

Child Sexual Exploitation

Guidance for Licensed Premises



Child Sexual Exploitation involves;

Young people under the age of 18 being encouraged or forced into situations or relationships of a sexual nature by an adult. Often this involves the young person being offered something such as food, accommodation, alcohol, drugs gifts or money in return for performing sexual acts, including posting images on social media. It is not unusual that the young person experiences violence, coercion or intimidation.

Where can it happen?

Young people can be sexually exploited at any time in any location some examples of places are:

- Parks
- Shopping Centres
- Taxi Ranks
- Restaurants/Takeaways/Pubs/Clubs/Bars
- Gyms/Leisure Centres

How does this affect Licensed Premises?

As part of the grooming process adults may meet young people or take them to licensing premises to develop a relationship. A premises could therefore be misused for this kind of activity by the people socialising or working there.

What are your responsibilities?

Under the Licensing Act 2003, premises licence holders and designated premises supervisors have a legal responsibility to make sure that children and young people are protected from harm at their premises. It is therefore important that the risk of child sexual exploitation is managed at your premises. You may be aware of or have suspicions about a child being at risk if this is so it should be reported using the Police non-emergency number **101** or **Crimestoppers 0800 555 111**.

What to Look for:

- Taking/collecting young people (girls and boys) from Licensed premises
- Young people that look distressed, intimidated or frightened
- Young people under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- Men requesting regular taxi rides to and from locations with young people
- Young people with injuries such as bruising or blood stains
- Change in the personality, wellness or demeanor of a child you may transport regularly
- A young person displaying inappropriate sexualised behaviours
- Children or Young people being taken to areas of licensed premises that are not supervised or security checked.

What you need to do;

- Train staff to recognise indicators of child sexual exploitation and how to report concerns
- If possible monitor the premises with CCTV or security patrols
- Report suspicious activity to the Police
- Get descriptions of people
- Get car registration numbers, make and models of vehicles where possible
- Description of the activity that you are concerned about and the time it occurred.

Call **101** or **Crimestoppers 0800 555 111** to report any concerns about possible sexual exploitation.