



Herefordshire
Safeguarding Children Board

Safeguarding Children and Adults

Safeguarding of both adults and children is everybody's business. Check at the point of booking/starting the journey if there are any vulnerability issues. This will allow you to prepare for the journey in the right way.

If you refuse to take a vulnerable passenger, inform someone that you can't take them so they can deal with the person another way (eg hospital staff; family; security staff if a club/pub). Record incidents and refusals.

What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is a form of sexual abuse that involves the manipulation and/or coercion of young people. It can involve young people being offered something in return for performing sexual acts e.g. alcohol, cigarettes, mobile phones, gifts, drugs money etc. Child Sexual Exploitation can occur anywhere, not just in big cities.

What to look out for

Taxi Drivers are well placed to spot children and young people who may be vulnerable and at risk of exploitation. Drivers may be concerned by:

- * More than one adult (for example two men) travelling with a child or children
- * Guests with little/no luggage going to hotels or repeat trips to the same hotel or address
- * Concerning conversations between children and adults in the taxi i.e. of an adult or sexual nature
- * Signs of alcohol / drug or substance misuse
- * A child may appear incoherent, or uncomfortable to act under instruction

Reporting Concerns

Phone 999 if a risk is imminent / assault happened or is likely to happen to a child or vulnerable adult.

If you think a child (or adult) is being harmed or is at risk, or if a child or adult tells you something that indicates they or another person may be at risk, report your concerns to either the Police or to the local authority's Social Care Safeguarding Teams. The Safeguarding telephone numbers are on the back of your badges and should be kept with you at all times in your vehicle.