

BURY PREVENT HANDBOOK

EDUCATION



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As someone who works with vulnerable people, you are in a key position to protect them from the dangers of extremist narratives. You do an invaluable job in protecting them from drugs, gangs, neglect and other forms of harm. Radicalisation has a similarly devastating effect on young people, families and communities. Helping to protect them from extremist and radicalising influences is an important part of your overall safeguarding role.

WHAT IS PREVENT?

Prevent is about Safeguarding and supporting those who are vulnerable to radicalisation. It is one of the four elements of CONTEST, the governments counter terrorism strategy. It aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

So what does Prevent do?

Prevent responds to the ideological challenge that we face from terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threats that we face from those who promote these views. It provides practical help to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensures that they are given appropriate advice and support. Prevent works with a wide range of sectors (including education, criminal justice, faith, charities and health) where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to deal with.

Who delivers Prevent?

The Home Office works with local authorities, government departments and community organisations to deliver

the Prevent Strategy. The police also play a significant role in Prevent, the same way that they do when taking a preventative approach to other crimes.

Prevent uses a range of measures to challenge extremism including:

- Supporting those who are at risk of being drawn into terrorist or extremist activity through the Channel process.
- Working with and supporting community groups who provide services to vulnerable people and supporting schools, local industry and other agencies through engagement, advice and training.
- Working with faith groups and institutions to assist them in providing support for people who may be vulnerable.

At the heart of Prevent is safeguarding children and adults and providing early intervention to protect and divert people away from being drawn into terrorist activity.

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

'Having due regard' means that the authorities should place an appropriate amount of weight on the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism when they consider all the other factors relevant to how they carry out their usual functions.

'Extremism' is defined in the 2011 Prevent Strategy as 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. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

'Interventions' are projects intended to divert people who are being drawn into terrorist activity. Interventions can include mentoring, counselling, theological support, encouraging civic engagement, developing support networks (family and peer structures) or providing mainstream services (education, employment, health, finance or housing).

'Non-violent extremism' is extremism, as defined above, which is not accompanied by violence.

'Prevention' in the context of this document means reducing or eliminating the risk of individuals becoming involved in terrorism. Prevent includes but is not confined to the identification and referral of those at risk of being drawn into terrorism into appropriate interventions. These interventions aim to divert vulnerable people from radicalisation.

'Radicalisation' refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

'Safeguarding' is the process of protecting vulnerable people, whether from crime, other forms of abuse or (in the context of this document) from being drawn into terrorist related activity.



The current UK definition of 'terrorism' is given in the Terrorism Act 2000 (TACT 2000). In summary this defines terrorism as an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

'Terrorist-related offences' are those (such as murder) which are not offences in terrorist legislation, but which are judged to be committed in relation to terrorism.

'Vulnerability' describes the condition of being capable of being injured; difficult to defend; open to moral or ideological attack. Within Prevent, the word describes factors and characteristics associated with being susceptible to radicalisation.

MYTHS AND FACTS

Myth 1

Prevent is about spying on people and their families, a way of lots of officials getting involved in your private life.

If a referral is made about you or someone you know you will be contacted by supportive and specially trained staff. Each council has Channel Panel Case Officers whose job it is to follow up on referrals and make appointments to see you. Professionals are given regular training so that they are skilled and knowledgeable about safeguarding and assessing appropriate referrals.

Myth 2

Prevent is something that someone else can decide will happen to you whether you like it or not.

If you are contacted, what happens beyond this point is at your discretion. The whole process is and has always been a voluntary agreement.



Myth 3

Prevent is targeted and very much focused on specific religions and communities.

No, Prevent is not targeted at specific religions or communities. Grooming and radicalisation can happen to anyone when they are at their most vulnerable or in need of support. There are lots of reasons that can leave people open to exploitation.

Myth 4

Prevent doesn't work.

You may have read something like this in the papers or online. If being part of the Prevent programme helps people to use the support that is available then that is a very positive outcome. If less lives are lost to violence and extremism because of a persons' participation in the Prevent programme that is a measure that cannot be quantified.

Myth 5

Grooming, recruitment and radicalisation isn't a significant problem where I live.

Grooming, recruitment and radicalisation can take place anywhere. The same grooming process is used for

Organised Crime, County Lines, Extremism, and Child Sexual Exploitation. If we can enable people to learn more about how predators operate, then we can build strong minds and strong communities.

Myth 6

Once you are referred into Prevent everyone is treated in the same way whether they need it or not. It can do more harm than good.

