



COVENTRY  
*Prevent*

# PREVENT AND CHANNEL

A PRACTITIONER'S GUIDE TO SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE  
FROM RADICALISATION AND TERRORISM



Coventry City Council



# WHAT IS PREVENT?

Prevent is one of the four elements of **CONTEST**; the government's national counter terrorism strategy ([www.gov.uk/government/collections/contest](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/contest)). Prevent addresses all forms of extremism and has 3 strategic objectives:

- 1 Tackle the causes of radicalisation and respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism.
- 2 Safeguard and support those most at risk of radicalisation through early intervention, identifying them and offering support.
- 3 Enable those who have already engaged in terrorism to disengage and rehabilitate.

Coventry City Council is a lead authority in this area of work and the Prevent Team are responsible for co-ordinating a partnership approach to safeguarding children, young people and adults from the risks of radicalisation and extremism. The team are here to support and guide

practitioners within the council and our colleagues across other sectors including health, education, police and the community. The support ranges from delivering training, briefings and updates to advising on individual case work and guidance on policy and practice. There is no magic recipe to Prevent; it requires the combined effort of communities and organisations to work in partnership to ensure terrorism does not occur and is not allowed to flourish within our city



PREVENT aims to **stop** people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism and violent extremism.



PREVENT **safeguards** people and communities from the threat of terrorism.



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.



PREVENT addresses all forms of extremism but continues to ensure resources and effort are allocated on the basis of the greatest threat to our **national security**.



# WHY DOES THIS APPLY TO ME?

It's the law. Having **due regard to the need to prevent people from becoming a terrorist or supporting terrorism** is a duty placed on a number of statutory services. This is known as the **'Prevent Duty'**.

The Prevent Duty applies to bodies which have significant interaction with people who could be vulnerable to radicalisation. These include schools, local authorities, police forces, some NHS bodies, further and higher education providers, prisons and young offender institutions and providers of probation services.

As a practitioner, your role in safeguarding and supporting vulnerable people places you in a unique position to help tackle terrorism and reduce the threat of it. We ask that you:

- Understand what radicalisation and extremism is and why people may be drawn into terrorism or support terrorist activities.
- Know what measures are available to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and how we can challenge extremist ideologies and behaviours that may be associated with it.
- Understand how people can access support.

## WHAT IS RADICALISATION AND EXTREMISM?

**RADICALISATION** is defined as the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.

**EXTREMISM** is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also regard calls for the death of members of our armed forces as extreme.

## HOW DO I KNOW THE RISK OF TERRORISM?

Each year a Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) is produced for Coventry by the West Midlands Police Counter Terrorism Unit.

This assessment outlines the local and national terrorist threat and helps to ensure that resources and activities are targeted at reducing these risks.

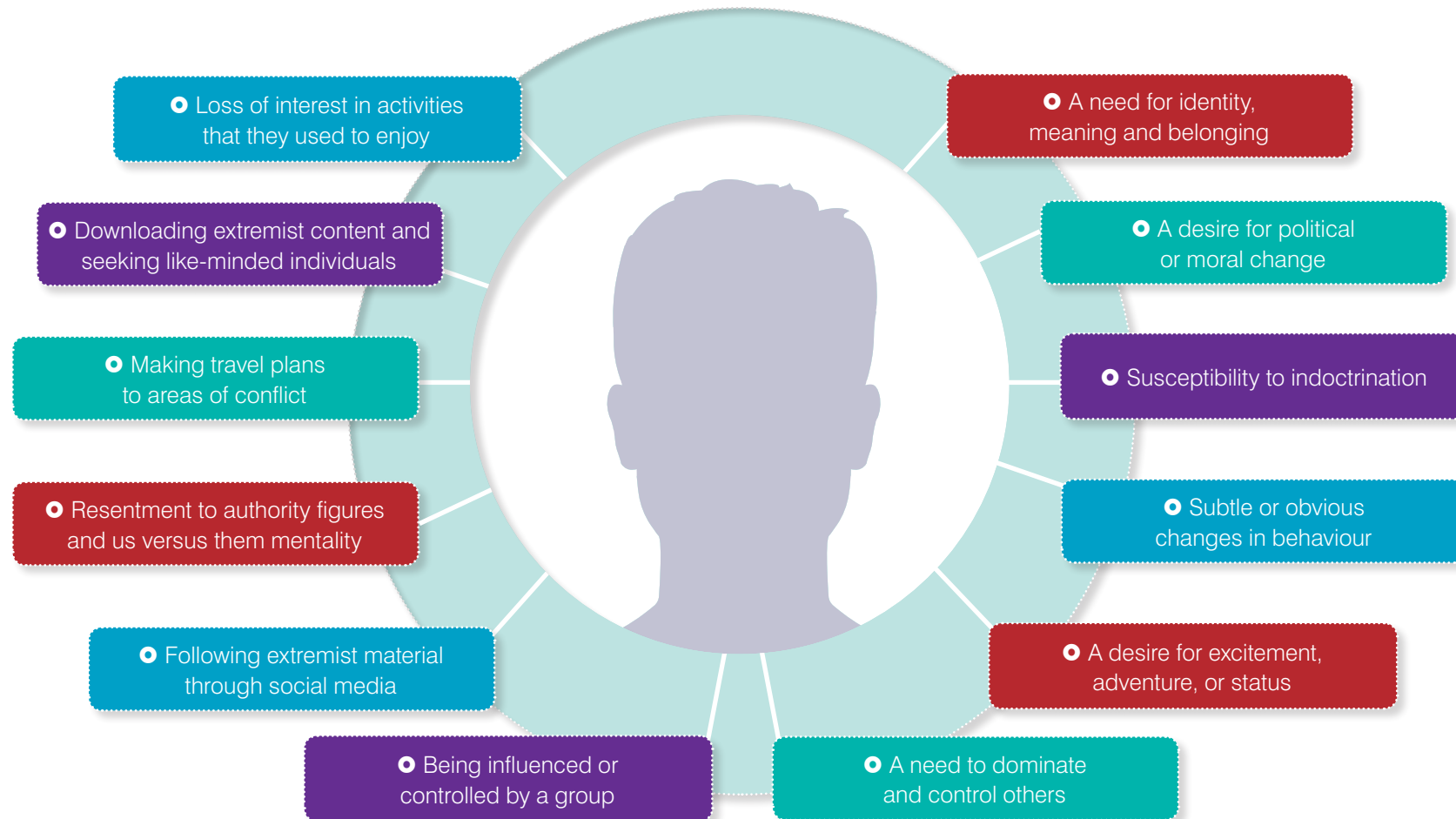
The CTLP is used to inform the Coventry Prevent Action Plan. We also include information from the CTLP in our training.

