



## What is Economic Abuse?

**Economic Abuse** is a legally recognised form of Domestic Abuse and is defined in the [Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#) as:

‘Any behaviour that has a substantial adverse effect on (a victim’s) ability to acquire money or other property, or obtain goods or services’

### Examples of Economic Abuse

- Using credit cards without permission
- Taking out credit cards or other financial commitments in a partner’s name
- Gambling with assets relating to both parties
- One partner controlling what the other can spend or limiting how much money they have
- Restricting access to food, clothing or transport
- Denying the means to improve someone’s economic status e.g. controlling access to employment, education and/or training
- Refusing to contribute to household costs
- Destroying expensive items on purpose

Economic Abuse is designed to reinforce or create economic instability. In this way, it limits [the victim’s] choices and ability to access safety.

*(Surviving Economic Abuse, 2022)*

### Where can I go to find more information?

- [Splitz Support Services](#) – Wiltshire’s commissioned Domestic Abuse service, offering practical help and support including this [Toolkit](#) on how to survive Economic Abuse
- In Wiltshire, you can call:
  - 01225 775276 Mon-Fri 8am – 5pm
  - 01225 712880 out of hours (evenings and weekends)
- [Surviving Economic Abuse](#) – a charity offering advice and support regarding Domestic Abuse
- [Women’s Aid](#) – a national charity providing support for women and children
- [Refuge](#) – a national charity with information about how to spot types of Domestic Abuse and a 24-hour helpline

**1 in 6 women in the UK has experienced economic abuse by a current or former partner**

*(Surviving Economic Abuse, 2022)*