



Channel Referral Guidance for Partners

KIRKLEES

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Background.....	3
Vulnerability and risk indicators.....	3
Terminology	4
Making a referral	5
Where to send referrals.....	7
What happens next	7
Contacts.....	7

Introduction

This document has been developed to assist you in making a referral to Kirklees Prevent. This document should aid your decision making on whether to make a referral and provide you with guidance on what information should be included within the referral. It must be stressed that this document is for guidance, must not be taken out of context to highlight single issues or statements and is not intended to be used as a definitive checklist. This guidance must be read, taken as a whole and used in line with your professional judgement, safeguarding training and Prevent policies.

Background

Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a statutory Prevent duty on specified authorities in the exercise of their functions, to have 'due regards to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. This includes referring vulnerable individuals to Channel. Specified bodies outlined within this duty include Local Authorities, Police, Schools, Further and Higher Education, Health, Prisons and Probation.

More information on the Prevent duty for specific bodies can be found on the [Prevent duty guidance](#).

Vulnerability and risk indicators

Prevent in Kirklees identifies and tackles all forms of extremism (violent, non-violent, Islamist and right wing) and aims to prevent radicalisation by identifying risk at the earliest possible stage by safeguarding individuals through the Kirklees Channel panel before risk establishes itself at a more severe and or harmful level.

Channel is a multi-agency safeguarding program run in every local authority in England and Wales. It works to support vulnerable people from being drawn into terrorism and provides a range of support such as mentoring, counselling and assistance with employment. Channels focus is on early intervention to protect vulnerable people from being drawn into committing terrorist-related activity and addresses all types of extremism. If an individual is discussed at Channel and deemed vulnerable, participation is voluntary and it is up to the person, or their parents (for children aged 17 and under), to decide whether to take up the support the panel offers. Channel does not lead to a criminal record and the Kirklees Channel panel is chaired by Carol Gilchrist, Head of Safe and Cohesive Communities for Kirklees Council.

The Kirklees Channel Panel recognises that the radicalisation process can be complex and that there is *no single factor or indicator* to identify an individual at risk of radicalisation. There are no academically proven checklists that exist that will accurately identify a person who is becoming radicalised and may go on at a later time to commit acts of terrorism.

A single comment or one off statement does not necessarily mean that an individual is at risk of radicalisation and those involved in extremism can come from a range of backgrounds and experiences.

The Channel process in Kirklees ensures that referrals made to Prevent are appropriate before they are discussed at the Channel panel and it is hoped that the information contained within this document will provide referrers with more support around the suitability of their prevent related concern.

Additional information on Channel including a description of the vulnerability assessment framework used by the Channel Panel to guide decisions about whether an individual needs support to address their vulnerability to radicalisation can be found on Page 28 on the [Governments Channel Duty Guidance](#).

Terminology

Understanding the terminology associated with Prevent will assist you in your decision making process. The following definitions are commonly used within Prevent and Channel.

Radicalisation: “the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.”

Extremism: “the vocal or active opposition to fundamental 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.”

Terrorism: "The use or threat of action designed to influence the government or an international governmental organisation or to intimidate the public, or a section of the public; made for the purposes of advancing a political, religious, racial or ideological cause; and it involves or causes:

serious violence against a person;

serious damage to a property;

a threat to a person's life;

a serious risk to the health and safety of the public; or

serious interference with or disruption to an electronic system."

Making a referral

Referrals made to Channel should contain concerns based on a person's vulnerability to radicalisation and should not be because of the person's faith or ethnic origin.

Ideally, the person considering making the referral will be the designated safeguarding officer for their organisation and have a good understanding of Safeguarding and Prevent. They should have attended the Home Office approved Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) and completed the free e-learning [Channel General Awareness Training](#)

If the referring person or organisation have not completed the above then it is highly recommended that they speak with a member of the Prevent team in the first instance to discuss any concerns before making any referral. How and where to access training can also be discussed during this conversation.

The following flow chart can be used in your assessment on whether or not to make a referral and if a referral is to be made, the information needed within the referral form. The information within this flow chart is not a definitive guide and should be used as a prompt to promote further questioning, reasoning and clarity for the necessity of a referral to Prevent.

NOTICE

What have you noticed? Who was involved?

Does the incident relate to recent local, national or international events? Does the incident relate to local or national news stories?

Has the individual been involved in similar incidents?

Why do you feel the individual is vulnerable to radicalisation? What makes the individual at risk?