There are a wide range of professionals who can be involved in the Prevent process. The people that are included will depend upon the individuals' needs. It is a needs led service that will bring the relevant people together to maximise the support that can be given. In this way any provision that is offered is done so with that one person in mind.

Myth 7

Prevent criminalises people and this will follow you in later life.

Information about the referral or you in any related capacity will not be disclosed to future education establishments or employers. The Prevent Programme does not criminalise anyone, it is an intervention that can be made to help to safeguard individuals. It will not create any barriers for your future.

TYPES OF IDEOLOGY

Animal Rights Extremists and Environmental Extremists

Some animal rights extremists and environmental extremists believe violence is needed to stop those they think are hurting animals or the environment. These violent extremists usually don't seek to kill or injure people, but their crimes—which include property damage, vandalism, threats, cyber attacks and arson, cause millions of pounds in damage. Violent animal rights extremists attack those they believe to be linked to the abuse of animals whilst environmental extremists target those they believe to be destroying the environment.

The Far Right

The Far Right or extreme right is a label used to identify parties and movements based on fascist, racist or extremely reactionary ideologies. Officially those on the far right embrace the concept that one group is better than another. They favour concepts such as White supremacy, segregation, mass deportation of non-White people and sometimes even genocide.

The left wing

An umbrella term for antifascist groups with the intention of de-stabilising democracy, law and order and even Governments. This could be by stealing data, digitally destabilising powerful organisations like hospitals and the police or fuelling opportunities for confrontation by countering far right events.

Northern Ireland-related terrorism

Northern Ireland-related terrorism continues to pose a serious threat. Although the Provisional Irish Republican Army (PIRA) has ceased its terrorist campaign and is now committed to the political process, some dissident republican groups continue to mount terrorist attacks, primarily against the security forces.

International terrorism

International terrorism from groups such as the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and Al Qaeda present a threat in the UK. They hold territory in places without functioning governments, making it easier for them to train recruits and plan complex, sophisticated attacks. Drawing on extreme interpretations of Islam to justify their actions, these groups often have the desire and capability to direct terrorist attacks against the West, and to inspire those already living there to carry out attacks of their own. Groups operate globally and are very active however, we hear most about them when there are western attacks that are close to home.

Mixed, Unclear & Unstable Ideologies

Individuals with 'Mixed, Unclear, and Unstable' (MUU) ideologies represented half of all referrals to Prevent in the year ending March 2020. Numbers are increasing of individuals who hold a worldview with elements of more than one ideology (mixed), no clear ideology (unclear), or switch from one ideology to another (unstable).

Evidence from Channel practitioners suggests vulnerable individuals without clear ideologies can be strongly influenced by previous high-profile cases of mass violence. There are consistent themes in the content produced by those who go on to perpetrate or attempt mass violence. This includes an adulation of mass killers, coupled with a morally accepting attitude towards mass murder, often along with a generalised or specific hatred towards a particular group of people based on grievance.



PREVENT IS SAFEGUARDING

It's simple. Prevent is about safeguarding individuals from being drawn into terrorism, ensuring vulnerable young people are given appropriate advice and support at an early stage. Prevent is no different to any other form of safeguarding from harm. Often vulnerable young people simply need some help and support and if we can give them that at the right time then they may not become radicalised in the first place. Remember that radicalisation and grooming can take many forms and it is sometimes hard

ENSURING VULNERABLE
YOUNG PEOPLE ARE
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to know what to look out for, but trust your instinct and always pass on your concerns to the DSL. They will decide whether further action is needed or a referral should be made and can phone the Prevent team if they need support.



WHAT DOES GOOD PRACTICE LOOK LIKE IN SCHOOLS?

1. Leadership and governance

- Leaders and governors should ensure that children are protected from the risk of radicalisation and that Prevent is seen as part of the schools wider safeguarding duties.
- Leaders and governors have responsibility for leading Prevent implementation and should ensure that policies and procedures are adhered to. Procedures should be regularly reviewed and evaluated to ensure that they are effective.
- Leaders and governors should understand the risk that exists in their local area.

2. Training

 Individual schools are best placed to assess their training needs in the light of their assessment of the risk. However, as a minimum, schools should ensure that the Designated Safeguarding Lead undertakes Wrap training and is able to provide advice and support to other members of staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation. It is not about the number of staff being trained, but about the impact of the training.

