

Doctor arranged to sexually abuse '10-year-old girl'

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<https://www.dorset.live/news/dorset-news/dorset-doctor-arranged-sexually-abuse-8213258>

A Dorset doctor attempted to travel to Surrey to sexually abuse a 10-year-old girl. But instead, Rupesh Seth was met by police officers and taken into custody.

Seth, 36, travelled from Wareham to Egham on November 12, 2020, believing he would meet an adult who would let him abuse their daughter. However, he was met by Surrey Police's Paedophile Online Investigation Team and the South East Regional Organised Crime Unit.

His phones were seized and police say indecent images of children were discovered. Seth was suspended from his GP practice after his arrest.

Seth, of Filleul Road, has now appeared before Guildford Crown Court after previously admitting attempting to arrange and facilitate the commission of a child sex offence, and three counts of making indecent images of children.

He has now been jailed for three years and three months. Seth was also handed an indefinite Sexual Harm Prevention Order.

Investigating officer Detective Constable Andy Grimwood, from Surrey Police said: "This was a joint operation conducted with the South East Regional Organised Crime Unit and thankfully, during this investigation, there was never a real life victim and no children were ever in any danger. This is a really good example of the way we can work in collaboration to ensure that offenders are identified and dealt with.

"This led to us uncovering images on Seth's phone which showed that he had an extremely active interest in indecent photos and videos of children. Obviously, this is of huge concern, particularly given his position of trust as a practising GP, and we ensured that we linked in with our partner healthcare agencies to ensure that any appropriate safeguarding measures could be put in place.

"I would also like to stress that the offence he was charged with did not involve any of his patients. Surrey Police is committed to fully investigating all offences of this nature and will always follow every line of enquiry to ensure that suspects are identified, located and brought to justice."

Detective Inspector James Oxley, of the South East Regional Organised Crime Unit (SEROCU), added: "I am pleased that Rupesh Seth recognised his guilt and, as a result, was convicted of these offences. By working closely with Surrey Police and other police forces in the South East, our specialist officers are able to ensure offenders such as Seth are brought before the courts, keeping children safe from harm."

If you have been affected by any of the issues raised in this article, you can contact Dignity4Patients, whose helpline is open Monday to Thursday 10am to 4pm.