

Extremism & Radicalisation Statutory Prevent Duty

A guide for Safeguarding Adults Practitioners

The *Statutory Prevent Duty came into force in 1 July 2015. It is a Legal Duty which requires certain organisations to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'.

If you work in the Council, or your organisation/service is funded by the Council or the NHS, the Statutory Prevent Duty applies to you and your organisation/service.

**Counter-Terrorism & Security Act 2015

Safeguarding adults with care and support needs

Radicalisation of adults with care and support needs is a form of emotional/psychological exploitation used to encouraging extremism.

The aim of radicalisation is to attract people to a particular extremist ideology. In many cases it is with a view to inspiring them eventually to become involved with extremist, harmful or terrorist activities.

As with other forms of grooming, Radicalisation is carried out over a period of time. Radicalisation can take place in person through direct contact, or indirectly online.

If you are concerned that an adult with care and support needs is at risk of being groomed by extremists or radicalised and drawn into terrorism, you should treat it as any other safeguarding concern.

1. **Report** your concerns to your line manager.
2. **Record** it as a safeguarding concern about emotional/psychological abuse. If there are concerns that the person has had physical threats or harm, then record as both emotional/psychological abuse and physical abuse.
3. Continue with the **safeguarding process** as usual, speak with your line manager. Cross reference the concerns with the "**Indicators of Concern Matrix**" (pages 4 - 6) to support your decision making.
4. **Consider** if the adult at risk needs to be referred to Channel. **The Indicators of Concern Matrix** attached can support your decision-making.
 - 'Cause for concern' - should be referred to Channel
 - 'Significant Cause for Concern' - should be referred to Channel.
5. To make a referral You / Your Manager should contact your Prevent Safeguarding Lead for your organisation/department or refer to the contact details as listed on page 3.

Some adults at risk may more be vulnerable to being exploited emotionally by extremists?

Social isolation can be common among people with disabilities. Extremists can manipulate people into feeling a sense of 'belonging'. As with many abusers, Extremists will aim to create the impression of attractive alternatives to bring people round to their way of thinking. Getting involved in extremist activities can seem appealing because it can give a sense of life purpose.

Learning disabilities or some types of mental health needs may make a person vulnerable. They may lack the ability to think critically compare ideologies or challenge what they are being told in person or online.

Extremists can exploit these vulnerabilities and draw people into Extremist or Terrorist activities. Through the safeguarding and/or the Channel process, these vulnerabilities can be addressed.

For example, social isolation can be addressed through a range of social services or Channel interventions.

What is Channel?

Channel is a multi-agency partnership process offering support and intervention at the earliest opportunity to stop people being drawn into extremism and/or terrorism. Channel is not a criminal process – it is designed to support people at the earliest possible opportunity before they become involved in harmful or illegal activity.

Who can refer to Channel?

Any professional can refer to Channel. Referrals are pre-screened for suitability by the Sutton Council Safer Sutton Partnership Service and the MET Police. If a referral is deemed suitable, it will be discussed at a multi-agency Channel panel meeting.

The Statutory Prevent Duty directs professionals to comply with this statutory duty, this includes sharing concerns and information to safeguard someone to keep them from being harmed or exploited by extremists.

Is Consent Required?

Participation in Channel is voluntary. It is up to an individual, or their parents for children aged 17 and under, to decide whether to take up the support it offers. Channel does not lead to a criminal record.

How does Channel work?

The Statutory Prevent Duty states that every Local Authority in England and Wales should have a Channel framework in place, this includes a referral pathway and monthly multi-agency Channel Panel.

Channel Panels are chaired by the local authority and bring together multi-agency partners to collectively assess the risks and offer a range of support / interventions to support people who may be vulnerable to being drawn into extremism and or terrorism. In Sutton the Channel Panel sits within the Safer Sutton Partnership Service and is chaired by the Head of Community Safety.

Channel is about early intervention to protect people from being drawn into extremism or committing terrorist-related activities.

If you have referred an individual to Channel, you may be invited to attend the Channel Panel. Please be prepared to speak about identified risk factors, for example, 'increased vulnerability due to learning disability or mental health issues'. You will also need to identify any protective factors.

The Channel panel will then agree the next steps, a support package may be agreed for a person at risk of being groomed or radicalised by extremists. Support may be offered by health services, education professionals, employment services, housing, specialist mentoring, faith based guidance or through diversionary activities such as sport.

If you have any concerns about someone and would like more advice please contact:

LBS Internal Partners	External Partners
<p>Patrick Hopkinson Head of Service – Initial Contact, Safeguarding and Transformation</p> <p>patrick.hopkinson@sutton.gov.uk</p> <p>020 8770 5053</p>	<p>Prevent Manager Safer Sutton Partnership Service</p> <p>prevent@sutton.gov.uk</p> <p>020 8649 0448</p>

If you have concerns about a child or young person you feel may be at risk please see details below.