3. Engagement with external partners

- As with other safeguarding, Prevent work often involves a range of people with breadth of experience working together. Sharing of information between professionals and local agencies is essential for effective identification, assessment and service provision. Schools should have arrangements in place which set out clearly the processes and the principles for sharing information internally and externally.
- Schools need to have effective relations with local Prevent partners and the police.

4. Curriculum - formal and informal

- Schools should build pupils' resilience to radicalisation by promoting positive values in particular, the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. The formal curriculum can be used to support positive messaging and counternarratives, for example in PSHE, history, citizenship and RE.
- The informal curriculum should be explored, such as debating societies and other opportunities for pupils to explore issues in a safe environment.
- Staff need to be confident in managing discussions about controversial subjects and in encouraging the development of pupils' critical thinking skills.

5. Policies and practices

• Schools should show regard to prevent within their safeguarding policies, however there is not a need to have a standalone policy for prevent.

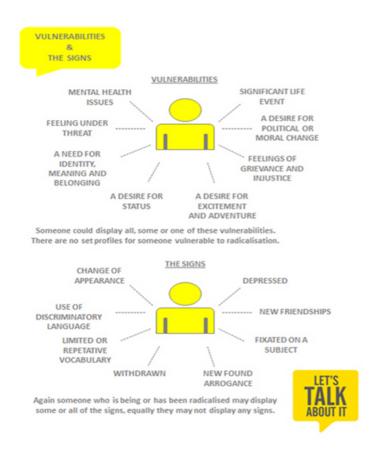
6. Referral pathways

• It is important that the school responds effectively to the identification of a concern and the subsequent actions taken. For this, all staff – including support staff - should know who they should talk to if they identify a concern. Senior leadership should also know how to refer and share information, using the usual safeguarding procedures and involving the relevant stakeholders.



WHO IS VULNERABLE TO RADICALISATION?

Anyone can be radicalised but there are some factors which may make children and young people more vulnerable.



Online exploitation is often hard to recognise. Sometimes there are clear warning signs - in other cases the changes are less obvious. Although some of these traits may be quite common among teenagers, taken together they could indicate that a child may need help.



HOW MIGHT I SPOT SOMEONE WHO IS BEING RADICALISED?

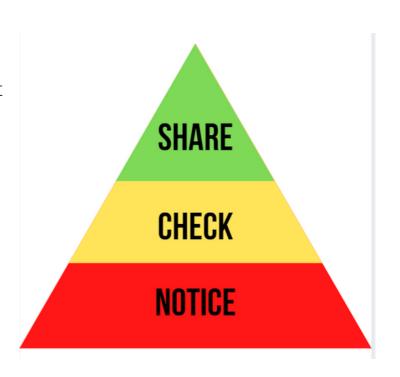
Radicalisation can be difficult to spot. Signs that may indicate a child is being radicalised include:

- isolating themselves from family and friends
- talking as if from a scripted speech
- unwillingness or inability to discuss their views
- a sudden disrespectful attitude towards others
- increased levels of anger
- increased secretiveness, especially around internet use.

Children who are at risk of radicalisation may have low self-esteem, or be victims of bullying or discrimination. Extremists might target them and tell them they can be part of something special, later persuading them to cut themselves off from their friends and family.

It is worth considering a young persons normal behaviour. Often a sign of radicalisation can be when someone moves away from this. For instance, a quite withdrawn person becoming loud and obnoxious.

Remember to Notice, Check, Share.



HOW TO MAKE A REFERRAL

Remember that it is important to follow your organisations safeguarding policy and report any concerns you have to the correct people. If you decide to make a referral then you use the Bury Prevent referral form. The form is sent to the following email addresses –