If you would like more information on this, please contact us at: [prevent@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:prevent@coventry.gov.uk)



# POTENTIALLY CONCERNING BEHAVIOUR

This is not exhaustive, nor is it a checklist. These are some potential vulnerabilities and warning signs to be aware of. Any number or none could be present in individual cases of concern.





# HOW TO MAKE A REFERRAL

If you have concerns that an individual of any age could be being radicalised, or is becoming involved in/is supporting extremism or terrorism, then these concerns should be shared to ensure appropriate support can be provided to safeguard the individual. Referrals should be submitted using the **Prevent Referral Form**, which can be accessed at [www.coventry.gov.uk/preventreferralform](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/preventreferralform). If you require any advice or support with completing the form you can contact [Prevent@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:Prevent@coventry.gov.uk)



	<b>Assess</b>	The information provided in your referral form will be assessed.
		If appropriate, the referral will progress.
	<b>Contact</b>	You will only be contacted for further information if required.
	<b>Support</b>	The multi-agency Channel Panel will discuss how the referred person can best be supported.
		Referred person will give consent to receive support.
		Bespoke Channel Support and Intervention Plan is implemented.
		6-month and 12-month post-support reviews held.

# WHAT IS CHANNEL?

Channel is the safeguarding panel which supports Prevent. Led by the Local Authority, it is a programme which focuses on supporting people at an early stage who could be drawn into terrorism. It ensures people of any age, faith, ethnicity or background receive support before their vulnerabilities are exploited by those wanting them to embrace terrorism or any illegal extremist activity.

- Channel is a confidential and voluntary process that allows individuals to have the final say of accepting support or not.
- The type of support that is provided is decided upon by the individual referred and partners who will work with them. This ensures that any support that is provided is tailored to the person's needs.
- These support options are vast and include support with education, employment, housing, mental health and any other necessary challenges.
- Ideological support is also common, which may include discussion with credible ideological experts and faith leaders.
- Individuals who are referred to Prevent or receive support from Channel are not criminalised and will not receive a criminal record unless a criminal offence is committed.





# TRAINING, ADVICE AND SUPPORT

We offer a variety of training for staff, students, and professionals.

The latest and most up to date information can be found on our webpage [www.coventry.gov.uk/preventtraining](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/preventtraining). You can also access a range of national tools available [www.coventry.gov.uk/preventresources](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/preventresources).

If you are part of Children's Services, it is mandatory for you to complete the e-learning module:

**Safeguarding Against Radicalisation – The Prevent Duty.**

This is accessed at [www.coventry.melearning.university/login](http://www.coventry.melearning.university/login)



## PREVENT TEAM

Our team is here to help with any further information, advice or guidance. Contact us at [prevent@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:prevent@coventry.gov.uk)

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