please use the above guidance when supporting those at risk to explore available options:

1. Is the adult at risk or anyone else in immediate danger? Is a crime in progress? – If yes **contact 999** and ensure the call handler is aware this is a case of suspected cuckooing
2. Is it safe to speak to the person at risk alone? Check the environment, are others around? Do we have concerns about Capacity?
3. Does the person at risk or others within the property have care and support needs. Are there any concerns for Children? – If yes report these concerns via Safeguarding to [Adult](#) or [Children's](#) services
4. Gather information:
  - ✓ Consider if the person at risk is under duress and afraid to speak
  - ✓ Take time to understand their concerns
  - ✓ Do we have concerns around the person's capacity?
  - ✓ Take note of the environment and living conditions
  - ✓ Who else lives at or frequents the address?
  - ✓ What partner agencies are already in contact?
  - ✓ Seek consent for engagement with wider partner services
  - ✓ Explain when we need to override consent
  - ✓ Consider factors outlined above around the signs of cuckooing
5. Submit intelligence to Police via 101, Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111, ensure you mention this is a case of suspected cuckooing. Use guidance above to outline signs of cuckooing. Partner agencies can utilise the Partner Intelligence form found in [appendix 1](#).
6. Ensure your internal systems are updated in line with your own policy
7. Email [preventionhub@wigan.gov.uk](mailto:preventionhub@wigan.gov.uk) requesting multi-agency checks for persons at risk – consider information received back and partner involvement
8. Consider convening a multi-agency meeting as soon as possible with key agencies to share relevant information, gather information from Police, Tenancy Related service and CRT
9. Create an action plan to mitigate risk and continue to work with partners as part of a multi-disciplinary team

## Further Information



For further information please see the below links:

[Programme Challenger - Cuckooing](#)

[Cuckooing and County Lines \(Exploitation\)](#)

[www.wigansafeguardingadults.org](http://www.wigansafeguardingadults.org)

[Cuckooing and homelessness | Homeless Link](#)

[Crime and Policing Bill: child criminal exploitation, cuckooing \(home takeover\) and coerced internal concealment factsheet - GOV.UK](#)

[National referral mechanism guidance: adult \(England and Wales\) - GOV.UK](#)

[Modern Slavery: statutory guidance for England and Wales \(under s49 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015\) and non-statutory guidance for Scotland and Northern Ireland \(accessible version\) - GOV.UK](#)

[Cuckooing and County Lines | The Salvation Army](#)

[What is Cuckooing? - Ann Craft Trust](#)

[Mental Capacity Act 2005 at a glance - SCIE](#)

[Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014](#)



# Appendix 1 (PiF)

Government Security Classification [GSC] : Official Sensitive when complete



## GMP Partnership Information Submission

**Introduction.** The following is to be read in conjunction with the GMP Partnership Information Form & is intended to provide a brief overview of the sorts of things that should/shouldn't be included, what GMP do with the information, the **importance** of including details of sources of information and how GMP protect their identity. There is an assumption that the principle of sharing information to try & prevent/detect crime is accepted and doesn't seek to 'make a case.'

**What should/shouldn't I submit.** The form **Should be used to:**

- Provide information that might indicate someone's involvement in committing crime, eg drug dealing, gangs etc. **(Not to report a specific crime or crime in progress)**

- Provide information that might indicate they are a potential victim of crime or vulnerable, eg cuckooing etc. **(Not where attendance of Police/Social Care/Child Services is required)**
- Details of suspicious vehicles/events **(where Police attendance not required)**
- Suspicious property (i.e. address where numerous bikes or new electrical equipment etc)
- Third hand reports that suggest the above (i.e. where someone tells you about anything that might fit the above)

**Shouldn't be used:**

- **For reporting of a crime by or on behalf of the victim (this should be dialled in)**
- **To replace existing referral procedures (particularly child & vulnerable person referrals)**
- **Where a response or attendance is time critical or time specific. Ring 999 or 101.**

**What happens to the report once I submit it** You should e-mail your report to the address shown on the form. This is a secure e-mail which is managed by the District Intelligence Support Officers. The Officers will assess the information for obvious immediate risk and (assuming no instant action required) undertake initial research to try and establish whether links to known addresses/subjects. They will input the report onto the intelligence system – they will precis or 'sanitise' the information where necessary to ensure the identity of the source is not obvious from reading the report. (The content of the full report is still accessible but only to those with a high enough access level – i.e. the intelligence team) The Officers will then determine where the information should be passed. (Investigation Team, Complex Safeguarding, Partner Agencies, Intelligence dept., other Forces, Neighborhood policing teams) This information might be actionable immediately, used to initiate an intelligence development plan, deemed not developable or not a priority but it will remain researchable considering new information so potentially of value later if not immediately.

**Disclosure of Intelligence for court** Without getting too technical intelligence is not evidence so the prosecution cannot introduce it into proceedings. We do however have a duty to ensure a fair trial so if we hold information on the intelligence system that either assists the defence or adversely affects the prosecution case we need to disclose it. This will usually be achieved by agreeing a 'form of words' with CPS to give to the defence/court that conveys the part of the information that is relevant in such a way the source identification cannot be deduced from the form of words given.

