

## Stoke-on-Trent and North Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Groups

### PREVENT Policy

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## CONSULTATION AND RATIFICATION SCHEDULE

Name and Title of Individual	Date Consulted
Paula Carr, Safeguarding Lead – Children	June 2014
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Lisa Taylor, Quality and Governance Manager	July 2014
Andy Collins, Local Security Management Specialist, CSU	July 2014
Paula Carr, Safeguarding Lead – Children	August 2014

Name of Committee	Date of Committee
Quality Committee	November 2014

## VERSION CONTROL

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**Purpose of document**

The purpose of this document is to provide Stoke on Trent and North Staffordshire CCG staff with guidance about PREVENT, forming part of the Government's anti-terrorism strategy, CONTEST.

**Target Audience**

All employees of Stoke on Trent and North Staffordshire CCGs

**Version**

FINAL

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TBC

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## POLICY SUMMARY SHEET

### Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide Stoke on Trent and North Staffordshire CCG staff with guidance about PREVENT, forming part of the Government's anti-terrorism strategy, CONTEST.

### Brief Summary of Contents

- Understanding how PREVENT links into the wider Government anti-terrorism strategy, CONTEST.
- Why PREVENT is important within the NHS
- Key roles and responsibilities, including how the CCG works with other key agencies across Stoke on Trent and North Staffordshire in respect to the PREVENT agenda
- HealthWRAP training
- Understanding exploitation – the process of exploitation and factors that may increase an individual's vulnerability to exploitation
- How to raise a concern

### Organisational Related Policies and Procedures

To be agreed

### Legislation

- Terrorism Act 2000  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/11/contents>
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/9/contents/enacted>
- Terrorism Prevention and Investigations Measures Act 2011  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/23/enacted>

### Review

- This policy will be reviewed annually by the Stoke on Trent and North Staffordshire CCGs' nominated Prevent Lead

### Distribution

- This policy will be available for all staff to view on the respective CCG Intranet.

## 1.0 Background to the development of PREVENT

“The UK faces a range of terrorist threats. The most serious is from Al Qa’ida, its affiliates and like-minded organisations. All the terrorist groups who pose a threat to the UK seek to radicalise and recruit people to their cause. The percentage of people who are prepared to support violent extremism in this country is very small. It is significantly greater amongst young people.

The UK Government remains absolutely committed to protecting freedom of speech in this country, but preventing terrorism will mean challenging extremist (and non-violent) ideas that are also part of a terrorist ideology. PREVENT is part of the UK’s counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST. Its aim is to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. PREVENT will address all forms of terrorism but continue to prioritise according to the threat posed to UK national security.

PREVENT will also mean intervening to stop people moving from extremist groups or from extremism into terrorist-related activity.”

PREVENT strategy will specifically:

- respond to the **ideological challenge** of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it;
- **prevent people from being drawn into terrorism** and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support; and
- work with **sectors and institutions** where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address.

*PREVENT Strategy (June 2011)*

### 1.1 What is PREVENT?

PREVENT is part of CONTEST which is the UK’s counter-terrorism strategy aiming to reduce the risk the UK faces from terrorism so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence.

PREVENT strategy will specifically:

- respond to the **ideological challenge** of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it;
- **prevent people from being drawn into terrorism** and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support; and
- work with **sectors and institutions** where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address.

CONTEST is made up of four key work streams:

<b>Protect</b>	To strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
<b>Prepare</b>	To mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack.
<b>Pursue</b>	To disrupt or stop terrorist attacks
<b>Prevent</b>	To stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism

PREVENT is different from the other work streams because it works in the pre-criminal space, before any criminal activity takes place. It is about supporting and protecting those people that might be susceptible to radicalisation, ensuring that individuals are diverted away before any crime is committed.

## 1.2 Why is PREVENT important for Health care staff?

PREVENT aims to protect those who are vulnerable to exploitation from those who seek to influence others to support or commit acts of violence. 1.3 million staff are employed by the NHS and a further 700,000 private and charitable staff deliver services to NHS patients. There are 315,000 patient contacts per day in England alone. Health care staff are therefore well placed to recognise individuals, whether patients or staff, who may be vulnerable and therefore more susceptible to radicalisation by violent extremists or terrorists.

The Health Service is a key partner in **PREVENT** and encompasses all parts of the NHS, charitable organisations and private sector bodies which deliver health services to NHS patients. Therefore every NHS member of staff has a role to play in protecting and supporting vulnerable individuals who pass through our care.

