



# **Risk Assessment for local authorities**

# Understanding risk

*‘All specified authorities... should demonstrate an awareness and understanding of the risk of radicalisation in their area, institution or body..’*

Prevent duty guidance

## Assessing risk requires:

- **co-operation** with key partners to identify and achieve a shared understanding of local risks
- **co-ordination** through multi-agency forums
- **information sharing**
- continued **engagement with local communities** and community based organisations

# Understanding risk in your sector

A risk assessment could consider:

## **Ideology**

- speakers promoting extremist views and venues that host them
- individuals/ groups/networks

## **Institutions**

- identify places where there is a risk of radicalisation/ promotion of extremist propaganda
- use of local authority resources/ contracts

## **Individuals**

- online radicalisation
- individuals being radicalised
- travel to Syria/Iraq

# Understanding risk in your area

*‘No area, institution or body is risk free.’*

## Prevent duty guidance

- Understand your area and map local communities, institutions and networks.
- Work with key partners to identify and assess local risks:
  - Local multi-agency partnerships, such as CSP's
  - Statutory partners e.g. schools, local health partners
  - Communities
  - Elected members

# Understanding risk in your area: CTLPS

Counter Terrorism Local Profiles are one tool for understanding risks in an area.

## **CTLPS:**

- identify the threat and vulnerabilities from terrorism and extremism at local level
- assist police and partners to prioritise the threat
- suggest recommendations to address the risk

## **Purpose**

- Provide joint understanding of terrorism related threat
- Strengthen local partnerships
- Mainstream Prevent activity into daily delivery across all sectors

# Understanding risk in your area: CTLP s

## CTLP format

- CT picture for specific locality
- Information on Community Tensions
- The context of threats from other forms of extremism
- An international perspective
- Cross boundary issues



# **Implementing the Prevent duty: local authorities**

# Working in partnership: action plan

*‘Any local authority that assesses... that there is a risk should develop a Prevent action plan. These local action plans will identify, prioritise and facilitate delivery of projects, activities or specific interventions to reduce the risk or people being drawn into terrorism...’*

Prevent Duty Guidance

An Action plan:

- identifies the risk and the response to each risk with a clear owner;
- is developed with key partners;
- is reviewed regularly and overseen by the CSP or equivalent local multi agency forum; and
- is underpinned by information sharing between statutory partners.



# Example action plan

Prevent Objective				Owner (s)
IDEOLOGY	Enable effective use of social and non-mainstream media to ensure effective dissemination of counter narratives	1.31	Develop Communications Strategy and appropriate communication mechanisms to deliver Prevent messaging across all sectors.	LA
		1.32	Support the development of community led social media/online campaigns challenging extremist narratives.	LA
INDIVIDUALS	Ensure appropriate Interventions are available for supporting vulnerable individuals.	2.21	Develop appropriate mechanisms for monitoring Intervention activity and performance.	CTU
		2.22	Ensure effective quality assurance framework and processes are in place for the identification and management of interventions.	CTU
INSTITUTIONS	Ensure Schools and Colleges are equipped with the appropriate tools to deal with key Prevent risks and vulnerabilities	3.21	Ensure teaching staff are given appropriate support and awareness of how to identify and respond to signs of radicalisation.	LA
		3.22	Ensure engagement with independent, emerging free schools and academies to raise awareness of, and confidence in, Prevent reporting and referral pathways whilst also maintain engagement with existing schools.	LA CS

# Staff training

*Local authorities will be expected to ensure appropriate frontline staff...have a good understanding of Prevent, are trained to recognise vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism and are aware of available programmes to deal with this issue'*

## Prevent duty Guidance

- WRAP is an hour long DVD-led interactive workshop delivered by accredited staff across the public sector, free of charge
- Aimed at front line staff: e.g. social services, education and health.
- Attendees leave WRAP sessions able to understand what makes individuals susceptible to radicalisation and how to raise a concern

# Safeguarding

*‘Local authorities should ensure that there are clear and robust safeguarding policies to identify children at risk.’*

Prevent duty guidance

*‘Knowing what to look for is vital to the early identification of abuse and neglect. If staff members are unsure they should always speak to the designated safeguarding lead.’*

Keeping children safe in education

The Prevent duty guidance should be read in conjunction with ‘Working Together to Safeguard Children’ and ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education’.

# Safeguarding: Channel

- Programme to provide support for individuals who are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism
- It is entirely voluntary for the person being offered support, and is not a criminal sanction in any way
- Programme has existed in every local area in England and Wales since April 2012 (and in Scotland, where it is known as Prevent Professional Concerns)
- Administered through multi-agency panels at local level
- Panels are chaired by local authorities and supported by police
- Panels will have representatives from a number of agencies, including health, education, housing, social work
- As well as providing an opportunity for individuals to receive statutory support they may be entitled to, Channel also can (uniquely) provide theological or ideological mentoring

# Safeguarding: Channel

1. **Identification:** normally by frontline public sector workers, who recognise the signs of radicalisation
2. **Assessment:** initially by the police  
information gathering stage: malicious or misguided referral? Already under investigation? First use of the standard Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF):
  - engagement** with a group, cause or ideology;
  - intent** to cause harm; and
  - capability** to cause harmA person is then judged to be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism, and therefore suitable for Channel; vulnerable in some other way, and therefore signposted to other support; or not vulnerable.
3. **Panel meeting:** panel will confirm the assessment and consider kinds of support to be offered
4. **Support provided.**
5. **Appraisal and monitoring:** police practitioner regularly liaises with support providers and updates the VAF. All cases reviewed after 6 and 12 months of exiting the programme.

# Monitoring

The Home Office will:

- compile data from Prevent co-ordinators, the police, other departments and inspection bodies.
- monitor funding in 46 Prevent priority areas and other local authorities
- Prevent Oversight Board

Local monitoring