

Safeguarding against radicalisation: The Prevent duty

This factsheet is to help you understand what the Prevent duty is, why it is important and how you can help to support it.

What is the Prevent duty?

Part of the UK's national counter terrorism campaign is called Prevent. In 2015, the government placed a statutory duty on specific organisations including; local authorities, schools, colleges and universities, the health sector and police to ensure there are processes in place to:

- Safeguard vulnerable people from being drawn into radicalisation
- Support them with disengaging if radicalisation has already occurred

What is radicalisation?

Radicalisation is the process by which a person comes to adopt increasingly extreme political, social, or religious ideals. This can in extreme cases, result in condonation or support of terrorism.

What is extremism?

Extremism covers vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

How do we define terrorism?

In the UK, we define terrorism as an action used to further an ideological aim that:

- Endangers a person's life, other than that of the person committing the action
- Involves serious violence against a person
- Causes serious damage to property
- Creates a serious risk to the public's health and safety
- Interferes with or seriously disrupts an electronic system

Why do I need to know this?

To succeed in safeguarding our communities and the most vulnerable people within them, we must work together to be aware of the signs that may indicate radicalisation. If you notice that someone is displaying these signs, there are several ways you can ask for advice or make a referral. Most of the time things will be completely normal but if you have a concern it is important that you seek further advice.

What might indicate vulnerability to radicalisation?

Radicalisers prey on the need for self-esteem, achievement, meaning or identity, competence and control. Every case is different, but the following are possible indicators that someone might be at risk:



These factors in isolation don't necessarily mean someone is being radicalised, but a combination of these may lead to someone being at risk. If you are concerned there are several ways you can seek advice.

What if I have a concern?

- Speak to your designated safeguarding lead
- Call 101 or 01278 647466
- If you see or hear something terrorist related call the anti-terrorist hotline on **0800 789 321**
- Email: PreventReferrals@wiltshire.police.uk to make a referral

If you are a parent and would like to discuss a concern about a child, please contact the safeguarding lead at the relevant school.

Prevent is a supportive space and does not get people in trouble or criminalise them. It provides programmes of support for vulnerable individuals through avenues such as mental health, substance misuse, mentoring and housing services to help build resilience and prevent exploitation by those who seek to draw them into violent extremism or terrorism.

What if I find harmful information on the internet?

If you come across extremist material such as articles, images or speeches that promote terrorism or encourage violence, content encouraging people to commit acts of terrorism or videos of terrorist attacks you can visit the Action Counters Terrorism (ACT) web page to request its removal at:

<https://act.campaign.gov.uk/>.