

How to spot the signs of financial abuse



Monitor bills and check bank statements

If bills are left unpaid or large sums of money have been withdrawn from a person's bank account, this could indicate they're not managing financially or have been scammed.

Be aware of unusual or seemingly unneeded purchases in the home

These items could have been mis-sold by unscrupulous cold callers or telesales companies.

Look out for unexpected changes to the person's house

This could include incomplete renovations, missing valuables or workmen visiting to carry out unnecessary work.

Be aware of sudden new friends or acquaintances

In particular, be aware of those who the person says are inquiring about moving in, taking trips together or making joint financial commitments.

Check that large amounts of cash are not being kept in the home

This could be a sign that the person with dementia is withdrawing large amounts of cash, which will put them at unnecessary risk of theft.

Talk to the bank

If you are a carer of a person with dementia and have concerns about financial abuse or wrongdoing, please alert your local Bank Manager.

Where to go for further help and advice

- Planning your finances: Perpetual Guardian can advise you.
- General money management advice: cab.org.nz or consumer.org.nz
- Stop unwanted calls and junk mail: marketing.org.nz
- Avoid scams: scambusters.co.nz

Who to call to report abuse

- If a crime is committed call the Police. In an emergency (if someone is in danger of immediate harm or a crime is being committed) call 111. At other

times contact your nearest police station at police.govt.nz

- Age Concern have local offices throughout the country, and can provide information, services and advocacy.



Visit our website
www.perpetualguardian.co.nz

Call us on
0800 737 738