Mate Crime
For people with an intellectual disability
Our rights

We all have rights.
They are there to protect us.

Rights are rules or laws made to help and protect people, in their daily life.
You have rights at work, at home, and when you are buying things.
Your rights protect you from abuse.

We all deserve to be treated with respect, and to be safe.
When we stand up for our rights, we have responsibilities. We must make sure we don’t break the law. We must treat other people with respect.

When you use your rights you need to:

• Be polite
• Stay calm
• Think about what you are going to say
• Do not get angry, shout, threaten or be rude. Other people have rights as well.
What is Mate Crime?

Mate Crime is when someone pretends to be your friend but is not a true friend. They might get you to buy things for them. They might hurt you with their words or actions, and try to make you do things.

Mate Crime starts with someone making friends and being nice to you.

But later, they might “use” you instead of being a good friend.
What is Mate Crime?

You might have met them recently or you might have known them for a long time.

They could be a friend, family member, paid staff or another person with a disability.

Mate Crime is done by someone you know.

It can include:

1. Making you pay for things
2. Hurting you
3. Saying nasty things to you
4. Threatening you
5. Making you touch them, kiss them or do sexual things.
What is Mate Crime?

Here is an example:

If you had friends who only spend time with you when you have money. You pay for their drinks and food. They leave you with a mess to clean up.

That is not what a true friend would do.

Another example would be if someone made you sign up for a phone, or lend them money. You might not be able to pay for this.

That is not what a true friend would do.
What is Mate Crime?

Mate Crime can be:

If someone wants you to store something for them at your house. This could be bad because you might not know what it is.

If it is against the law, like drugs or something stolen, you could go to jail.

That is not what a true friend would do.
What is Mate Crime?

Mate Crime can be:

If someone makes you do sexual things you don’t want to do.

Someone who really cares about you would NEVER make you do this.

This **must** be reported to a trusted person.
What is Mate Crime?

Mate Crime can be:

Family members, workers or friends taking your money from you without asking.

It is your money. It should be left alone for you.
What is Mate Crime?

Mate Crime can be:

If someone makes you help them steal things. You could be arrested and go to court for stealing.
What is Mate Crime?

Mate Crime can be:

Someone that takes you out in his car to the shops, but he makes you pay him a lot of money for petrol each time.
What is a good friend?

It’s important to remember, not all of your friends want to hurt you or take advantage of you.

Most of your friends and family are good friends. They might all be good friends.

What is a good friend?

• A good friend will respect you, will keep you safe, and will not hurt you.

• A good friend will not make you pay for them.

• A good friend will not trick you.
What should you do if Mate Crime is happening to some one you know?

If you know someone with a Mate Crime problem, listen to them and try to help them.

Some people may not realise they are being “used”. They might believe their friend is really a good friend, but you can see they are a bad friend.

Maybe they are being hurt but don’t want to say anything. You can tell them to talk about it with someone they trust.

You could also tell someone you trust.
Your rights and responsibilities

Rights:

Remember, you have rights.

1. You have the right to be believed.

2. If you tell someone about Mate Crime, they must take you seriously.

3. You have the right to be safe and free from fear.
Your rights and responsibilities

Responsibilities

1. If something is wrong, report it!

2. Always tell the truth when you report a problem.

3. Look after yourself first. Look after your body and your money.

4. Tell someone you trust what has been happening.