

# Radicalisation & Extremism

## Factsheet

## What is Prevent?

- Aims to reduce the risk to the UK from terrorism
- Part of the Government Counter Terrorism Strategy
- Targets all forms of extremism, including extreme far right, animal rights, ISIS and Al Qaeda influenced terrorism
- Can also include gangs and other factionalisation

### The Prevent strategy has three specific objectives

1. Respond to the ideological challenge or terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it
2. Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support
3. Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation

## Responsibilities of people who look after vulnerable people

It is a legal duty to safeguard vulnerable individuals is set out in

- Working Together to Safeguard Children
- The Children Act 2004
- OFSTED's Common Inspection Framework
- The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015

## Why become a terrorist?

- Need to belong or feel part of something
- To correct what they believe is social, political, or historic injustice
- Looking for an identity
- Relate to or sympathise with a particular group/cause
- Make a stand for their beliefs
- Grievances: angry, isolated by peers, discriminated
- Vulnerability: radicalised/groomed

## Why does radicalisation happen?

- For retribution or to avenge others/groups
- For media attention - propaganda
- Generate fear and unrest
- Belief that violence or its threat will be effective for change or the 'greater good'
- No choice: no other non-violent way to achieve the desired change

### Definitions

#### Terrorism

Any act designed or intended to cause terror: Commonly said to cause 'impact and body count' based on a political objective.

#### Radicalisation

A process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.

#### Radicaliser

Individual who encourages others to develop beliefs/views. Supportive of terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.

#### Radicalisation materials

Cyber, writing, videos intended to influence.

#### Extremism

Literally means driving (something) to the limit, or to the extreme. Today, the term is mostly used to refer to extreme political or religious matters.

#### Extremist

A person who holds extreme political or religious views and supports illegal, violent, or other extreme action.

#### Grievance

A circumstance regarded as just cause for complaint, resentment stemming from a feeling of having been wronged.

#### Ideology

A set of beliefs or theories, usually political, held by an individual or a group.

#### Narrative

Narrated account = a story such as those related to political views or religious beliefs.

#### Propaganda

Information, ideas, or rumours deliberately spread widely to help or harm a person, group, movement, institution, nation, etc.

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## What is radicalisation?

- The process by which people come to support violent extremism and, in some cases, join terrorist groups
- Radicalisation has a range of causes (including perceptions of our foreign policy), varying from one country and one organisation to another

## Counter Terrorism & Security Act

- The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a legal duty on public bodies (including schools) to 'have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'
- The legal duty is backed by statutory guidance that sets a range of expectations on schools
- The statutory guidance will be monitored via existing inspection procedures, such as OfSTED & CQC

## Expectations of care providers

- Promote fundamental British values
- Assess the risk of people being drawn into terrorism and support for extremism
- Train key carers to give them the knowledge and confidence to identify those at risk
- Protect people from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet or social media
- Ensure robust safeguarding policies are in place to identify those at risk, intervene and refer young people as appropriate

## Vulnerability

- The Prevent Strategy cites research suggesting that, in relation to Islamist terrorism, the following groups are particularly vulnerable to radicalisation
- Young people and people from lower income and socio-economic groups
- Those who distrust Parliament and who see a conflict between being British and their own cultural identity
- Those who perceive discrimination, experience racial or religious harassment, and have a negative view of policing

### Signs & risk factors

#### Disclosures

Writings, drawings, possessing or accessing extremist materials.

#### Expressions of support for terrorism

Using extremist narratives and 'us and them' language; justifying the use of violence to solve real or perceived grievances.

#### Personal Crisis

Family tensions; sense of isolation; low self-esteem; changes in friendship group, searching for answers to questions about identity, faith, belonging.

#### Personal Circumstances

Migration; local community tensions; and events affecting the individuals country or region of origin; a sense of grievance triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination or aspects of Government policy.