

August 2024

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## Terrorism Threat Level

The current national threat level in the UK (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) from all forms of terrorism is Substantial. There are 5 levels:

- Low - an attack is highly unlikely
- Moderate - an attack is possible, but not likely
- Substantial - an attack is likely
- Severe- an attack is highly likely
- Critical - an attack is highly likely in the near future

There is also a risk from domestic extremism, particularly extreme right wing.

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## CONTEST

CONTEST is UK's Counter terrorism Strategy, it aims to reduce the risk to the UK and it's interests overseas from international terrorism.

- Pursue – To stop terrorist attacks
- Protect – Strengthen protection against terrorist attacks
- Prepare – where an attack can not be stopped, to mitigate it's impact
- Prevent – To stop people becoming terrorists or supporting extremism leading to terrorism

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## Prevent

Prevent safeguards vulnerable individuals from involvement in violent extremism.

Challenges the ideologies used by extremists. It works across sectors e.g. health, education, internet where there are concerns about radicalisation.

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## The Prevent Duty

Introduced by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, the Prevent Duty guidance 2023, requires specified authorities (inc. Health) 'in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism' delivering the duty includes: working in partnership, risk assessment and staff training.

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## Channel

Is the Safeguarding process for children, young people and Adults at risk of being drawn into terrorism or extremism leading to terrorism, Practitioners are encouraged to:

- **Notice** concerns
- **Check** them out
- **Share** them through a referral, if appropriate

Channel is pre criminal, and support is tailored to individual needs based on assessment.

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## Making a referral

Channel works the same way as other safeguarding processes, every county will have a Channel panel please sight yourself of the process in your geographical area of work.

Your safeguarding lead or local authority safeguarding team will be able to support you in making a referral.

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## Myth busting

Prevents core mission is to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. It is not about preventing peaceful protest or discouraging debate, Channel is about safeguarding. It is led by the Council, not the police. It aims to prevent people committing criminal offences. Referrals do not result in a criminal record. Participation in interventions is voluntary.

- Counter Terrorism Policing website: [ACT Early | Prevent radicalisation](#)
- Prevent Advice Line: 0800 011 3764
- National anti-terrorist hotline: 0800 789 321
- Crime Stoppers: 0800 555 111