



February 2025

Bury Prevent Newsletter

Welcome to February's newsletter providing information and guidance in relation to Prevent in Bury.

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.

Hello from Roy Thickett and Bury Council

Welcome to February's Prevent Newsletter, your trusted source for updates, insights, and resources around Prevent.

This space is dedicated to bringing together community groups and professionals committed to safeguarding and building resilient communities. Each month, we'll share key developments, practical tools, and inspiring stories to support your work in creating safer spaces for all.

Thank you for being part of this vital conversation—let's make an impact together!

In February, the smallest gestures of kindness can melt the coldest of hearts.”

Susan Elizabeth Phillips

In this month's newsletter, we'll be exploring the new policy booklet and training workshop Reducing Permissive Environments, which focuses on taking responsible bookings when hiring out public venues in Bury and ensuring public safety. These resources are designed to provide clear guidance and practical support, helping everyone involved to create safe and successful events in our community.



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Responsible Booking Guidance

Bury Council is working closely with partners to ensure our venues, events, and communities remain safe. This handbook has been developed to inform, advise, and support council staff and partner agencies on responsible booking practices. Its primary aim is to ensure publicly owned venues and resources do not provide a platform for extremist views or activities.

The handbook complements a 45-minute training workshop, designed in partnership with the Department for Education, the Home Office's Prevent programme and Bury Council.

This mandatory training is required for all staff working in public buildings across Bury and is valid for three years upon completion.

In addition to council staff, the training is **free of charge** and open to all community groups and building operators within the borough.

We are also committed to sharing our best practices and lessons learned with the wider community. While other organisations may have their own safety and security protocols, this handbook serves as a valuable resource to support the development or enhancement of their guidance.

What does the training workshop involve?

The 45-minute workshop aims to support and upskill staff and volunteers in understanding what constitutes a permissive environment and ensuring compliance with due diligence in venue hire and booking procedures.

Participants will gain:

- A clearer understanding of the **Ask, Check, Decide** framework.
- Knowledge of how to assess and manage potential risks associated with venue bookings.
- The confidence to make informed decisions regarding room bookings and activities, with clarity on when to escalate issues to their team or organisation.

This training package fosters a shared understanding among staff and volunteers, enabling them to uphold best practices in venue hire and

To view the Hirring Venue Policy Booklet please click here;

<https://www.bury.gov.uk/asset-library/bury-reducing-permissive-environments-handbook1.pdf>

Bury Council's Prevent Venue Guidance page <https://www.bury.gov.uk/my-neighbourhood/safety-in-the-community/prevent/prevent-venue-hire-guidance>

To book the workshop, request further information, or access support, please contact: prevent@bury.gov.uk



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Did you know?

Staff at The Met Theatre completed their reducing permissive environments workshop to make sure their venue is taking responsible bookings and the public safe!

The Met's Engagement and Access Manager Steph Meskell said: "We recently received Preventing Permissive Environments training from Roy to support our staff to feel more confident and empowered to carry out their role in Prevent, whether through challenging enquiries, making decisions or seeking advice and support.

"It was an enlightening experience for staff members who had not experienced taking part in this area of work before and provided valuable insights and learning to take forward."

On February 4, 2025, the Connexions team attended WRAP Prevent training led by Roy, enhancing our understanding about Prevent whilst supporting young people.

Shelley Warden, the Connexions Manager, for Children Services said:

"We learnt about recognising signs of radicalisation, implementing safeguarding measures, and encouraging an inclusive environment.

"The training emphasised our crucial role in early intervention and highlighted strategies for promoting resilience and critical thinking among young people.

"This knowledge equips us to better support their pathways into education, employment, and training while ensuring their safety and well-being."

For further information to book training or a discussion please contact Roy Thickett on prevent@bury.gov.uk



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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.

New Prevent Duty Toolkit for Local Authorities:

Under section 29 of the counter terrorism and security act of 2015, Local Authorities (LAs) are required to have due regard to preventing people from being drawn into terrorism. A new toolkit supports the delivery of Prevent by LAs, providing examples of good and best practice. It does not supersede statutory guidance but does highlight benchmarks for typical expectations of local authorities delivering Prevent.

