Prevent & Anti-Radicalisation Policy

Policy & Guidelines

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1.0 Purpose

For Concrete Rose to fulfil the Prevent Duty, it is essential that staff, hosts and volunteers identify young people who may be vulnerable to radicalisation and know what to do when they are identified. Protecting young people from the risk of radicalisation should be seen as part of our wider safeguarding duties and is similar in nature to protecting young people from other harms (e.g. drugs, gangs, neglect, sexual exploitation).

We should also build young people's resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and enabling them to challenge extremist views. It is important to emphasise that the Prevent Duty is not intended to stop young people talking about or debating controversial issues. We want to provide a safe space in which young people, hosts and staff can understand the risks associated with terrorism and develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist arguments at an age-appropriate level.

1.1 What is Extremism?

"Extremism" is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British Values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. Included in the definition of extremism are calls for the death of members of the armed forces, whether in this country or overseas. Terrorist groups very often draw on extremist ideas developed by extremist organisations.

1.2 What is Radicalisation?

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups. Individuals can be 'radicalised' by other people (sometimes by people they trust, sometimes by strangers, in real life or online), or could be 'self-initiated' by things they read on the internet or influenced by world events they see in the news.

1.3 What is Terrorism?

Terrorism is the use or threat of action, both in and outside of the UK, designed to influence any international government organisation or to intimidate the public. It must also be for the purpose of advancing a political, religious, racial, or ideological cause. It is important to note that, in order to be convicted of a terrorism offence ,a person doesn't actually have to commit what could be considered a terrorist attack. Planning, assisting and even collecting information on how to commit terrorist acts are all crimes under British terrorism legislation.

2.0 Duties and Responsibilities

2.1 Responsibilities

Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty upon Local Authorities and local authority partners in the exercise of their functions to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".

Providers are required to:

- Know about and identify early indicators in young people.
- Develop the confidence to challenge and intervene.
- Assess the risk of our young people being drawn into terrorism and terrorist ideology.
- Have clear protocols & keep records.

The statutory guidance on the Prevent Duty summarises the requirements in terms of four general themes: risk assessment, working in partnership, staff training and IT policies.

2.2. Risk Assessment

Concrete Rose will assess and monitor the risk of young people being drawn into terrorism; the general risks may vary from area to area, and according to their age, local threat and proportionality.

- Concrete Rose is aware of the increased risk of online radicalisation, as extremist and terrorist organisations seek to radicalise young people through the use of social media and the internet.
- There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology. As with managing other safeguarding risks, we will be alert to changes in young people's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Young People at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views.
- Staff, hosts and volunteers should use their judgment in identifying young people who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately.

2.3 Working in Partnership

The Prevent duty builds on existing local partnership arrangements.

- We will follow the procedures set out by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board with reference to Safeguarding Children and Young People who are deemed to be vulnerable to Violent Extremism
- We will work with the Local Authority and with other agencies in making sure we undertake our duties under Prevent to identify and support young people.
- Effective engagement with partner organisations (e.g. schools and colleges) is also important as they are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation.

2.4 Training

The statutory guidance refers to the importance of Prevent awareness training to equip staff to identify young people at risk of being drawn into terrorism and to challenge extremist ideas.

- We will ensure that all full-time staff complete training on Prevent as part of their safeguarding training. This will include threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to extremism and radicalisation; early indicators, responding to and reporting concerns.
- We will follow the recommendations of the Local Authority and ensure staff undertake Prevent training every two years.

2.5 IT Policies

We will try, where possible, to ensure young people are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in host homes. This includes:

- Talking to hosts to ensure that suitable filtering is in place.
- Educating our young people to keep safe online and be aware of those trying to impose extreme views

3.0 Education

We will work to ensure that the young people we support are skilled and equipped to be resilient and resist involvement in extreme or radical activities. Therefore, we recognise the need to build resilience in the young people we support to make them less vulnerable. Where appropriate staff, volunteers, hosts and youth workers will look to have direct conversations with young people around threat and risk and online radicalisation.

4.0 Indicators, Help and Support

There are many factors that can make someone vulnerable to radicalisation. They can apply to any age, social class, religion, ethnic or educational background. More important than any one specific sign is the sense that

something is not quite right with a particular young person. This may include spotting one sign or a combination of signs that are increasing in intensity. Sometimes they can be indicators of other underlying issues or challenges that are not connected to radicalisation.

Help identifying a concern can be found on the following websites:

- Let's Talk About It – Working Together to Prevent Terrorism
- Act Early
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board

5.0 Referral Procedure

We will treat any worry or concern that a young person may be exposed to possible extremism, extremist ideology and or radicalisation as a possible safeguarding concern and will seek advice where appropriate.

All Prevent concerns and incidents will be bought to the attention of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or the Substitute DSL (SDSL) who will follow one of the following two next steps:

- *Under 18's*: Complete a safeguarding referral form (available from LSCB) and send to the MASH.
- *Over 18's*: Complete police referral form 102 and send to: mash.va@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Where a concern or incident is judged to be immediate and serious an appropriate the DSL or SDSL will contact the Police directly using 999.

We will ensure that we keep accurate and up to date records of any additional safeguarding concerns in line with our recording polices.

We understand that the Channel Programme is an element of the Prevent Strategy aimed at stopping vulnerable people being drawn into terrorism. We understand in order to support young people, individuals we refer to Prevent may receive a programme of support from this multi-agency group and we may be asked to work with and attend Channel Panel(s) to progress this support.

6.0 Related Policies and guidance

This Extremism & Radicalisation Policy is linked to the following policies:

- Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy
- Equality & Diversity Policy
- Anti -bullying Policy
- Behavioural Management Policy

7.0 Management of this Policy

The DSL along with the directors of Concrete Rose will implement the policy and will ensure staff volunteers and governors have read this policy and understand their responsibilities.

The directors and Advisory Board will oversee the policy; ensure its implementation and compliance to statutory duties reviewing its content on an annual basis.

We will undertake a regular audit and review of this policy and consider any changes in guidance /legislation how these changes will be implemented within the organisation.