



## 1 What is **cuckooing**?

Cuckooing is when a drug dealer, or a person they might know, exploits a person with vulnerabilities by taking over and using their home to store, sell or use drugs, or for illegal activity.



## 2 How does it **start**?

A drug dealer, or someone known to you, will try to make friends with you. They may offer you free or cheap drugs and in return they will ask if they can use drugs, meet other drug dealers at your home, or keep drugs at your house. They might ask if they can stay with you or move in. They may invite others to stay without your permission.

You may be threatened physically or verbally if you do not allow this to happen and they may also threaten family members and people close to you.



## 3 The risks of **cuckooing**

If you, or someone you know, are the victim of cuckooing, it is important that this is reported so support can be offered.

If nothing is done about the situation it could lead to:

- Not feeling safe in own home
- Feeling unable to ask people to leave
- Being financially abused
- Isolated from friends and family
- Arrest and interview
- Associated with anti-social behavior

Once reported, the Specialist Outreach Team can work with you to help safeguard and support you.



## I'm at risk - what do I do?

In an emergency, **always call 999.**

If you are worried about cuckooing, you can report it to police on **101**, or online at **[hampshire.police.uk](http://hampshire.police.uk)**

If you don't want to give your name, you can contact Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**

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## Get further support

Call the Catalyst Specialist Outreach Team's Cuckoo Support Service on **07584 689517** or **07776 137237**

### For practical advice and support

Call Citizens' Advice Bureau on **03444 111 444**

### To talk through any issues or concerns

Call the Samaritans' free 24/7 helpline on **116 123** or email **[jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)**



# Cuckooing

## Could you be at risk?



HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT

**CONSTABULARY**