LBS Internal Partners Concerns about a child or young person	External Partners Concerns about a child or young person
<p>Report your concerns to your line manager</p> <p>Your line manager should contact the Sutton MASH – multi-agency safeguarding hub</p> <p>Contact MASH 020 8649 0418 / 07736 338962 Fax: 020 8652 5657 mash@sutton.gov.uk.cjism.net Core hours: 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday Out of hours emergency contact 020 8770 5000</p>	<p>Contact Sutton MASH – Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub</p> <p>Contact MASH 020 8649 0418 / 07736 338962 Fax: 020 8652 5657 mash@sutton.gov.uk.cjism.net Core hours: 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday Out of hours emergency contact 020 8770 5000</p>

Resources:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/118187/vul-assessment.pdf

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/445977/3799_Revised_Prevent_Duty_Guidance_England_Wales_V2-Interactive.pdf

http://course.ncalt.com/channel_general_awareness

Radicalisation & Extremism Indicators of Concern Matrix*

The aim of this document is to help practitioners in their decision-making about level of concern. However, each case will be different and practitioners should use their professional judgement in considering the risks and protective factors. This document should not be used as a 'tick box' exercise.

Practitioners should give careful consideration to:

- The mental capacity of the service user to weigh, use and retain information about extremist views and becoming involved in extremism
- The extent to which the service user's disability or health issues make them vulnerable to being drawn into or exploited by others with extremist or radicalising intentions
- The human rights of all UK citizens to:
 - freedom of association (Article 11)
 - freedom of expression (Article 10)
 - freedom of thought, conscience and religion (Article 9)
 - right to respect for a private and family life (Article 8)

If you are unsure about what steps to take, seek advice from your line manager. As with all safeguarding, it is safer to share concerns even if it later turns out to be inaccurate.

	Possible cause for concern (Seek advice from your line manager)	Cause for concern (Referral to Channel)	Significant cause for concern (Referral to Channel)
Respect for others / tolerance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at risk of becoming involved in negative behaviour/activities • expresses strongly held and intolerant views towards people who do not share his/her religious or political views • verbally supportive of extreme views some of which may be in contradiction to British law • expresses racist, sexist, homophobic or other prejudiced views and links these with a religion or ideology. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • becoming increasingly involved in negative behaviour or activities • aggressive and intimidating towards others who do not share his/her religious or political views • connected to individuals or groups known to have extreme views. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • expresses strongly held beliefs and initiates verbal and sometimes physically threatening conflict with people who do not share his/her religious or political views • expresses a view that people should be killed because they have a different political or religious belief • strong links with individuals or groups who are known to have extreme views and/or are known to have links to violent extremism • may be actively involved in the activities of these groups

	Possible cause for concern (Seek advice from your line manager)	Cause for concern (Referral to Channel)	Significant cause for concern (Referral to Channel)
Social integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> expresses intolerant views towards others and this leads to them being socially isolated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> interacts negatively or has limited interaction with those they perceive as holding different views from themselves significant lack of respect for others, for example becoming aggressive with those that do not share their intolerant or extreme views may have strained relationships with family, work colleagues and others because of their intolerant views 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> positive interaction with others is severely limited Isolated themselves from peers and/or family because of their extreme and intolerant views Glorify acts of terrorism and/or believe in conspiracy theories and perceive mainstream society as hostile to themselves Frequently aggressive and intimidating towards others who do not share their views or have a lifestyle they approve of
Internet and social media use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> discloses that they are researching extreme ideologies on-line but express casual or limited support for extremist views. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> motivated to connect with others who share their extreme views on social media known to have viewed extremist websites and discloses shares some of those views but is open about this and can discuss the pros and cons or different viewpoints. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> being groomed on-line for involvement in extremist activities known to have viewed extremist websites and actively conceals internet and social media activities either refuse to discuss their views or make clear their support for extremist views

	Possible cause for concern (Seek advice from your line manager)	Cause for concern (Referral to Channel)	Significant cause for concern (Referral to Channel)
Ideological commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> expresses sympathy for ideologies closely linked to violent extremism but is open to other views or loses interest quickly has been reported missing with concern that they may have been staying with friends or relatives who have extreme views 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> frequent reports of going missing and strong concerns that this was connected to spending time with friends or relatives with extreme views and that they are being influenced by them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> expresses beliefs that extreme violence should be used against people who disrespect their beliefs and values supports people travelling to conflict zones for extremist/violent purposes or with intent to join terrorist groups expresses a generalised non-specific intent to go to conflict zones and intent to join terrorist groups persistently goes missing to spend time with people with extreme views and does not recognise the risks perceives the people with who he/she is associating as teaching him/her the correct way to live and those who don't hold these views as deluded and/or as a threat.
Social influences and home environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has indirect links to banned organisations attend religious or social activities which are, or have been in the recent past, attended by members of banned organisations known to live with/be in an intimate relationship with someone who has extreme views but doesn't support these views known to live with or be in an intimate relationship with someone who expresses strong support for a particular extremist organisation but does not express any intention to be actively involved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> family members, friends or family friends have strong links with banned organisations taken by others to demonstrations or marches where violent, extremist imagery or language is used being sent violent extremist imagery by family members/family friends or is being helped to access it. Doesn't challenge this activity or appears to endorse it. close social circle strongly support extremist views and express a generalised, non-specific intention to travel to a conflict zone in support of those views. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is a member of a banned organisation close family or close friends are members of banned organisations circulates violent extremist images and is promoting the actions of violent extremists and/or saying that they will carry out violence in support of extremist views. partner/close family/friends are planning to travel to a conflict zone and there is evidence to suggest they are doing so to support or participate in extremist activities. <p><i>For list of terrorist organisations and groups banned under UK law see https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/proscribe-d-terror-groups-of-organisations--2</i></p>

* The above matrix has been adapted from the LCSB Matrix of Need document for Children.