

Vulnerable customers UK

GUIDE.SUMMARY To comply with new regulation (the Consumer Duty) we need to identify vulnerable customers in the UK and ensure we are supporting them in a way that meets their needs. This guide covers how to identify and flag vulnerable customers, and how to ask for their consent to flag their account.

GUIDE.RELATED_LINKS Related articles: CSKB GUIDE1507 Helping members with accessibility issues

GUIDE1717 Identifying and handling complaints

GUIDE1409 How to use Agent Desktop (AD) - for instructions on how to add or remove issues Solutions SOL11664 Charity referral

SOL11665 Assistance of family/friend

SOL11666 Contact us by chat or email

<a href="https://cskb.vip.ebay.com/csKBapp/art?page=content&id=SOL11669&viewlocale=en

information for a charity/service provider who may be able to provide additional support. If the customer has previously received the appropriate charity/service provider information, you don't need to share it again. While you don't need to acknowledge the customer's vulnerability (if already recorded/flagged on their account), It is important that you tailor the way you support the customer based on their identified vulnerability. If a vulnerability has been removed from a customer's account and they contact again and make a vulnerability statement, do I flag the account again? Yes. To comply with Vulnerable Customer regulation we need to identify vulnerable customers in the UK and ensure we are communicating with them in a way that meets their needs. You will need to gain consent from the customer to record the vulnerability. It is important that you tailor the way you support the customers based on their identified vulnerability and provide the appropriate support. See the Detailed information section for a list of vulnerabilities and recommended actions. How does eBay support vulnerable customers? Depending on the type of vulnerability, we may offer one of the following options to support any additional needs the customer may have: Contact information for charities/service providers who may be able to offer additional support (depending on the vulnerability type) Alternative contact channel (where available). For example, we may suggest Chat or Email contacts for customers with hearing difficulties Recommend having a friend or family member available. For example, another person who can speak to us on their behalf See the Detailed information section for a list of vulnerabilities. Do I need to add specific notes to my SR as a record? Yes, please capture the following information in your SR note when you have received a contact from someone who has been identified as a Vulnerable Customer: Username: Vulnerability identified: Consent received (Y/N)? What support options have been provided to the customer? How do I add or remove a vulnerability flag from a customer's account? For detailed instructions on how to open/add or close/remove issues, see <a href="https://cskb.qa.ebay.com/cskbapp/art?page=content&id=GUIDE1409&viewlocale=e

n_US&curPage=art&prevPage=srp#issues">GUIDE1409. What is the TEXAS model/TEXAS protocol? The TEXAS model (or TEXAS protocol) is as follows: Thank the customer and advise them that the information they've shared will help you support them.Explain how you will use the vulnerability information they've shared.Explicit consent should be obtained to record the vulnerability they've shared.Ask questions to better understand how we can communicate with the customer (for example, chat or email).Signpost the customer to internal or external help, where appropriate. Do I need to send an email follow-up to the customer? Yes, teammates are required to send a follow-up email to the customer once the vulnerability has been identified and consent to record the information has been gained. The content of the email will vary depending on whether a referral to a third party charity is required to support the customer with the issues they are experiencing and/or if a friend/family member will be supporting the customer when they are communicating with eBay. A link to the email templates can be found below: SOL11669 - Vulnerable customer UK - acknowledgementSOL11664 - Vulnerable customer UK - charity referralSOL11666 - Vulnerable customer UK - contact by chat or emailSOL11665 - Vulnerable customer UK - support of friend or family CUSTOMER Why are you flagging

my account and will I be treated differently? To comply with new regulation (the Consumer Duty) we need to identify vulnerable customers in the UK and ensure we are communicating with them in a way that meets their needs. Depending on the type of vulnerability confirmed, we may offer a range of options to support any additional needs they may have.

Internal Information

- It is important that you tailor the way you support the customers based on their identified vulnerability

When our customers reach out to us in the midst of other external issues, they may also be expressing frustration or disappointment.