(There is then a procedure which very rarely has to be used if this is challenged by the defence – in short intelligence sources will not be disclosed) If there is information that is held on the intelligence system that later might be deemed as having potential evidential relevance then if it has come from a Police Officer/PCSO there would be an expectation they convert this to evidence by completing a statement. It could be that if the record made from something seen/heard firsthand by a professional from a partner organisation, the Intelligence Manager might authorise for you to be approached to see if you consent to providing a statement.

**This form is NOT intended to duplicate information that has already been reported through other legitimate means [recorded on police systems]** – (E.g. Child or Complex Safeguarding, Strat meetings, Reporting of a crime & calls for service) It is therefore for the Police to assess the information/intelligence received and their responsibility to ensure it meets a Policing purpose and is recorded/'reviewed in line with MOPI (Management of Police Information) & therefore compliant with the GDPR, Data Protection Act

**Will I get notified of the outcome of my information** The Intelligence team are used to dealing with information whereby the providers, by their very nature, don't want updating or acknowledging directly and protection of source details is paramount. This does often mean that the providers of information might be left wondering what the results were - please do not take a lack of acknowledgement as a lack of interest. It may well be some time down the line that information gets turned into results.

**Conclusion** The above can be summarised as acknowledging that staff from our partner agencies work within our communities on a daily basis and will see, hear and be told things that will contribute to putting the jigsaw together that is the crime intelligence picture.

**The partnership form is intended to be a simple way of passing that information to the local Police Intelligence Team. To re-iterate it is not intended to replace other reporting mechanisms & where information reported through existing channels it shouldn't be repeated on this form. It will be for the things you think might be of interest or potentially suspicious but doesn't require a call for service**

**NOTE – IF THIS INFORMATION RELATES TO AN ADULT/CHILD REFERRAL, LEADING TO A STRAT MEETING, THIS FORM IS NOT TO BE USED. SIMILARLY, IF YOU WORK ALONGSIDE A POLICE OFFICER/DEPARTMENT, IT IS THEIR OBLIGATION TO RECORD AS**

## Partner Information Form

Name & contact details of person completing this form and the organisation that you work for.

Person who has provided the information. name, DOB, address & telephone number:

Information provided:

Your Research: *In this section, you may add any research such as information you hold relating to the named individuals / addresses.*

**Provenance:** This is extremely important as it allows the police to assess the risks to the person providing the information.

What are the circumstances of how this information came to your attention? (During a home visit etc)

How did the informant find out about this information? (observed, told by another or overheard)

Is this information only known to the informant?

What is the risk to the informant should someone find out they have spoken to you about it?

Would the person providing the information be willing to speak to Police further?

Recipient:

Who, within the police, needs to know this information? (Safeguarding unit, Challenger, individual officer)

**Email the completed form to the relevant ‘District Intelligence Unit’  
for the area the information relates to.**

CoM Central District Intelligence Unit <a href="mailto:CoMCentralDIU@gmp.police.uk">CoMCentralDIU@gmp.police.uk</a> ;	Central
Manchester	
CoM North District Intelligence Unit <a href="mailto:CoMNorthDIU@gmp.police.uk">CoMNorthDIU@gmp.police.uk</a> ;	North
Manchester	
CoM South District Intelligence Unit <a href="mailto:comsouthdiu@gmp.police.uk">comsouthdiu@gmp.police.uk</a> ;	South
Manchester	
Wigan District Intelligence Unit <a href="mailto:WiganDIU@gmp.police.uk">WiganDIU@gmp.police.uk</a> ;	Wigan
Bolton District Intelligence Unit <a href="mailto:BoltonDIU@gmp.police.uk">BoltonDIU@gmp.police.uk</a> ;	Bolton
Bury District Intelligence Unit <a href="mailto:BuryDIU@gmp.police.uk">BuryDIU@gmp.police.uk</a> ;	Bury
Rochdale DIU <a href="mailto:rochdalediu@gmp.police.uk">rochdalediu@gmp.police.uk</a> ;	Rochdale
Oldham DIU <a href="mailto:oldhamdiu@gmp.police.uk">oldhamdiu@gmp.police.uk</a> ;	Oldham
Tameside District Intelligence Unit <a href="mailto:TamesideDIU@gmp.police.uk">TamesideDIU@gmp.police.uk</a> ;	Tameside
Stockport District Intelligence Unit <a href="mailto:StockportDIU@gmp.police.uk">StockportDIU@gmp.police.uk</a> ;	Stockport
Trafford District Intelligence Unit <a href="mailto:TraffordDIU@gmp.police.uk">TraffordDIU@gmp.police.uk</a> ;	Trafford
F District DIU <a href="mailto:fdiu@gmp.police.uk">fdiu@gmp.police.uk</a>	Salford

# Document Control

<b>Purpose</b>	Outlined below in overview section
<b>Author/s</b>	WSAB Risk, Complexity and Self Neglect Sub Group
<b>Date of Publication</b>	December 2025

Version	Date	Comments
v.1	Jun 2025	Initial Draft
v.2	Sept 2025	Second Draft with accessibility checks
v.3	Oct 2025	Third draft with details around Modern Slavery, NRM & Crime and Policing Bill 2025 / Further Accesability checks
v.4	Nov 2025	Fourth Draft with added sections around homelessness and additional accessibility checks
v.5	Dec 2025	Final Draft with WSAB / CSP members input