

CABINET RESPONSE TO CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SELECT COMMITTEE

SURREY SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL SAFEGUARDING UNIT REPORT

(considered by C&ESC on 27 November 2014)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. That Surrey County Council actively engages with District and Borough councils and Surrey Police to consider how the risk of Child Sexual Exploitation can be reduced through regulatory licensing, in particular taxi licensing and in respect of activities described as "Licensable Activities" by the Licensing Act 2003.
2. That, given the crucial work of the Youth Support Service and Children's Services in supporting young people and children at risk of CSE and in reducing the risk of CSE, any future strategy and financial planning by Cabinet ensures that both services are suitably resourced to address CSE and safeguarding in Surrey.

RESPONSE:

The Safeguarding Unit welcomes the recommendation to take preventive steps in reducing the risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) through the regulatory licensing process. The Safeguarding Unit will work with the Safeguarding Board's CSE sub-group to engage with the Boroughs and Districts to raise awareness amongst licensed taxis and minicabs of the risks to children in Surrey. In addition, through its Child Employment Team which is responsible for reviewing licensed premises applications it will specifically address the dangers of CSE when considering applications and ensure that all staff within that team have received training in this field.

Mary Angell
Cabinet Member for Children and Families
16 December 2014

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