**Appendix 7**

**Signs of Possible Abuse – Adults at risk**

**Physical**

* No explanation for injuries or inconsistency with the account of what happened
* Injuries are inconsistent with the person’s lifestyle
* Bruising, cuts, welts, burns and/or marks on the body or loss of hair in clumps
* Frequent injuries
* Unexplained falls
* Subdued or changed behaviour in the presence of a particular person
* Signs of malnutrition
* Failure to seek medical treatment or frequent changes of GP

**Psychological**

* An air of silence when a particular person is present
* Withdrawal or change in the psychological state of the person
* Insomnia
* Low self-esteem
* Uncooperative and aggressive behaviour
* A change of appetite, weight loss/gain
* Signs of distress: tearfulness, anger
* Apparent false claims, by someone involved with the person, to attract unnecessary treatment
* Fearful, flinching or frightened of making choices or expressing wishes

**Sexual**

* Bruising, particularly to the thighs, buttocks and upper arms and marks on the neck
* Torn, stained or bloody underclothing
* Bleeding, pain or itching in the genital area
* Unusual difficulty in walking or sitting
* Foreign bodies in genital or rectal openings
* Infections, unexplained genital discharge, or sexually transmitted diseases
* Pregnancy in a woman who is unable to consent to sexual intercourse
* The uncharacteristic use of explicit sexual language or significant changes in sexual behaviour or attitude
* Incontinence not related to any medical diagnosis
* Self-harming
* Poor concentration, withdrawal, sleep disturbance
* Excessive fear/apprehension of, or withdrawal from, relationships
* Fear of receiving help with personal care
* Reluctance to be alone with a particular person

**Neglect**

* Malnutrition, weight loss and /or persistent hunger
* Poor physical condition, poor hygiene, varicose ulcers, pressure sores
* Being left in wet clothing or bedding and/or clothing in a poor condition
* Failure to access appropriate health, educational services or social care
* No callers or visitors

**Financial or Material**

* Missing personal possessions
* Unexplained lack of money or inability to maintain lifestyle/pay bills
* Unexplained withdrawal of funds from accounts
* Power of attorney or lasting power of attorney (LPA) being obtained after the person has ceased to have mental capacity
* Failure to register an LPA after the person has ceased to have mental capacity to manage their finances, so that it appears that they are continuing to do so
* The person allocated to manage financial affairs is evasive or uncooperative
* The family or others show unusual interest in the assets of the person
* Signs of financial hardship in cases where the person’s financial affairs are being managed by a court appointed deputy, attorney or LPA
* Recent changes in deeds or title to property
* Rent arrears and eviction notices
* A lack of clear financial accounts held by a care home or service
* Failure to provide receipts for shopping or other financial transactions carried out on behalf of the person
* Disparity between the person’s living conditions and their financial resources, e.g. insufficient food in the house
* Unnecessary property repairs

**Discriminatory**

* The person appears withdrawn and isolated
* Expressions of anger, frustration, fear or anxiety
* The support on offer does not take account of the person’s individual needs in terms of a protected characteristic
* Inappropriate remarks, comments or lack of respect

**Institutional**

* Lack of flexibility and choice over meals, bed times, visitors, phone calls etc
* Inadequate staffing levels
* People being hungry or dehydrated
* Inadequate medical care and misuse of medication
* Inappropriate use of restraint
* Sensory deprivation e.g. denial of use of spectacles or hearing aids
* Poor standards of care
* Lack of personal clothing and possessions and communal use of personal items
* Poor record-keeping and missing documents
* Absence of visitors
* Few social, recreational and educational activities
* Public discussion of personal matters
* Unnecessary exposure during bathing or using the toilet
* Absence of individual care plans
* Lack of management overview and support

**Domestic abuse**

* Low self-esteem
* Feeling that the abuse is their fault when it is not
* Physical evidence of violence such as bruising, cuts, broken bones
* Verbal abuse and humiliation in front of others
* Fear of outside intervention
* Damage to home or property
* Isolation – not seeing friends and family
* Limited access to money

**Forced Marriage**

* Surveillance by siblings or cousins
* Not allowed to work
* Unable to attend business trips or functions.
* Subject to financial control e.g. confiscation of wages / income
* Leaving work accompanied
* Accompanied to doctors or clinic
* Self harm
* Attempted suicide
* Eating disorders
* Depression
* Isolation
* Substance misuse
* Sudden announcement of engagement to a stranger
* Prevented from going on to further/higher education

**Trafficking/Modern slavery**

* Signs of physical or emotional abuse
* Appearing to be malnourished, unkempt or withdrawn
* Isolation from the community, seeming under the control or influence of others
* Living in dirty, cramped or overcrowded accommodation and or living and working at the same address
* Lack of personal effects or identification documents
* Always wearing the same clothes
* Avoidance of eye contact, appearing frightened or hesitant to talk to strangers
* Fear of law enforcers

**Self neglect**

* Poor environment – dirty or unhygienic
* Poor physical condition and/or personal hygiene
* Pressure sores or ulcers
* Malnutrition or unexplained weight loss
* Untreated injuries and medical problems
* Inconsistent or reluctant contact with medical and social care organisations
* Accumulation of untaken medication
* Uncharacteristic failure to engage in social interaction
* Inappropriate or inadequate clothing
* Very poor personal hygiene
* Unkempt appearance
* Lack of essential food, clothing or shelter
* Malnutrition and/or dehydration
* Living in squalid or unsanitary conditions
* Neglecting household maintenance
* Hoarding
* Collecting a large number of animals in inappropriate conditions
* Non-compliance with health or care services
* Inability or unwillingness to take medication or treat illness or injury