

Prevent Strategy

Policy review

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Introduction

Section 26 (1) of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on certain bodies to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.

The Government’s Prevent Strategy was published in 2011 and forms part of an overall Counter Terrorism Strategy known as CONTEST. The Contest Strategy has four elements which are detailed below:

- Pursue
- Protect
- Prepare
- Prevent

Prevent is a key part of the Contest Strategy which aims to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. Early intervention is at the heart of Prevent in diverting people away from being drawn into terrorist activity as Prevent happens before any criminal activity takes place. It is about recognising, supporting and protecting individuals who might be susceptible to radicalisation.

The Prevent Strategy was explicitly changed in 2011 to deal with all forms of terrorism and target not only violent extremism but also non-violent extremism which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise the views which terrorists exploit.

The government’s 2011 Prevent Strategy objectives are as follows:

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those that promote it.
- Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate support.

- Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to address.

The United Kingdom currently faces a range of terrorist threats. All terrorist groups that pose a threat to the UK seek to radicalise and recruit people to their cause. A system of threat levels has been created which represents the likelihood of an attack in the near future. The current Government threat level from international terrorism in the UK is 'substantial' which means that a terrorist attack is likely.

Key Definitions

For the purposes of this strategy the following definitions have been adopted:

Radicalisation

Is defined as the process by which people come to support terrorism and extremism and, in some cases, then participate in terrorist groups.

Extremism

Is vocal or active opposition to British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

Non-violent extremism

Is extremism, as defined above, which is not accompanied by violence.

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.

Interventions

These 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).

Terrorism

Is 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.

Key Contacts

Organisation	Name	Job Title	Contact Details
TradeTechs Northern	Lisa Kiely	Learning & Skills Manager	Lisa@tradetechs.co.uk
TradeTechs Northern	Kim Gilchrist	Admin Assistant	kim@tradetechs.co.uk

Aims and Objectives of the Strategy

Aims

Ensure that staff can identify, monitor, manage and deal effectively with the threat posed by any individual or group of individuals engaging in radicalisation and extremism (violent and non-violent) in the name of ideology or belief.

Objectives

- To develop staff and learner awareness of the statutory Prevent duty and the risks associated with radicalisation.
- To safeguard learners by ensuring that they can recognise and protect themselves from radicalisation.
- To ensure that learners and staff of TradeTechs Northern are aware of their roles and responsibilities in preventing violent extremism and radicalisation.

Responsibilities

The Designated Safeguarding Lead has overall responsibility for ensuring that the Prevent Strategy is implemented across TradeTechs Northern and any concerns are shared with the relevant organisations to minimise the risk of learners becoming involved with extremist activity.

To ensure that TradeTechs Northern effectively manages risks and is able to deal appropriately with issues around radicalisation and extremism they will:

- Ensure plans are in place to respond appropriately to a threat or incident within TradeTechs Northern.
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- Work collaboratively with key partners including the Prevent North East and Tees Valley Network.

All staff at TradeTechs Northern have a responsibility to:

- Report any concerns around extremism or radicalisation via the safeguarding form.
- Report and remove any literature displayed that could cause offense or promote extremist views.
- Participate in annual safeguarding refresher training.

The Referral Process

Where there is an identified or potential risk that a learner may be involved in supporting or following extremism, further investigation by the police will be requested, prior to other assessments and interventions.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is responsible for contacting the Police for further advice and guidance.

Any member of staff who identifies such concerns will report these to the Designated Safeguarding Lead via Forms where all information will be documented.

Incidents in relation to extremism are expected to be very rare but, in this situation, a 999 call will be made and the Designated Safeguarding Lead informed as soon as is practicably possible.

Training

Staff Training

Training on Prevent will be delivered as part of the safeguarding refresher training programme which all staff are required to complete.

Any Prevent information received from Prevent North East will be sent to all staff via e-mail.

Partnership Working

TradeTechs Northern maintains well-established partnerships; including Tees Valley Network and Prevent North East and receives regular updates in order to keep staff and learners safe and well informed.