It can be found here:

(https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1182802/Prevent_duty_guidance_toolkit_for_local_authorities.pdf)

A new section has been added to the Prevent guidance on using the National Referral Form and the 'Notice, Check, Share' process. Professionals may wish to adopt this process if they have concerns about radicalisation.

Notice - any concerning behaviour, including signs of radicalisation as included in the guidance

Check - the organisational response and speak to the safeguarding lead of your concerns. This means that you will have all the relevant information before sharing.

Share - the concern and make a referral to the police using the national referral form.

Implications for Bury:

Bury Council should review all of the above recommendations and consider implementation of those which are not already in place. Contact prevent@bury.gov.uk or more in-depth of information on any of the recommendations, including best practice.

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/privacy/service-privacy-notices/prevent-and-channel-panel-privacy-notice>



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Guidance: get help for radicalisation

Since 2017, there has been 14 terror attacks in the UK. The government's CONTEST policy paper sets out a strategy to not only stop attacks, but also to prevent radicalisation and extremism happening in the first place.

The government's main priority is to make use of the full potential of their Counter-Terrorism Operations Centre (CTOC) to bring together the right teams and technology to disrupt and prevent terrorists, also bringing in expertise from other, non-law enforcement sectors such as education and social services, as well as international partners and allies.

The strategy is divided into 4 sections covering the areas of our world-leading counter-terrorism programme. These are:

Prevent – to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

Pursue – to stop terrorist attacks in this country or UK interests overseas.

Protect – to strengthen our position against a terrorist attack.

Prepare – to minimise the impact of an attack and reduce the likelihood of further attacks.

There are also efforts that go beyond CONTEST to make transformational improvements to response.

For example, the government supports the public and private sector to become partners in prevention by increasing public messaging to ensure that they are informed about the routes to report, keeping safe, and responding to incidents.

They will strengthen our border lines against terrorism and invest in relationships with the technology sector to explore opportunities and threats arising from technology, suppressing criminal exploitation of the internet.

What is Terrorism?

Terrorism is defined in Section 1 Terrorism Act 2000

(<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/11/section/1>) as the use or threat of action designed to:

- influence the government or an international governmental organisation or
- 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 a 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.



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Upcoming training

Prevent duty training:

[Learn how to support people susceptible to radicalisation | Prevent duty training \(www.support-people-vulnerable-to-radicalisation.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.support-people-vulnerable-to-radicalisation.service.gov.uk)

Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) Training

WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness around Prevent) is a Level 3 advanced Home Office training package designed for front-line staff in the private and public sector including professionals, social services, housing, the health sector, probation service, offender management units, family protection units & employment services..

The training is designed 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 covers:

- Know what Prevent is.
 - Understand why Prevent is important
 - Understand how Prevent applies to their role
 - Identify the emotions and behaviours that might make someone susceptible to radicalisation
 - Understand how to apply the notice, check, share procedure
 - Understand risk in their local area
 - Know what to do when they have a concern
 - Understand their local referral pathway.
- To book a place, please contact prevent@bury.gov.uk



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

For further information and to book onto sessions: [SAFE Events Hub \(zoom.us\)](https://www.safeevents.org/)

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

- 4 Mar - 2pm, **Basic Security for your community** (raise your awareness with our in-troduction to community security) with MOPAC London
- 12 Mar - noon, **Countering Radicalisation and Changing Mindsets** (how are people's minds changed towards radicalisation?)

Some useful links and documents can be found by scanning our Linktree.

Scan this QR code to find out more



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GMP Triage for referrals to Channel

For a pre-discussion and information and guidance around the suitability of submitting a referral for Channel you can contact CTPNW (Counter Terrorism Policing Northwest). (CTPNW) is a five-force collaboration delivering Counter Terrorism (CT) services to our regional forces as well as forming part of the national CT Network.

Staff at CTPNW can advise and support on whether the referral will be appropriate.

Tel: 0161 856 6362 Email: channel.project@gmp.police.uk

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

Useful Resources

- www.protectuk.police.uk/ - counter terrorism support & guidance to effectively protect & prepare.
- 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