

Bradford Prevent Safeguarding Referral Guidance for Partners

Introduction

This document has been developed to assist you in making a referral to Bradford 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 only, 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 and 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 individuals 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 at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

Vulnerability and risk indicators

Prevent in Bradford identifies and tackles all forms of extremism.

The Bradford Prevent Team work in partnership to address radicalisation concerns by identifying risk at the earliest possible opportunity, prior to safeguarding individuals through the Bradford Channel process.

Channel is a Multi-Agency process, established in every local authority in England and Wales, and works to support vulnerable people from being drawn into terrorism, and provides a range of support including mentoring, counselling, theological support, and assistance with a range of other issues. Channel focuses on early intervention to try and protect vulnerable people from being drawn into Terrorism, and addresses all types of extremism.

If an individual is discussed at Channel and deemed vulnerable, they will be offered support. 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.

The Bradford Channel Panel meeting is chaired by a senior manager within Children's Services at Bradford Council.

The Bradford Channel Panel recognises that the radicalisation process can be extremely 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 which will accurately identify a person who is at risk of radicalisation, and who may, at a later date, progress to committing 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 experience.

Recently, there have been high profile news reports in the national media where individuals, particularly young people, have been referred to Channel as a result of the new statutory duty. These stories have been sensationalised for effect without the full facts being outlined and have served to highlight that all referrals should be based on *sound reasoning and professional judgement with accurate recording* at every stage.

The Channel process in Bradford District ensures that referrals made to Bradford Prevent are appropriate before they are discussed at the Channel Panel meeting 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 about the Channel process, including a description of the Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF) 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 of the Government's Channel Duty Guidance.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-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 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 Prevent 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 Lead within 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 Channel e-learning training course.

If the organisation's designated Safeguarding Lead is not available the referral should still be forwarded by the reporting person to the Police, so that a timely assessment can made.

<https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/>

If the referring person or organisation has not completed the above referral then it is highly recommended that they speak with a member of the Bradford Prevent Team in the first instance, to discuss any concerns before making any referral.

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 relevant information required within the initial 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 raised 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 Bradford 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 differentiated between the date of referral and date of incident or incidents? If there is a gap, have you provided an explanation, for example; waiting for a meeting with parents to discuss concerns before making referral?
- 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 Safeguarding referrals regarding the subject, 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

Completed referral forms (Appendix 1) should be sent, **as soon as possible** to the Police at the below email address:

nectu.fimu@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

If you need to speak to someone about your referral please contact 01274 376215.

What happens next?

Following a referral, the information received will be assessed by the Police. Following this assessment a decision will be made regarding the suitability of the case for discussion at the Bradford Channel Panel. If the case is not suitable for Channel the Police will notify the referrer regarding 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 may be invited to the next Bradford 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.

Prevent Contacts

For further advice regarding a concern you have please contact a member of the Bradford Police Prevent Team on 01274 376088.

If no one is available you can contact the Bradford Council Prevent team at the following email: Prevent@bradford.gov.uk

If your enquiry is urgent and an emergency please contact the Police on 999. Please do not delay the submission of a referral to the CTU if you are unable to speak to a member of the Bradford Prevent Team

APPENDIX 1

IF THIS REFERRAL RELATES TO A MATTER REQUIRING URGENT POLICE ATTENTION, PLEASE RING 999. This form should be completed and emailed without delay to:

nectu.fimu@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

N.B. Until this form is submitted to the North East Counter Terrorism Unit the risk will be retained by the referring agency.

PREVENT REFERRAL FORM			
Date of referral:			
Full Name			
D.O.B		Gender	
Address Including Post Code			
Contact Details:		Mobile No:	
E-Mail:			
Social Media: <i>(Facebook, Twitter, etc)</i>			
Parent/Guardian (if applicable):	1.	2.	
Parent/Guardian Contact Details:	1.	2.	
Family Members			
Name:		D.O.B.	Gender
Name:		D.O.B.	Gender
Name:		D.O.B.	Gender
Name:		D.O.B.	Gender
Referrer			
Organisation:	School:		
Single Point of Contact within organisation <i>(name, contact details, email)</i>			
Nature of concern <i>(please provide as much detail as possible –full details of issue / vulnerabilities etc):</i>			
Referrers Actions <i>(please provide the details of any actions you or your organisation have undertaken to address the issues being raised) :</i>			
Is the Subject aware this referral is being made (Yes / No)			
Other Agency Involvement <i>(please specify)</i>			
Outcome of Police/Prevent Assessment <i>(to be completed by NECTU Prevent Duty Sergeant)</i>			