childwellbeing@bury.gov.ukAND

channel.project@gmp.police.uk

gmchannel@manchester.gov.uk

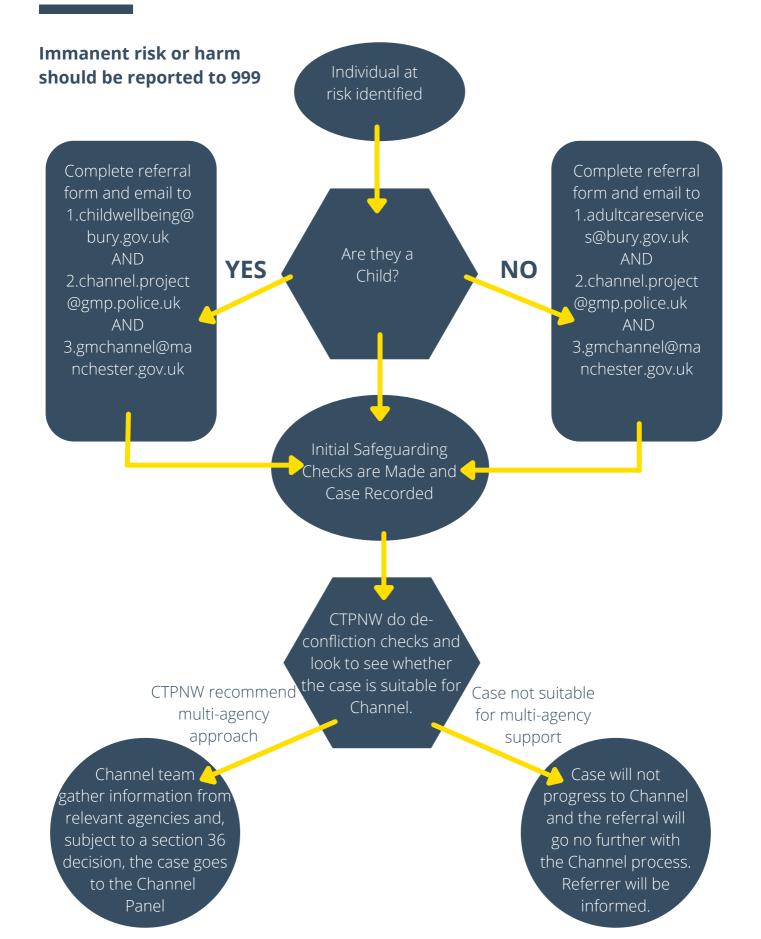
You can make a referral without the parent's consent eg where you believe the child/young person or others are at serious risk of harm or in order to prevent serious crime where sharing information may be counter-productive to managing a situation. However if you can it is always best to talk to people first about your concerns.

If you are not sure whether you should make a referral you can speak to the Prevent team or call the GMP Prevent Team on 0161 856 6362. There are no silly questions and we are happy to talk things through with you.

If you wish to fill out the form online, you can do so here:

Make a Prevent Referral

WHAT HAPPENS TO A REFERRAL?



CHANNEL - WHAT IS IT AND HOW IT SUPPORTS PREVENT

What happens to a referral?

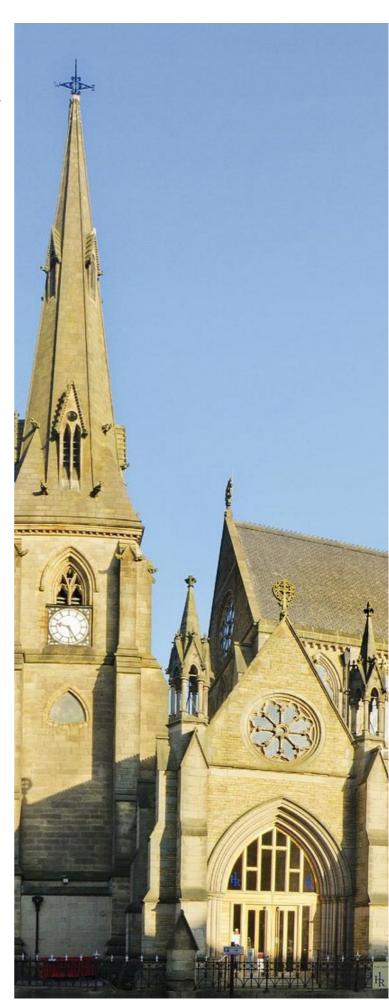
All referrals are carefully assessed by the police and the Channel Team to see if they are suitable for Channel or may require another intervention.

If suitable, the case is discussed with all relevant partners at a Channel panel to decide what support, if any, is needed. Referred individuals are informed and must give consent (or via a parent or guardian if they are children) before an intervention can take place.

Who are the Channel Team?

Since April 2019 the Channel Process in Greater Manchester has been coordinated by Local Authority staff and not GMP officers. This work is done by the GM Channel team. This team coordinate all Channel Panels across the 10 Greater Manchester local Authorities. They do the pre-panel work, go out and speak with the individuals and parents/carers and then case manage the interventions offered by the Channel panels.

The team are available on 0161 227 3545 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm) for advice around referrals or concerns.



How does a Channel panel work?

The Channel panel is chaired by the local authority and works with multi-agency partners to collectively assess the risk to an individual and decide whether an intervention is necessary.