- It's important to take a breath between each contact to remind ourselves that each of our customers is experiencing emotions and pressures in their own unique way.

How long will you keep this information recorded on my account? Details of your [state vulnerability] will remain on your account for [state timeframe based on vulnerability]. However, you can request for this information to be removed from your account at any time.

Internal Information

- See the Detailed Information section for a list of vulnerabilities, timeframes and actions.

When you add a vulnerability flag to my account, is this visible to other customers/sellers? I am concerned about my privacy. We will only add a record to your account after we have received your consent. I would like to assure you that your personal information will be kept on our internal systems only and will not be shared outside of eBay. This also means that your information will not be shared with any other eBay customers. Do you know of any other charities besides the ones youve already shared with me? The list of charities/service providers is a sample of the services available within the UK. There are a wide range of services available and you can choose any service that you feel will provide you with the support that you need. I previously gave consent, but I no longer want this information recorded on my account. You can request for this information to be removed from your account at any time.

Internal Information

- See GUIDE1409 for instructions on removing issues in AD

I reached out to the charity/service provider you

recommended and I want to complain about them. Who should I contact? I understand your frustration with the situation, and I know what it is like when you dont receive the service you expected. I would encourage you to provide feedback to the charity/service provided based on your experience.

Internal Information

- If the customer is complaining about the service provided by a third party but is not dissatisfied with eBay, this should not be documented as a complaint.

I dont consider myself to be vulnerable. To comply with new regulation (the Consumer Duty) we need to identify vulnerable customers in the UK and ensure we are communicating with them in a way that meets their needs. We only make a record of this on your account with your consent. If you do not consider yourself to have/be [identified vulnerability], I can confirm that no record will be added to your account today.

GUIDE.DETAILED_INFORMATION Identifying vulnerabilities (this is not an

exhaustive list)

Category	Vulnerability	Phrase
Resilience	Financial hardship	I am struggling to pay my bills.
		I am not in a good position financially
		I am running low on funds
Health	Sight issues	I have trouble with my sight
		I am struggling with my eyesight
Health	Hearing issues	I have recently lost my hearing
		I am hard of hearing.
Health	Speech issues	I struggle with speaking
		I have speech issues
Resilience	Low income (<£20,000)	I dont get paid much
		I am on Universal Credit
Resilience	Low income (<£20,000)	I dont get paid much
		I am on Universal Credit

income/pay is low </td> </tr> </td rowspan="3"> Health </td> </td rowspan="3"> Mental illness </td> </td> I am suffering from mental health issues and
I am really struggling </td> </tr> </td> I have mental health issues.
</td> </tr> </td> I suffer from anxiety issues. </td> </tr> </td rowspan="3"> Health </td> </td rowspan="3"> Physical illness - terminal </td>
</td> I have been told that I only have a short time to live </td> </tr> </td>
</td> I am not going to recover from cancer </td> </tr> </td> My
illness means that I will not be around for too much longer </td> </tr> </td rowspan="2"> Health </td> </td rowspan="2"> Physical illness - temporary </td>
</td> I have recently had a car accident </td> </tr> </td> I have broken
my foot </td> </tr> </td rowspan="2"> Health </td> </td rowspan="2"> Physical illness - long term </td>
</td> I am unable to use my legs.
</td> </tr> </td> I am going through cancer treatment </td> </tr>
</td rowspan="4"> Health </td> </td rowspan="4"> Physical illness -
permanent </td> </td> I use a wheelchair </td> </tr> </td> I have
had my arm/leg amputated </td> </tr> </td> I have alzheimers disease
</td> </tr> </td> I have dementia </td> </tr> </td rowspan="3"> Capability </td> </td rowspan="3"> Reading/writing difficulties </td>
</td> I dont read well </td> </tr> </td> I struggle with writing </td>
</tr> </td> I am struggling to understand what is on the website </td>
</tr> </td rowspan="2"> Health </td> </td rowspan="2"> Addiction
</td> I have a gambling problem. </td> </tr> </td> I have a
drinking issue. </td> </tr> </td> Capability </td> </td> Lack of
English skills </td> </td> English is not my first language. </td> </tr>
</td> Life Event </td> </td> Bereavement </td> </td> My
husband/wife/son/daughter/close relative/close friend passed away recently. </td> </tr>