## 2.0 Purpose

This policy describes how Stoke on Trent and North Staffordshire CCGs will implement the PREVENT agenda and will ensure that:

- Staff know how to safeguard and support individuals, whether service users or staff, who may be vulnerable to radicalisation by violent extremists
- Appropriate systems are in place within the organisations for staff to raise concerns if they think this form of exploitation is taking place
- The organisation promotes and operates safe environments where violent extremists are unable to operate
- Contracted providers are implementing the PREVENT strategy

## 3.0 Scope

The PREVENT agenda is relevant to all staff including volunteers, particularly those who work with vulnerable people.

## **4.0 Roles and responsibilities**

### **4.1 Governing Body**

- To state Stoke on Trent and North Staffordshire CCG's commitment to the PREVENT agenda in order to promote early detection of vulnerable people who may be at risk of being radicalised.
- To ensure that the CCG develops clear policies and procedures to embed the PREVENT agenda into day-to-day practice.
- To ensure effective partnership working with other key agencies in order to facilitate the PREVENT agenda across Staffordshire.

### **4.2 Quality Committee**

- To receive assurances concerning the implementation of the PREVENT agenda within Stoke on Trent and North Staffordshire CCGs and its contracted providers
- To provide scrutiny and challenge
- To receive updates on the implementation of the PREVENT agenda via the joint CCG Safeguarding Group

### **4.3 Joint CCG Safeguarding Group**

- To develop policy and guidance for the CCG in relation to the PREVENT agenda
- Standard agenda item
- To discuss commissioning practice issues relating to the PREVENT agenda
- To provide a consistent approach in partnership with other CCGs in Staffordshire in relation to implementation of the PREVENT agenda

### **4.4 The PREVENT lead supported by the Joint CCG Safeguarding Group**

- To provide leadership for the PREVENT procedures and to provide advice and support to CCG staff and GP practice staff
- To provide training for CCG and GP practice staff
- To collate training and referral data and submit monthly updates to the Regional PREVENT coordinator
- To develop policies and internal processes for the PREVENT agenda
- To make referrals to the CHANNEL panel following discussion with CCG managers as appropriate
- To liaise with other agencies as required
- To support the CCG with contract monitoring in relation to the implementation of the PREVENT agenda and serious incidents where radicalisation has been an issue or concern

### **4.5 All CCG and GP practice staff**

- To attend one hour face to face HealthWRAP training to inform them of the PREVENT agenda
- To be aware of this policy and other related policies
- To know who to contact within the CCG if they have any concerns about service users or members of staff in relation to radicalisation by extremists

## 5.0 Training

The Department of Health and the Home Office have directed that all NHS staff must receive a standardised face to face training about PREVENT which is known as HealthWRAP.

The CCG PREVENT Lead will coordinate the training programme and submit monthly data for staff trained to the Regional PREVENT Lead.

The training has been developed by the Department of Health and consists of a mixture of DVD clips, presentation and group work

HealthWRAP training sessions last 1 hour and cover the following key areas:

- To raise awareness amongst key priority groups of staff of the threat from terrorist groups.
- Highlight the risk to vulnerable individuals who could be known or may at some point access health care service.
- Support staff understanding of the PREVENT Strategy and its links with safeguarding vulnerable adults.
- Help staff to carry out their responsibilities through contributing to the protection and wellbeing of particular patients or groups who may be vulnerable to exploitation.
- Provide advice on managing risk at organisational, staff and clinical practitioner level.

## 6.0 Exploitation

### 6.1 The process of exploitation

There is no single profile or indication that a person is likely to become involved in activities related to terrorism. Vulnerability to radicalisation can occur to any individual who due to their circumstances, experiences or state of mind become susceptible to a terrorist ideology. Some factors that can make people vulnerable to radicalisation include bereavement, rejection, isolation, substance abuse, identity crisis/crisis of faith, mental health issues, participation in criminal other criminal activity and low self-esteem. Some external factors can be peer pressure, unemployment levels, media and group identity.

Terrorists use a variety of methods to influence others. These include face to face contact, internet use, social networking or other media. Radicalisation is a process whereby the terrorists use normal social processes in order to manipulate and influence others into their ideology.

Radicalisation occurs when an extremist rationale or narrative is used to influence others. This is often a story with a mixture of facts and fiction used to promote the legitimacy of the cause.

