



Title: Prevent Duty

UPDATED: 07/03/23: Developed by Debbie Greenough Community Safety Development Manager

1. What is the Prevent Duty? This was Introduced by the Counter- Terrorism and Security Act 2015. It requires specified authorities “in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. Local authorities, schools and childcare providers are among the specified authorities. Delivering the Duty includes: working in partnership; risk assessment; staff training; preventing misuse of public resources by extremists e.g. use of venues, protocols around use of IT.

2. Terrorism risk. The current threat to British Interests in the UK from International terrorism is SUBSTANTIAL (an attack is likely). The current threat to the UK mainland from Dissident Irish Republican terrorism is SUBSTANTIAL (an attack is a likely). There is also a risk from domestic extremism, particularly extreme right wing.

3. CONTEST (UK Counter-terrorism Strategy). Aims to reduce the risk to the UK and its interests overseas from international terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence.

- Pursue – to stop terrorist attacks
- Protect – to strengthen protection against terrorist attacks
- Prepare – where an attack cannot be stopped, to mitigate its impact
- Prevent– to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting extremism leading to terrorism

4. Prevent.

- Safeguards vulnerable individuals from involvement in violent extremism
- Challenges the ideologies used by extremists
- Works across sectors (e.g. education, health, internet) where there are concerns about radicalisation



7. Prevent Referral Process.

- Concern identified and discussed with Safeguarding or Prevent Lead.
- Concern referred to Prevent team at PreventReferrals@wiltshire.police.uk.
- Police intelligence gather information, assess risk and whether the individual is suitable for Channel (if there are additional safeguarding concerns please refer to MASH).
- If Counter Terrorism Policing South West Team deem the individual suitable for Channel support, they will refer to the Local authority Channel Panel.
- Local authority co-ordination of professionals appropriate to the individual.
- Panel meets to assess risk and determine whether individuals are adopted into Channel. If adopted, the panel will seek consent to engage and develop a support programme based on their needs. Panel will meet on a monthly basis to assess progress and amend support as required.

6. Myth busting. Prevent deals with all forms of extremism.

It is not about preventing peaceful protest or discouraging debate
Channel is about safeguarding. It is led by the Council, not the police. It aims to prevent people committing criminal offences. Referrals do not result in a criminal record.

Participation with interventions is voluntary.

5. Channel. Is the safeguarding process for children, young people and adults at risk of being drawn into terrorism or extremism leading to terrorism

Practitioners are encouraged to:

- **NOTICE** concerns
- **CHECK** them out
- **SHARE** them through a referral, if appropriate

Channel is pre-criminal. Support is tailored to individual needs based on a vulnerability assessment.



Further information/guidance

- You can email: SwindonCahnnel@swindon.gov.uk
- To know more about Prevent there is a free Home Office Prevent Awareness eLearning module which can be accessed from the SSP website [Prevent awareness - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)
- There are also some useful websites
- [Get help if you're worried about someone being radicalised - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)
- [Report terrorist or extremist content online – Action Counters Terrorism](#)