

# PREVENT DUTY

The Prevent Duty was introduced as part of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. It came into force on 1 July 2015 and states that in the exercise of our duties, we must have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.

In summary, the Duty applies to:

- Local authorities
- Other agencies working with vulnerable adults, children and young people where the work is being discharged on behalf of a local authority
- NHS Trusts and NHS Foundation Trusts
- Higher & Further Education
- Schools
- Prisons and Probation
- The Police
- Commissioned Services

In Warwickshire agencies and communities are working together to deliver a county-wide Prevent Action Plan. The plan focuses on the following six themes:

- 1.** Community and voluntary sector engagement – to prevent and challenge extremist narrative and behaviour from within communities themselves.
- 2.** Leadership, governance and accountability – to ensure strong, coordinated community and partnership action.
- 3.** Awareness, learning and development – across all sectors, public, private, community and voluntary.
- 4.** Safe education – in early years, schools, colleges and universities.
- 5.** Support – establish appropriate support for those identified as vulnerable and their families.
- 6.** Intelligence and communications – mechanisms to monitor local community tensions, identify vulnerable individuals and communicate Prevent activity across Warwickshire agencies and communities.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT CHANNEL

## WHAT IS CHANNEL?

Channel is about safeguarding children and adults from being drawn into violent radicalisation or becoming involved into terrorist related activity. It uses a multi-agency approach including local authorities, statutory partners, the police and members of the local community to:

- Identify individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism
- Assess the nature and extent of that risk
- Develop the most appropriate support plan for the individual concerned.

## WHO DOES CHANNEL WORK WITH?

Channel is designed to work with individuals of any age who are at risk of being exploited by extremist or terrorist ideologies, who may have been radicalised or may be at risk of doing so, or who might be at risk of travel to a conflict zone. The Channel process is shaped around the circumstances of each person and can provide support for any form of radicalisation or personal vulnerabilities.

## WHO ARE THE CHANNEL PANEL?

The Warwickshire Channel Panel is a group of professionals who collectively assess the risk of a referral and decide what support is needed. It may look to develop a package of support that is bespoke to the person. The partnership approach ensures those with specific knowledge and expertise around the vulnerabilities of those at risk are able to work together to provide the best support.

## WHAT SUPPORT IS OFFERED BY THE CHANNEL PANEL?

The support offered will depend on the individual and their support needs but may include:

- An independent accredited mentor might speak with the individual about their ideology.
- Support interventions from a range of agencies such as housing, mental health, social care, youth justice and education to safeguard the individual.
- A review of their case after they have received their intervention to confirm they are de-radicalised and/or free from their extreme ideologies.

## IF SOMEONE IS REFERRED TO CHANNEL PANEL, DOES THIS MEAN THEY WILL HAVE A CRIMINAL RECORD?

No, the Channel process is about safeguarding vulnerable individuals. As a statutory body the Police have to keep records of enquires they make into persons who are brought to their attention, for a wide variety of reasons. These can include those who are involved in criminality, as well as the enquires that are made into the safety of persons of concern, missing persons and those who may be vulnerable to abuse as well as those who may be at risk of radicalisation. Records are kept of actions taken to assess the level of risk and what actions are taken to deal with the risk.

For more information on Prevent in Warwickshire visit:  
[safeinwarwickshire.com/prevent](https://www.safeinwarwickshire.com/prevent)

# DEFINITIONS

## Radicalisation:

the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremism leading to terrorism.

## Radicalism and extremism are defined by the government as follows:

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. Also included in the definition of extremism are calls

for the death of members of our armed forces.

Terrorism is a criminal act that influences an audience beyond the immediate victim. Its effectiveness is not in the act itself but the impact on Government and the public.

Terrorism is defined by Government as:

**The use of violence in order to accomplish political, religious or social objectives.**

# WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE CONCERNED THAT SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS AT RISK OF RADICALISATION?

- Complete a referral form which is downloadable from [safeinwarwickshire.com/prevent](https://safeinwarwickshire.com/prevent)
- Send your form to [prevent@warwickshireandwestmercia.pnn.gov.uk](mailto:prevent@warwickshireandwestmercia.pnn.gov.uk) and make a referral to the Channel Panel
- If you have an emergency to report, call 999.
- If you want to make an anonymous referral please call the Anti-Terrorist Anonymous Hotline Number: 0800 789 321
- For wider safeguarding concerns contact the MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) on 01926 414144 or [mash@warwickshire.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:mash@warwickshire.gcsx.gov.uk)



**PREVENT & CHANNEL INFORMATION FOR EVERYONE IN WARWICKSHIRE.**

