

## **Joint statement**

### **Response to Safer Bristol Partnership and Bristol Safeguarding Adults Board Thematic Mate Crime Review 2018**

Alison Comley, Chair of the Safer Bristol Partnership, and Louise Lawton, Chair of the Bristol Safeguarding Adults Board said

‘On the 26th March the Bristol Safeguarding Adults Board and Safer Bristol Partnership published a thematic review of the city’s response to Mate Crime. Mate Crime involves the exploitation and targeting of vulnerable adults by people they often believe to be friends.

The report considered the experiences of Derrick, a 51 year old man who died of natural causes but who had experienced Mate Crime in the year leading up to his death. The review identified areas for the partnerships to strengthen their work in this area including increasing the public and professionals’ awareness of these crimes so everyone is able to identify abuse and access support at the earliest opportunity.

It is vital that everyone in the city works together to safeguard adults from Mate Crime. We are committed to working together to deliver improvements based on the report’s recommendations. If you are concerned that you or someone you know may be the victim of Mate Crime, contact the police on 101 or access support through the Bristol Hate Crime & Discrimination Services <https://www.bhcds.org.uk/>’.