



Prevent Strategy – Preventing Vulnerable People Being Drawn into Terrorism

Title	Prevent Strategy
Who should use this	
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1	NEW STRATEGY	JULY 2017
2	NO AMENDMENTS	AUGUST 2020
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Prevent Strategy – Preventing Vulnerable People Being Drawn into Terrorism

The purpose of this is to let you know what you can do to prevent vulnerable people being drawn into terrorism.

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act came into force in July 2015, placing a duty on a number of specified authorities to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.

The authorities identified as having a role in protecting vulnerable people include the NHS, the local authorities, further and higher education establishments, prisons and the police. It is important to recognise that for most of these authorities, work to stop individuals from being drawn into terrorism forms part of their normal work to protect vulnerable children and adults, and existing procedures are applied.

So, in the same way that we might raise concerns about children who may be vulnerable to neglect, or someone who could be vulnerable to abuse in the home, we need to know how to identify concerns that people might be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. We need to know who to tell, so that the appropriate care, advice and support can be considered. In doing this, we can help prevent people from being exploited by those who would seek to harm us through terrorism and violent extremism.

This briefing introduces the Prevent strategy and answers any questions about what it means for you.

What is the Prevent strategy?

The Prevent strategy aims to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. It is about preventative action, and is very much focused on the early stages where a crime has not yet been committed.

What is the threat?

Prevent involves all kinds of terrorist threat to the UK, including organisations originating in Syria and Iraq, and also right wing extremist organisations who pose a threat to our safety and security.

Motivations are varied and many usually relate to particular ideologies, some further examples include:

- Political movements
- Religious beliefs
- Animal rights groups
- Environmental issues
- Economic issues

Why do people get involved in terrorism or violent extremism?

There is no single profile for a person who is likely to become radicalised or move to support extremism. However, here are some signs that may indicate vulnerability to terrorist ideologies – for example:

- A lack of identity or belonging/identify crisis
- Insecurity
- Defending a culture, way of life or beliefs
- Being pressured or bullied
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Those who radicalise others into believing terrorist or violent extremist ideologies often target vulnerable people who are led into believing that violence or criminality can earn respect, right a wrong or glorify a cause.

Spotting the Signs

There is no checklist that we can give you to help you make decisions about whether a staff member, service user, student or visitor has been or is being radicalised.

There is no single profile to determine who is likely to become involved in terrorism or violent extremism and the process of radicalisation. The process of radicalisation is different for every individual and situation.

However, signs that an individual may be being radicalised could be:

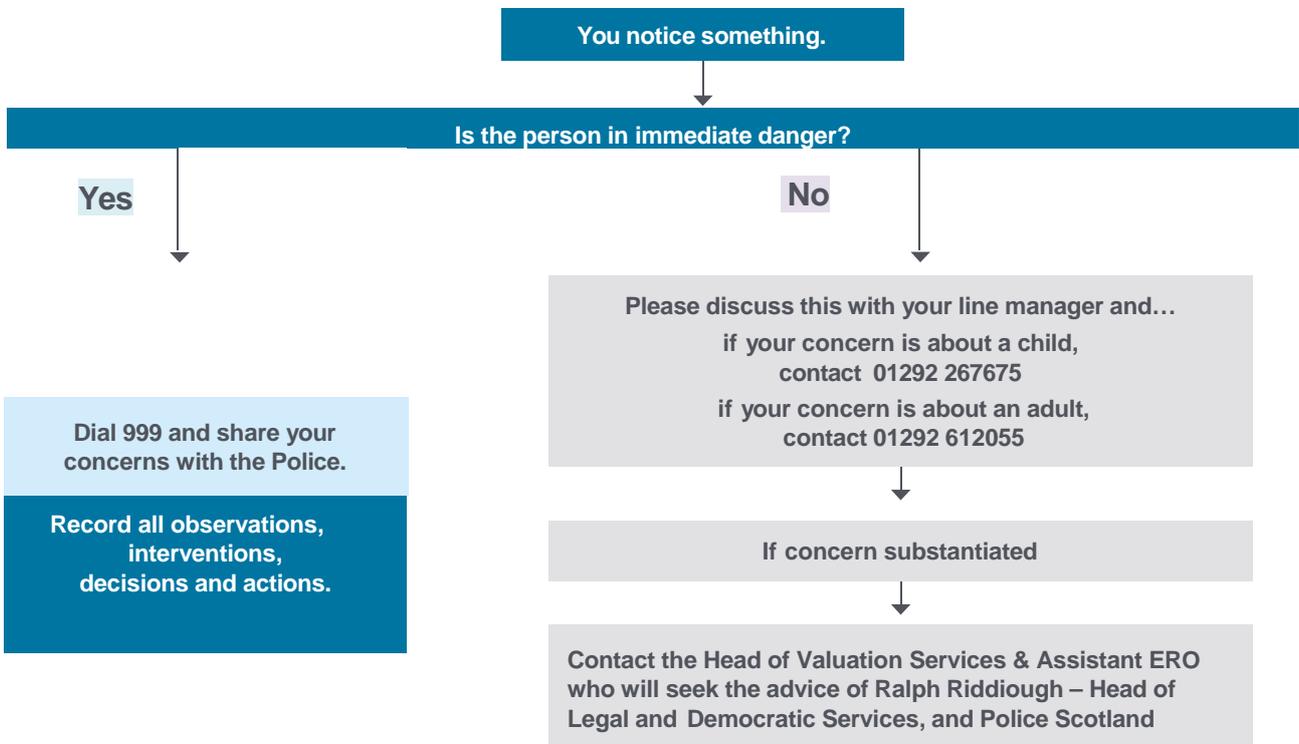
- **Becoming focussed on extremist activities**
- **Becoming withdrawn and stopping participating in their usual activities**
- **Expressing feelings of anger, grievance or injustice**
- **Going missing from their home, school or care setting**
- **A new group of friends who you have concerns about using language that supports 'us and them' thinking**
- **Possessing or searching for extremist literature online**
- **Changes in an individual's appearance or behaviour**

As a member of staff, you are required to use your existing skills and professional judgement in determining the significance of any changes. However, we recognise that in some organisations, staff have different levels and types of interaction with others.

The focus is on being aware that if you see something that is of concern, you know who you can contact within Ayrshire Valuation Joint Board for advice and guidance. This is so that you can pass on your concern if this is necessary and be confident that you have done the right thing. It also ensures that cases that need to be taken forward are dealt with appropriately. Concerns could relate to people in your community, members of the public you have some dealings with as part of your work, or members of staff.

Raising a Concern – Notice, Check, Share

Don't rely on others. You must report any concerns you have.



Remember that the main aim of Prevent is to stop people from supporting terrorism or becoming terrorists themselves. Ensuring a balanced and proportionate approach to delivering Prevent will allow us to safeguard vulnerable individuals from radicalising influences.

Further support and advice

Training programmes are also available through South Ayrshire Council to help staff increase their knowledge of Prevent. An e-Learning module can now be accessed through LearnPro and other staff e-Learning portals. There is also a one-hour workshop available: WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent). If you feel that you need this training, please discuss with your line manager in the first instance.

If you have any general questions you would like to discuss please contact Head of Valuation Services and Assistant ERO.