

September 2023

Bury Prevent Newsletter

Welcome to the first of a regular series of newsletters providing information and guidance in relation to Prevent.

The focus on Prevent is to safeguard against hateful extremism.

Prevent is one part of the government's overall counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST. The aim of Prevent is to:

- tackle the ideological causes of terrorism.
- intervene early to support people susceptible to radicalisation.
- enable those who have already engaged in terrorism to disengage and support behaviour change.

Introduction to Roy Thickett

Roy is Policy Officer within the Strategic Partnership's Team at Bury Council and vice-chair of the Bury Prevent Steering Group.

Having worked in Radcliffe during the Covid-19 pandemic as a Community Engagement Champion, Roy's current role involves working with public service leads in Bury East, whilst also leading local work on hate crime and safeguarding against hateful extremism.



"Prevent is the Government's strategy to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism, in all its forms. Prevent works at the pre criminal stage by using early intervention to encourage individuals and communities to challenge extremist and terrorist ideology and behaviour."

"We recognise and all agree that Prevent is about safeguarding. We understand the same methods of grooming that are used in child sexual exploitation, child criminal exploitation and other exploitative relationships are used to manipulate vulnerable young people and adults into hateful extremism. We also know that safeguarding against extremism crosses the paths of other organisations that support and protect vulnerable young people and adults such as mental health services, drugs and alcohol and domestic violence to name a few".

"If you've any Prevent related questions or would like training – whether that's attending a team meeting or running a special session please just get in touch!"

You can contact Roy by email to prevent@bury.gov.uk or call 07581020228

Or for further information go to:

<https://www.bury.gov.uk/my-neighbourhood/safety-in-the-community>

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National picture

Threat level

The threat to the UK from terrorism is currently substantial.

This indicates that an attack is likely. It is the middle of the 5 levels of threat which terrorism is assessed against, with the level set by the Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre and the Security Service.

CONTEST 2023

Earlier in the summer the government published an update to CONTEST. This has developed in response to changes in the national and international landscape over the past 5 years with an evolving and more diverse threats, including the increase in self-initiated terrorists across different ideologies.

There were no fundamental changes to PREVENT within this, given that there is ongoing work to update this duty in the context of the Independent Review of Prevent (IRP as referenced in image below) published in January 2023, though the image below summarises the Prevent component of CONTEST 2023:

Prevent



Stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

We commit to:

- Swiftly implementing the recommendations of the IRP
- Enhancing our approach to tackling terrorism in prisons and probation
- Gaining royal assent for the Online Safety Bill and establishing Ofcom as the independent regulator
- Continuing to work closely with our allies to share best practice on our approach to prevention, supporting and enhancing the delivery of Prevent in the UK.

A four-page leaflet is available summarising CONTEST is available here: <https://shorturl.at/ahXY3>

Recap – how to make a referral

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.

Remember that it is important to follow your organisations safeguarding policy and report any concerns you have to the correct people.

If you are not sure whether you should make a referral you can speak to the Prevent team or call the GMP Prevent Team on 0161 856 6362.

There are no daft questions, and we are happy to talk things through with you.

If you wish to fill out the form online, you can do so here: <https://shorturl.at/hrIMX>

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How might I spot someone who is being radicalised?

Radicalisation can be difficult to spot and isn't always experienced the same way.

However, there are some common risk factors which could individuate that a person is or is at risk of being radicalised.

- Isolating themselves from family and friends
- Talking as if from a scripted speech
- Unwillingness or inability to discuss their views.
- A sudden disrespectful attitude towards others
- Increased levels of anger
- Increased secretiveness, especially around internet use.
- For further information please visit: <https://actearly.uk/>

Far Right session by SAFE

SAFE CST supported by Bury Council delivered a workshop on Understanding the Far Right.

The workshop was very well attended by various community, faith and hate crime reporting centres within Bury.



On November 28 2023 SAFE is delivering a workshop about Incels – the new face of misogyny.

This workshop will look and inform how the incel culture has moved into the mainstream.

Details about how to attend will be released shortly.