<tr> <td rowspan="2"> Capability </td> <td rowspan="2"> Low numeracy/literacy/financial capability skills </td> <td> I am not good at reading </td> </tr> <tr> <td> I am not very educated </td> </tr> <tr> <td> Life Event </td> <td> Caring for another </td> <td> I am a carer for my daughter/son/wife/husband. </td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2"> Age/Other </td> <td rowspan="2"> Age (can be young or elderly) </td> <td> I am struggling because of my age </td> </tr> <tr> <td> I dont have experience of this because of my age </td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3"> Health </td> <td rowspan="3"> Mental capacity </td> <td> I have schizophrenia </td> </tr> <tr> <td> I am bipolar </td> </tr> <tr> <td> I have had brain damage </td> </tr> <tr> <td> Life Events </td> <td> Recent immigrant </td> <td> I have recently come to this country because of the troubles back home. </td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="4"> Life Events </td> <td rowspan="4"> Ex-offender </td> <td> I have recently been released from jail </td> </tr> <tr> <td> I have just got out of a young offenders institute </td> </tr> <tr> <td> Armed forces returning from abroad </td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2"> Life Events </td> <td rowspan="2"> Redundancy </td> <td> I am out of work </td> </tr> <tr> <td> I have recently lost my job. </td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3"> Capability </td> <td rowspan="3"> Lack of computer literacy </td> <td> I struggle with using computers </td> </tr> <tr> <td> Lack of financial education/knowledge </td> </tr> <tr> <td> I struggle with financial matters </td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2"> Life Events </td> <td rowspan="2"> Domestic abuse </td> <td> My partner is hitting me </td> </tr> <tr> <td> I am scared of

my partner who shouts at me </td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2"> Health
</td> <td rowspan="2"> Spectrum related </td> <td> I am autistic </td>
</tr> <tr> <td> I am on the spectrum </td> </tr> <tr> <td>
Age/Other </td> <td> Other </td> <td> (Please explain in SR notes) </td>
</tr> </tbody> </table>

Timeframes and actions	Vulnerability type
Timeframe	Action
Age	
5 years	Charity referral
	Other
	Depends on issue
	Please ask colleagues (including Compliance) for support. The general principles of supporting vulnerable customers should be followed.
	Lack of computer literacy
2 years	Extra time and care, and recommend friend/family be available when they contact eBay
	Lack of English skills
2 years	Extra time and care, and recommend friend/family be available when they contact eBay
	Lack of financial education / knowledge
2 years	Extra time and care, and recommend friend/family be available when they contact eBay
	Learning difficulties
	Permanent
	Extra time and care, and recommend friend/family be available when they contact eBay
	Low numeracy, literacy, financial capability skills
2 years	Extra time and care, and recommend friend/family be available when they contact eBay
	Reading/writing difficulties
	Permanent
	Extra time and care, and recommend friend/family be available when they contact eBay
	Addiction
2 years	
	Charity referral
	Hearing issues
	Permanent
	Suggest email as contact channel

