

## Child Criminal Exploitation

*Child Criminal Exploitation occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into any criminal or sexual activity. This will be carried out in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and /or for the financial or other advantage of the perpetrator or facilitator, and/ or through violence or threat of violence.*

*The victim may have been criminally exploited even if the activity appears consensual. Child Criminal Exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.*

*Criminal exploitation of children is broader than county lines and includes for instance children forced to work on cannabis farms or to commit theft.*

*Please consider that children and young people can be exploited by other young people as well as adults.*

### What you can do if you are concerned a child is being criminally exploited

Always tell someone about any concerns you might have about children at risk or suspected offenders.

Never assume someone else has passed on the information you have.

Duplicate information is better than none.