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Upcoming Training

Home Office Prevent Duty Training

Three free online training sessions are available for anyone to be able to access to learn how to support people susceptible to radicalisation.

Course 1 focuses on awareness and is for anyone new to Prevent.

If you're unsure what Prevent is and what signs to look for when it comes to risks of radicalisation, awareness is the first course in our Prevent duty training. When you have completed this course, you will be able to:

- know what Prevent is.
- understand why Prevent is important.
- understand how Prevent applies to your role.
- identify the emotions and behaviours that might make someone susceptible to radicalisation.
- understand how to apply the notice, check, share procedure.

Course 2 This course builds on the awareness course and will explain how to make a Prevent referral that is both informed and with good intention. When you have completed this course, you will be able to:

- know what a Prevent referral is
- know what information to gather.
- know who to speak to, to validate concerns.
- identify valid causes for concern.
- know the key principles for making a Prevent referral.

Course 3 will give you an understanding of the full Channel process and the intervention options available.

When you have completed this course, you will be able to:

- describe what Channel is
- identify the roles and responsibilities of people within the Channel panel or PMAP
- share information at the right time with the right person
- recognise the first steps to assess whether someone is susceptible to becoming a terrorist or supporting terrorism.
- identify the most appropriate options available to support a person at risk.
- understand the requirement to obtain consent before being able to support a person.

All of these courses can be accessed at:

Prevent duty training: <https://www.support-people-vulnerable-to-radicalisation.service.gov.uk/portal>



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Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) Training

This training is to raise awareness of PREVENT and CHANNEL as a strategy to reduce the number of people becoming or supporting violent extremism through recognising, supporting, and protecting people who might be susceptible to radicalisation through multi-agency support.

This session is open to all and includes:

- How young people and adults are radicalised.
- The signs of radicalisation.
- Local and national tensions
- How Prevent supports safeguarding vulnerable individuals against extremism and radicalisation
- What to do if you think a person is being radicalised.

Upcoming WRAP sessions are:

- 21 September 2023, at 6pm to 7pm
- 26 October 2023, at 6pm to 7pm

To book a place, please contact prevent@bury.gov.uk

Upcoming webinars by SAFE (Safety Advice for Everybody) through Community Security Trust.

For more information and to book onto sessions:

<https://events.zoom.us/j/9J2FJjr6sdw~AggLXsr32QYFjq8BIYLZ5I06Dg>

- 12 September 2pm, Incels – the new face of misogyny
- 20 September 7pm, Online Security
- 28 September 2pm, Martyn's Law – A detailed explanation of the Draft Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill
- 11 October 7pm, Martyn's Law (Draft) - Premises and Event Security
- 19 October 2pm, Martyn's Law (Draft) - Organising Security
- 31 October, 2pm, Exploring the Far Right



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Addressing common myths about Prevent

Myth: Prevent targets specific faiths or ethnic groups

Prevent does not target a specific faith or ethnic group.

It addresses the ideological causes of terrorism and deals with all kinds of terrorist threats to the UK.

Prevent is mainly delivered at the community level through the local authority and partners in education and healthcare.

This ensures that radicalisation risks are properly understood within the local context.

In the next issue (October 2023)

- Martyn's Law
- Online safety support
- Venue hire guidance

Useful Resources

- Prevent and Channel factsheet - 2023 - Home Office in the media (blog.gov.uk) – Overview of the Prevent agenda and Channel process <https://homeofficemedia.blog.gov.uk/2023/02/08/prevent-and-channel-factsheet-2023/>
- What are the signs of radicalisation? ACT Early - find out more about the signs that someone may be vulnerable to radicalisation. <https://actearly.uk/spot-the-signs-of-radicalisation/what-to-look-for/>
- Protecting charities from abuse for extremist purposes - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) – guide on how trustees, staff and volunteers can protect their charity from abuse by those encouraging extremism. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-charities-from-abuse-for-extremist-purposes>
- Radicalisation and child protection NSPCC Learning – online resource from the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/radicalisation>
- Education colleagues – your Designated Safeguarding Leads have received a Prevent Education Handbook

For further information please visit www.bury.gov.uk/prevent or email prevent@bury.gov.uk