&td> Mental capacity &td>	&td> Permanent &td>	&td> Charity referral
&td>	&td> Mental illness &td>	&td> 2 years &td>
&td> Charity referral &td>	&td> Physical illness - long term	
&td>	&td> 3 years &td>	&td> Be sympathetic and follow the TEXAS model
&td>	&td> Physical illness - permanent &td>	&td> Permanent
&td>	&td> Be sympathetic and follow the TEXAS model &td>	&td>
&td> Physical illness - temporary &td>	&td> 6 months &td>	&td> Be
sympathetic and follow the TEXAS model &td>		
&td>	&td> Physical illness -	
terminal &td>		
&td>	&td> Permanent &td>	&td> Be sympathetic and follow the TEXAS
model &td>		
&td>	&td> Sight issues &td>	&td> Permanent
&td>	&td> Be sympathetic and follow the TEXAS model &td>	&td>
&td> Spectrum related &td>	&td> Permanent &td>	&td> Extra time and care,
and recommend friend/family be available when they contact eBay &td>		
&td> Speech issues &td>	&td> Permanent &td>	&td> Suggest email as
contact channel &td>		
&td>	&td> Armed forces returning from abroad	
&td>	&td> 2 years &td>	&td> Charity referral &td>
&td> Bereavement &td>	&td> 6 months &td>	&td> Charity referral &td>
&td>	&td> Caring for another &td>	&td> 5 years &td>
Charity referral &td>		
&td>	&td> Domestic abuse &td>	&td> 3 years
&td>	&td> Charity referral &td>	&td> Ex-offender &td>
&td>	&td> 2 years &td>	&td> Charity referral &td>
immigrant &td>		
&td>	&td> 2 years &td>	&td> Charity referral &td>
&td>	&td> Redundancy &td>	&td> 1 year &td>
Charity referral		
&td>	&td> Financial hardship &td>	&td> 2 years &td>
&td>	&td> Charity referral &td>	&td> Low income (&td>£20,000)
&td>	&td> 2 years &td>	&td> Charity referral &td>

Charity referrals			
Vulnerability	Charity		
Age			
https://www.ageuk.org.uk/?gclid=EAlalQobChMI5aSDIJuA-gIV1u3tCh3AdQA-EAAYASAAEgl_AvD_BwE	UK	(for older customers)	
https://www.youngminds.org.uk/?gclid=EAlalQobChMI36i-ypuA-gIVQurtCh2GSwLgEAAYAIAAEglv1fD_BwE	Young Minds (for younger customers)		
Addiction			
https://www.mind.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/	Mind		
https://www.actiononaddiction.org.uk/	Taking Action against Addiction		
		Mental capacity	
https://www.mind.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/	Mind		
https://www.rethink.org/	Rethink		Mental illness
https://www.mind.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/	Mind		
https://www.rethink.org/	Rethink		Armed forces returning from abroad
https://www.ssafa.org.uk/	SSAFA		
Bereavement			
https://www.cruse.org.uk/	Cruse	Bereavement Support	
https://www.thegoodgrieftrust.org/	The Good Grief Trust		
		Caring for another	
https://carers.org/	Carers	Trust	
https://www.bhsf.co.uk/employee-wellbeing-services/?gclid=EAlalQobChMIltuKP_JmA-gIVCeDtCh1deAD7EAAYASAAEglzCvD_BwE	BHSF		
Domestic abuse			
https://www.womensaid.org.uk/	Women's Aid		
https://refuge.org.uk/	Refuge		

	Ex-offender			
Support Line				
Bounce Back				
	Recent immigrant			
Migrant Help				
	Redundancy			
Redundancy Support UK				
StepChange				
	Financial hardship			
StepChange				
National Debtline				
	Low income (<£20,000)			
StepChange				
National Debtline				

Issue codes	Vulnerability	Age
1078	Other	1085
Lack of computer literacy		1084
Lack of English Skills		1074
Lack of financial education / knowledge		1086
Learning difficulties		1087
Low numeracy, literacy, financial capability skills		
Reading/writing difficulties		1072
Addiction		1073
Hearing issues		1064
Mental capacity		1079
Mental illness		

	1067	Physical illness - long term
	1070	Physical illness - permanent
	1071	Physical illness - temporary
	1069	Physical illness - terminal
	1068	Sight issues
	1063	Spectrum related
	1089	
		Speech issues
	1065	
		Armed forces returning from abroad
	1082	
		Bereavement
	1075	
		Caring for another
	1077	
		Domestic abuse
	1088	
		Ex-offender
	1081	
		Recent immigrant
	1080	
		Redundancy
	1083	
		Financial hardship
	1062	
		Low income (<£20,000)
	1066	