Was it a one off comment or statement and out of context for the individual?

Are there any other apparent vulnerabilities or concerns that make the individual at risk of radicalisation?

Can the concern be dealt with in house or does it need wider checking?



CHECK

Have you checked your concern with your Safeguarding Lead? If you are the Safeguarding Lead have you checked with other members of your Senior Leadership Team/ management? Do they share your Prevent related concerns?

From your checks has any other information come to light?

Has the individual of concern been spoken to for clarity? If not, what are the reasons for this (inappropriate, safeguarding risk). Do they offer a reasonable explanation and or account?

If under 18, have their parents been spoken to for clarity? Have they noticed a change in behaviour? Do they offer a reasonable explanation and or account?

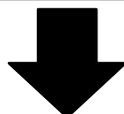
Are any other agencies currently or historically working with the individual or family? Have they been consulted?

Is the concern Prevent related? Or is it more suitable under general safeguarding? (Please refer back to the Terminology section)

Have there been any historical concerns? I.e. Concerns at previous school?

Could the concern be addressed in house? Is there a genuine radicalisation risk? Do you and or the individual need additional support?

Do you need to clarify or discuss with a member of the Prevent team?



SHARE

Having noticed the initial concern and carrying out the appropriate checks do you feel a referral is necessary? **If so, all referrals should be made using the Kirklees Prevent Referral Form (Appendix 1)**

On the referral form have you included all the relevant contact details and basic information for the individual of concern, including parent/ guardians details and any siblings if appropriate?

Have you provided as much detail as possible in the nature of concern box? Have you provided a rounded picture of the individual?

Have you detailed your actions as the referrer? Who have you consulted? What intervention, if any, have you put in place? Have you made any other referrals or discussed the case with other agencies? Have you discussed with the Prevent team and been advised to make this referral?

We encourage all referrers to discuss their concerns with the individual and parents if applicable and make them aware of the referral to prevent (with reasons) unless sharing this information places the individual or another person at serious risk of harm.

Where to send referrals

If you are a school, completed referral forms should be sent using Anycomms to PreventReferral.

Other organisations should send referrals to prevent@kirklees.gcsx.gov.uk

If you need to speak to someone about your referral please contact 01924 483747

What happens next?

Following a referral, the information received is assessed by the Police. Following this assessment a decision will be made on the suitability of the case for discussion at the Kirklees Channel Panel. If the case is not suitable for Channel the Police will notify the referrer about the outcome of the assessment and if necessary make a referral to other agencies for support. Following assessment, if the case is deemed suitable for Channel support then the referrer will be invited to the next Channel Panel meeting. The referrer should continue to monitor the case and keep Prevent updated with any additional information which could lead to an increase in vulnerabilities to radicalisation.

Contacts

For further advice about a concern you may have please contact Kirklees Prevent on 01924 483747. If no one is available to take your call please leave a message and someone will get back to you. Alternatively you can email Prevent at: prevent@kirklees.gcsx.gov.uk

If your enquiry is urgent and an emergency please contact the Police on 999.

More information about Prevent in Kirklees can be found at www.kirklees.gov.uk/prevent

Before completing this referral please read the "Prevent Referral Guidance Document"

KIRKLEES PREVENT REFERRAL FORM			
Date of Referral			
Name			
Address			
D.O.B.		Sex	
Parent/Guardian			
Contact Details	Home No.	Mobile No.	
	Email:		
Siblings			
Name:		D.O.B.	Sex
Referrer			
Date of Incident / Concern			
Organisation:	School:		
Single Point of Contact with organisation <i>(name, contact details, email)</i>			
Nature of concern:			
<p><i>Extremism is defined as vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. The definition also includes the calls for death of members of our armed forces. (Channel Duty Guidance 2015 Sec 1:5)</i></p> <p><i>Please consider the following points and provide as much information as possible:</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Is the person demonstrating or exhibiting violent extremist behaviour OR</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Is there information to show the person is moving towards support for terrorism or has an attraction to terrorism OR</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Is the person vulnerable to radicalisation (when taken in context with the above points)</i></p>			

Referrers Actions:	
Other Agency Involvement <i>(please specify)</i>	
Individual or family aware of the referral? <i>(If no please state reasons why)</i>	Yes/ No
Consent The default position for information sharing should be to consider seeking the consent of the individual prior to sharing their information.	
Outcome of Prevent assessment <i>(for Prevent use only)</i>	

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