

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

What are your responsibilities working in the licensed trade?

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.

The guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, requires that children must be protected from “physical, psychological and moral harm”, so premises allowing persons under the age of 18 are expected to have systems in place to safeguard children and young people.

One of the risks at licensed premises is that of sexual exploitation. To minimise the risk to children and young people, premises need to have preventive systems in place.

What is child sexual exploitation?

Exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive something (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or another or others performing on them, sexual activities.

How might this involve licensed premises?

Premises providing goods or services that can be offered to children as gifts in exchange for sexual favours (for example, free food, drinks or cigarettes; free transport; free access to a venue in exchange for sexual favours) present risk if a groom is employed there (or works voluntarily) and has regular or private contact with children.

LOOK FOR for any signs of vulnerability

Are children looking scared or distressed-are they too young to be on their own

Are they looking lost

Make sure you understand THE Operation Makesafe poster

What to do if you have concerns about child sexual exploitation

Ring the Police on 101 (or 999 in an emergency)

Child Line 0800 1111 (24 hour helpline)

LOCAL COUNCIL

Our policy is to report any suspicious behaviour

This would be adults passing any goods to children in return for favours

Report such behaviour to police and childline and/or other referenced numbers above .

If you have any worries about a child's safety speak to THE DPS

Those best placed to consider what to do about your worries are the specialist professionals in the area the child lives. It is their job, in law, to help safeguard and protect children. It is vital that you discuss your concerns with those who are best placed regarding any concerns that you have, no matter how trivial they may seem initially.

Finally, if you think a child is at risk of immediate harm, please contact the police by calling 999