

What is Prevent¹ and what should I do if I have a concern?

Prevent **SAFEGUARDS** vulnerable adults or children at risk of being radicalised to stop them becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. It safeguards people in the same way as safeguarding individuals from being drawn into sexual exploitation, gangs, county lines etc. Prevent works in the **non-criminal space** so those referred will not be criminalised. **Prevent is a multi-agency response** to offer support to individuals referred and deals with **all forms of extremism** such as Right Wing and Islamist extremist. The **referral process is:**

NOTICE

If you identify that a vulnerable person may be at risk of being radicalised or drawn into terrorism....
(NOTE: If there is an IMMEDIATE RISK of a terror incident taking place you MUST call 999 or the Anti-Terrorist Hotline 0800 789321)

CHECK

Ask relevant questions that will help you describe your concerns and any vulnerabilities the person may have e.g. by speaking with your line manager and/or your agency's Safeguarding / Prevent lead (see overleaf for examples of types of information you should attempt to check out)

SHARE

if your concern is valid then you MUST share the concern by following your agency's SAFEGUARDING procedures for making a safeguarding referral / reporting a concern. Use the links below (or your agency's internal systems):

- **Adults:** www.sunderland.gov.uk/safeguarding to complete a Safeguarding Adult Concern (SAC) Form. If you need any additional guidance or information, call 0191 5205552
- **Children:** www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/what-we-do-concerned to complete the Child protection/child in need/child care concern Referral Form. If you need any additional guidance or information you can speak to the Integrated Contact & Referral Team on 0191 561 7007 (available 8.30am to 5.00pm Monday - Thursday, 8.30am to 4.30pm Friday); or the Out of Hours Team on 0191 520 5552 (also available 24 hours Saturday and Sunday)

Make sure you state that you are making a referral under 'PREVENT' (risk of radicalisation).

Staff in the **Adult / Child safeguarding front door** will then make their named Prevent single point of contact (SPOC) aware that there has been a safeguarding referral made under Prevent.

The **Adult or Child Prevent SPOC** will then contact the referrer to ask them to complete the national Prevent referral form. They will assist the referrer to complete this if required. This form gathers more detail about the concern and how it is relevant to Prevent (i.e. risk of radicalisation) as well as anything in the individual's life that might be affecting their wellbeing or that might make them vulnerable.

The **Adult or Child Prevent SPOC** will then send the national Prevent referral form to the Police Prevent Team who will check that it is within the scope of 'Prevent' (i.e. that it is in the non-criminal space, before a crime happens).

The **Police Prevent Team** will then send a copy of the national Prevent referral form to relevant partner agencies with a request that they carry out an information sweep. **The Police Prevent Team** will carry out a Police Gateway Assessment (PGA) to decide if a case is appropriate for Channel. If it is, they complete a vulnerability assessment framework (VAF) to determine if the threshold is met for a Channel Panel

If CHANNEL PANEL **threshold is met** then a multi-agency Channel Panel is convened to address the risk of radicalisation. The Adult/Child Prevent SPOC chairs this panel

If CHANNEL PANEL **threshold is not met**, then the case is signposted to relevant partner agencies for other safeguarding support or early help

¹ Prevent is one of the 4 strands of the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST). It operates in the non-criminal space to safeguard anyone who is at risk of being radicalised or drawn into terrorism. The following agencies have a duty to report Prevent concerns: local authorities, schools and registered childcare providers, higher and further education, the health sector, police, prisons, and probation.

Prevent Referral Process: Last updated March 2020

For the **check and share stage**, attempt to check and collate information that can include, but is not limited to:

YOUR CONCERNS – Describe in as much detail as possible the specific concern(s) relevant to Prevent.

For example:

- How / why did the Individual come to your organisation's notice in this instance?
- Does it involve a specific event? What happened? Is it a combination of factors? Describe them.
- Has the Individual discussed personal travel plans to a warzone or countries with similar concerns? If so, Where? When? How?
- Does the Individual have contact with groups or individuals that cause you concern? Who? Why are they concerning? How frequent is this contact?
- Is there something about the Individual's mobile phone, internet or social media use that is worrying to you? What exactly? How do you have access to this information?
- Has the Individual expressed a desire to cause physical harm, or threatened anyone with violence? Who? When? Can you remember what was said / expressed exactly?
- Has the Individual shown a concerning interest in hate crimes, or extremists, or terrorism? Consider any extremist ideology, group or cause, as well as support for "school-shooters" or public-massacres, or murders of public figures.
- Please describe any other concerns you may have that are not mentioned here.

COMPLEX NEEDS - Is there anything in the Individual's life that you think might be affecting their wellbeing or that might be making them vulnerable in any sense? For example:

- Victim of crime, abuse or bullying.
- Work, financial or housing problems.
- Citizenship, asylum or immigration issues.
- Personal problems, emotional difficulties, relationship problems, family issues, ongoing court proceedings.
- On probation; any erratic, violent, self-destructive or risky behaviours, or alcohol / drug misuse or dependency.
- Expressed feelings of injustice or grievance involving any racial, religious or political issue, or even conspiracy theories.
- Educational issues, developmental or behavioural difficulties, mental ill health (see Safeguarding Considerations below).
- Please describe any other need or potential vulnerability you think may be present

SAFEGUARDING CONSIDERATIONS for example:

- Does the Individual have any stated or diagnosed disabilities, disorders or mental health issues? If so, has this been diagnosed.
- Have you discussed this Individual with your organisations Safeguarding / Prevent lead? What was the result of the discussion?
- If your concerns are sufficient that you want to make a safeguarding referral, have you informed the Individual that you are making this referral? If so, what was the response?
- Have you taken any direct action with the Individual since receiving this information? What was the action & the result?
- Have you discussed your concerns around the Individual with any other agencies?

OTHER INFORMATION you think may be relevant. For example: social media details, military service number, other agencies or professionals working with the Individual, etc...