

# CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

**SAY SOMETHING IF YOU SEE SOMETHING**

## What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

Young people under the age of 18 who are encouraged, trapped, forced or coerced into a sexual relationship or situation by an adult.

It often involves the young person being offered something in return for performing sexual acts, such as alcohol, cigarettes, gifts, money, drugs and affection.

Child Sexual Exploitation has become an issue which is affecting our community and could be happening around us, including where you work.

In the past few years, public awareness of child sexual exploitation has increased but too many children and young people are still victims. We have been working to raise awareness of the issue but we need the help of local businesses to protect children at risk of being exploited or help those who are already victims.

National and local evidence shows that CSE takes place in hotels, pubs, internet cafes and places licensed to sell alcohol and that taxis are used to transport young people who are then exploited. Therefore it is your responsibility to help protect children and stop the sexual exploitation of children from happening.

Although child sexual exploitation isn't always easy to spot there are signs to look out for which could indicate that it is taking

place where you work. If you come across a situation that looks or feels suspicious, talk to your supervisor and contact the police.

The important thing is not to ignore suspicious behaviour and to report anything that doesn't seem right.

Protecting children is everyone's responsibility. Remember, your observations and phone call can make all the difference to a sexually exploited child.

**DON'T IGNORE YOUR GUT FEELING THAT SOMETHING IS NOT RIGHT.**

**SAY SOMETHING IF YOU SEE SOMETHING**

Call **101**, quote Operation Makesafe.

[www.met.police.uk](http://www.met.police.uk)



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**PUBS, OFF-LICENCES, INTERNET CAFES AND TAKEAWAYS**

## WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR

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- Adults befriending young people including buying them food and drinks
- Adults who come in on their own and always target young people
- Adults who frequently come in with different young people
- Adults who come in with young people and meet other adults inside
- Adults buying alcoholic drinks which you suspect are for someone who is under 18 years old
- Young people with adults who are known or suspected to be gang members
- Girls or boys with older men or women who appear to be touching or behaving in an intimate way
- A young person looking concerned or frightened in the company of adults
- Adults giving young people presents such as jewellery, clothes, phones etc.

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