The internet often plays a big part in the dissemination of extremist material and propaganda. Health care organisations should be aware of employees making frequent visits to websites showing images such as armed conflict around the world and providing access to extremist material.

## 6.2 Factors that may make an individual more at risk of exploitation

### Identity Crisis

Adolescents/vulnerable adults who are exploring issues of identity can feel both distant from their parents/family and cultural and religious heritage, and uncomfortable with their place in society around them. Radicalisers can exploit this by providing a sense of purpose or feelings of belonging. Where this occurs, it can often manifest itself in a change in a person's behaviour, their circle of friends, and the way in which they interact with others and spend their time.

### Personal Crisis

This may, for example, include significant tensions within the family that produce a sense of isolation of the vulnerable individual from the traditional certainties of family life.

### Personal Circumstances

The experience of migration, local tensions or events affecting families in countries of origin may contribute to alienation from UK values and a decision to cause harm to symbols of the community or state.

### Unemployment or under-employment

Individuals may perceive their aspirations for career and lifestyle to be undermined by limited achievements or employment prospects. This can translate to a generalised rejection of civic life and adoption of violence as a symbolic act.

### Criminality

In some cases a vulnerable individual may have been involved in a group that engages in criminal activity or, on occasion, a group that has links to organised crime and be further drawn to engagement in terrorist-related activity.

The following have also been found to contribute to vulnerable people joining certain groups supporting terrorist-related activity:

- Ideology and politics
- Provocation and anger (grievance)
- Need for protection
- Seeking excitement and action
- Fascination with violence, weapons and uniforms
- Youth rebellion
- Seeking family and father substitutes
- Seeking friends and community
- Seeking status and identity
- A misconception and/or rejection of UK foreign policy
- A distrust of western media reporting
- Perceptions that UK government policy is discriminatory (e.g. counter-terrorist legislation)

Taken from: 'Building Partnerships, Staying Safe – The health sector contribution to HM Government's *Prevent* strategy: guidance for healthcare organisations'

## 6.3 Indicators of concern

Indicators that staff may observe or identify regarding individuals behaviour or actions may include:

- Graffiti symbols, writing or artwork promoting violent extremist messages or images.
- Accessing violent extremist material on line, including social networking sites.
- Parental / family reports of changes in behaviour, friendships or action and requests for assistance.
- Patients voicing opinions drawn from violent extremist ideologies and narratives.
- Use of extremist or hate terms to exclude others or incite violence.
- Harmful influences on vulnerable individuals from staff, colleagues, volunteers, parents, spouse, family members, friends, external groups of other patients.
- Inappropriate use of the internet on CCG premises.
- External groups using the CCG premises for meetings, distributing violent extremist materials.

## 7.0 Raising concerns about employees or service users

### 7.1 How to raise a concern

Raising concerns that an individual may be vulnerable to radicalisation does not mean that you think the person is a terrorist. The PREVENT agenda works within the 'pre-criminal space' and is aimed at intervening to offer support before criminal activity takes place.

The PREVENT Policy is supported by the CCGs equality and human rights policies, and seeks to challenge any stereotypes or assumptions about equality groups, in its application. .

Any member of staff who is concerned about someone potentially being radicalised they should discuss their concerns with their manager, the PREVENT lead or the Safeguarding Team. Consideration will then be given as to whether action is needed and if appropriate a referral to the CHANNEL Panel will be made by the CCG PREVENT lead.

**If there is an immediate terrorist risk to an individual, the general public or property the National Counter-Terrorism Hotline should be used: 0800 789 321 or the Police 999 number**

### 7.2 What happens after a referral is made?

The CHANNEL Panel is a partnership led by the Police in conjunction with other agencies such as the Local Authorities, Community Safety Partnerships and the Fire Service. This panel will assess the nature and extent of potential risk and where necessary provide an appropriate support package tailored to the individual's needs.

## 8.0 References

Department of Health (2011) *Building Partnerships, staying safe, the health sector contribution to HM Governments PREVENT Strategy; guidance for healthcare workers*  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/215253/dh\\_131912.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/215253/dh_131912.pdf)

HM Government (June 2011) *PREVENT Strategy*  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf)

HM Government (2011) *PREVENT Strategy: Equality Impact Assessment*

## 9.0 Local Contacts

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Appendix 1

Stoke on Trent and North Staffordshire CCGs  
**PREVENT Referral Process**

