

What is Prevent?

Prevent is part of the UK's overall counter-terrorism strategy known as CONTEST. The aim of Prevent is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism by focusing on the following 3 objectives;



The Prevent Duty

Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015) placed a statutory duty on specified authorities to have due regard to the need to Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

Specified authorities outlined within this duty include Local Authorities, Police, Schools, Further and Higher Education, Health, Prisons and Probation.

The Prevent Duty was introduced on 1 July 2015 to ensure that authorities have a consistent approach to the delivery of Prevent across the UK and to enhance efforts to prevent terrorism by responding to the ideological challenge of terrorism and to dissuade people from travelling to Syria and Iraq.

The Kirklees approach to Prevent?

We acknowledge that cohesive and empowered communities are better equipped to reject extremist ideologies and as the threat from extremists in this country and abroad evolves we must also evolve and ensure our approach moves into the digital age. The Kirklees Prevent Strategy tackles all forms of extremism and focuses on preventing radicalisation by identifying risk at the earliest possible stage. We recognise that there is no single factor to radicalisation and that vulnerabilities in individuals such as age, deprivation, low self-esteem, frustration and anger, along with a lack of protective factors (employment, education, family and social networks) can make an individual vulnerable to radicalisation and extremism.

The Kirklees Prevent Hub is the main point of contact for Prevent enquiries and concerns across Kirklees. The Hub is a partnership approach between West Yorkshire Police and Kirklees Council and oversees the delivery of Prevent activities across Kirklees.

Priority Status

Prevent priority status is based upon risk assessments conducted by the Police and government partners. Kirklees, like a number of other areas within West Yorkshire is a Prevent priority area which means the authority can apply for Home Office approved projects and initiatives to be delivered at a local level.

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How does Kirklees support vulnerable individuals?

Channel is a multi-agency safeguarding programme run in every local authority in England and Wales. It works to support vulnerable people from being drawn into extremism and provides a range of support such as mentoring, counselling and assistance with education, employment and training. Channel focuses on early intervention to protect vulnerable people from being radicalised.

The role of the Channel panel is to develop an appropriate support package to safeguard those

at risk of being drawn into extremism based on an assessment of their vulnerability.

The Kirklees Channel panel is chaired by Carol Gilchrist, Head of Safe and Cohesive Communities and meetings are held on a monthly basis.

The panel is made up of a number of professionals with safeguarding experience from a variety of organisations and services including children and adults safeguarding, education, health, and West Yorkshire Police.

What has Kirklees been doing to address radicalisation and the Prevent agenda?

For many years Kirklees has worked with community groups, schools, youth development programmes and community leaders in the delivery of projects and workshops to address to build resilience to radicalisation.

In 2016, over 30 Prevent based projects were delivered in Kirklees engaging over 3400 young people, individuals and families.

If you have a concern or would like more information about Prevent in Kirklees, please contact the Prevent Hub on **01924 483747** or email: **prevent@kirklees.gcsx.gov.uk**

