

1

Definition

'Extremism' is defined as vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

'Radicalisation' is the process where someone has their vulnerabilities or susceptibilities exploited towards crime or terrorism—most often by a third party, who have their own agenda.

'Prevent' is part of the UK's counter terrorism strategy, preventing people from becoming involved in terrorism or supporting terrorism.

'Terrorism' is an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing political, religious, or ideological causes.

2

Contest

'Contest' is the Government's overarching counter-terrorism strategy. The aim of the strategy is to "reduce the risk to the UK and its interests overseas from terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence."

Contest is split into 4 workstreams:

1. Pursue
2. Prevent
3. Protect
4. Prepare

3

Why it Matters

The importance of safeguarding vulnerable individuals from radicalisation and violent extremism cannot be overstated. More and more vulnerable people are being influenced by dangerous views through peer groups and online. These vulnerable individuals do not make conscious and rational decisions about supporting extremist views and need to be protected by agencies and professionals

4

Prevent Strategy

Aims to stop people either from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. It does this by:

- Challenging the spread of extremist ideology
- Preventing vulnerable individuals from being drawn in by extremist ideology
- Working with a wide range of sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation

Prevent is not in the criminal space – it is about multi-agency safeguarding of vulnerable individuals who are at risk of being radicalised.

7

Further Reading

[Prevent Referral Map \(Notice-Check-Share Procedure\)](#)

[Prevent Duty Guidance](#)

[Home Office Training Catalogue](#)

[Understanding Pathways to Extremism and the Prevent Programme \(Virtual College training course—chargeable cost\)](#)

[Home Office E-Learning: Prevent \(free\)](#)

[Home Office E-Learning: Prevent Referrals \(free\)](#)

[Home Office E-Learning: Channel \(free\)](#)



5

Channel

Channel is a key part of the Prevent Strategy. It uses existing links between local authorities, statutory partners, the Police and local communities to:

- Identify individuals at risk of being drawn in to terrorism
- Assess the nature and extent of the risk; and
- Develop the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned

Disrupting terrorist activity, preventing radicalisation and supporting those vulnerable to becoming involved in violent extremism is a shared responsibility under Prevent. The statutory duty to actively participate in Prevent is placed on:

- Local Authority
- Schools and Registered Childcare Providers
- Publicly funded further education colleges
- Higher education institutes
- Health Sector
- Police
- Prisons and Probation

6

Raising a Safeguarding Concern

If you have a Prevent concern that an adult is at risk of being radicalised, follow the [multi-agency safeguarding adults procedures](#).



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