



# Prevent Fact Sheet

## The programme

- Prevent is delivered by local authority teams, local policing teams, community organisations and charities that have the best expertise in their area.
- Works in partnership with front-line professionals such as teachers, healthcare practitioners, social workers, the police, charities, psychologists, community leaders and others.
- Does not target any one community and deals with all forms of terrorism, including Islamist, extreme right-wing and a range of emerging threats
- Is not limited to any age group.
- is not a tool for spying or surveillance, and the Prevent Duty does not place any restrictions on free speech. It is part of the wider safeguarding obligations we have towards protecting people from harm.
- provides training for educators, healthcare staff and more to understand and implement the Prevent Duty and protect vulnerable people in their care. The Prevent Duty must be implemented in line with the requirements set out in the guidance.
- Prevent does not operate in the criminal space, will not show up on any criminal record checks.

## Prevent referral

- A Prevent referral can be made by anyone who is concerned that someone they know, is susceptible to radicalisation or being drawn into terrorism. This could be a family member, friend, colleague, or a professional.
- If an individual is found to represent a security threat, they will always be referred to the police for further investigation.
- Prevent referrals are not made to the Home Office; they are handled by expert officers in the local police force.
- When a referral is made, initial checks will be conducted and if the individual is found to not be at risk of radicalisation, the case is immediately closed to Prevent.
- If someone is worried about another individual becoming radicalised and would like to seek advice before making a referral, they can contact their local authority safeguarding team, or speak to a teacher, healthcare provider or another trusted authority. Contacting the authorities will not get the person into trouble if a criminal act has not been committed. The local authority or police can discuss concerns, suggest how they can best help and provide access to relevant support and advice.

## **Channel**

- If the referral progresses and it is assessed that there is a genuine risk of radicalisation, the case is considered by a multi-agency 'Channel Panel' of professionals who collectively assess the case and decide on a tailored package of support that can be offered to the person.
- The Channel panel is chaired by the local authority and can include a variety of partners such as the police, children's services, social services, education professionals and mental health care professionals.
- Channel is voluntary and people who are referred to Prevent must give consent (via a parent or guardian if they are underage) before they can be given support.
- If a person does not engage with Channel or decides not to continue with the process for any reason, alternative forms of support may be available from the local authority or other providers. Any risks are then carefully managed by the police.