If a Channel intervention is required, the panel works with local partners to develop an appropriate tailored support package. The support package is monitored closely and reviewed

Who sits on a Channel panel?

regularly by the Channel panel.

The Channel panel is chaired by the local authority and can include a variety of statutory partners such as the police, children's services, social services, education professionals and mental health care professionals.

What kind of support is offered via Channel?

The type of support available is wideranging, and can include help with education or career advice, dealing with mental or emotional health issues, drug/alcohol abuse, online safety training for parents and specialist mentoring from a Channel Intervention Provider.

A SUCCESS CASE STUDY

Below is an example of a young man who was referred by his school. The referral led to him being accepted by channel and a support package was put into place for him, which was bespoke to his needs.

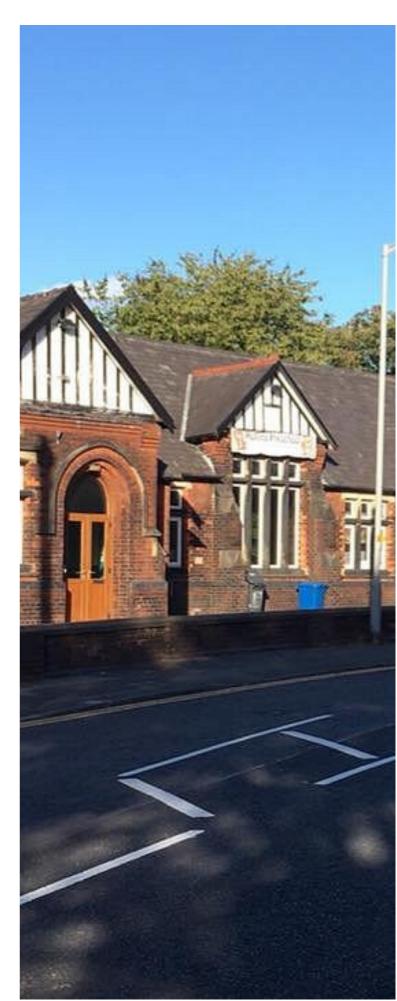
Leon was referred to Prevent by teachers at the age of 15 after searching for extreme right wing material on the school internet. He had also been disclosing to staff that he felt intimidated because he is a minority in his classes, which are largely made up of South Asian students. Leon disclosed that he hates all Muslims because 'they are all ISIS', and that he was a member of an extreme right-wing group on Facebook. He also expressed an interest in football violence and gang culture, and said that he felt picked on by teachers. Through Prevent, a range of actions were undertaken as part of Leon's support, including providing mental health services to treat his anxiety and insomnia, a specialist Channel mentor who was able to discuss the origin of his views, and advice on internet safety for his parents. The local Prevent team also helped Leon enrol on the work placement scheme of a national construction company, which included support from a careers mentor, and onto the Premier League Kicks programme with his local football team. Leon's case was successfully concluded and his behaviour in school noticeably improved, with no further issues noted of him being involved in anti-social behaviour or far-right extremism. His mother expressed her gratitude for the intervention, saying "without the intervention from the Prevent team my son wouldn't be on the path he is now on"

VENUE HIRE

All schools wishing to hire out school premises will need to have a Venue hire/school lettings policy in place. These policies will differ, depending on the school and areas to be hired. Schools must ensure that their venues and resources do not provide a platform for extremists and are not used to disseminate extremist views. They should ensure that venues are not used by those whose views would draw people into terrorism, by ensuring that rigorous booking systems are in place and staff responsible for them are trained to know what to do if they have suspicions.

A draft copy of any information to be distributed to participants or through the school should be sanctioned by the Head Teacher at least a week prior to distribution by the hirer.





PREVENT TEAM CONTACTS



Chris Woodhouse
Strategic Partnerships Manager
C.Woodhouse@bury.gov.uk

For more Bury Prevent information and training dates please visit:

<u>Bury Prevent pages</u>

USEFUL LINKS AND ARTICLES

Government advice and trusted resources for schools to safeguard students from radicalisation, build resilience to all types of extremism and promote shared values:

Educate Against Hate - Prevent Radicalisation & Extremism

How to spot signs of radicalisation and get help:

ACT Early | Prevent radicalisation

<u>Thinkuknow</u> is the education programme from NCA-CEOP, a UK organisation which protects children both online and offline.

Resources and lesson plans:

<u>Hammersmith and Fulham Prevent and Schools - resources and lesson plans.</u>

Home Office Online Prevent training:

Prevent awareness E learning

Channel Awareness E learning

Prevent referrals E learning

