**FINANCIAL ABUSE**

*What is financial abuse?*

**Financial abuse or harm is another name for stealing or defrauding someone of money, goods and/or property.**

Financial abuse can include: unreasonably limiting access to money or other resources; forcing financial responsibility onto a person; taking money from a person; withholding access to shared money; making someone account for everything they spend; making someone beg for money; preventing a person from being in education or employment; taking out loans or running up debts in the victim’s name; forcing a person to commit crimes for money; and not allowing someone to buy necessities, for themselves or their children including sufficient food.

**Financial abuse** is a common tactic used by abusers to gain power and control in a relationship. The forms of **financial abuse** may be subtle or overt but in in general, include tactics to limit the partner’s access to assets or conceal information and accessibility to the family finances.

Financial abuse can also be when the perpetrator is spending money needed to maintain the home, on themselves. Financial abuse may continue after a relationship has ended, through the withholding of child maintenance including theft, fraud, exploitation, coercion in relation to an adult’s financial affairs or arrangements, including in connection with wills, property, inheritance or financial transactions, or the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits.

*How to get help*

Speak to any member of College staff or speak to the College Safeguarding Team on 01226 216 142 or via email at safeguarding@barnsley.ac.uk

*Other support*

<nspcc.org.uk> – 0808 800 5000

Childline – 0800 1111 (24 hours)