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All professionals now have the statutory duty to assist in preventing terrorism (since 1st July 2015). The main aim is prevention and safeguarding.

The 'Channel programme' uses a multi-agency approach to protect people who are vulnerable by:

1. Identifying individuals at risk;
2. Assessing the nature and extent of that risk and
3. Developing an appropriate support plan for the individual.

There is no single indicator of when a person might move to adopt violence in support of extremist ideas.

The process of radicalisation is different for everyone and can happen quickly or slowly.

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Why it matters



The risk of radicalisation is the product of a number of factors and identifying this risk requires that staff exercise their professional judgement, seeking further advice as necessary. Many agencies now have a single point of contact, often their safeguarding lead, who can assist. Channel staff are always happy to offer advice and support.

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Questions to consider

When individuals express disaffection with public services or a particular group within society, how do we interpret that? Most extremists have identity issues and the need for a sense of 'belonging' – respect is key.

Safeguarding – Are you familiar with the Channel duty guidance and the e-learning package for partner agencies?

- https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/425189/Channel_Duty_Guidance_April_2015.pdf
- http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness/01/index.html



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Information



Indicators of vulnerability can include:

- Identity Crisis
- Personal Crisis
- Personal Circumstances
- Unmet Aspirations - Perceptions of injustice; feeling of failure
- Criminality

Potential indicators identified by the Channel Guidance include:

- Use of inappropriate language;
- Possession or accessing violent extremist literature;
- Behavioural changes;
- The expression of extremist views;

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Some of the ideas for this are:

Mentoring, life skills, anger management, cognitive behavioural work, constrictive pursuits, education and skills, careers advice and assistance, family support, health support, housing support, substance misuse support

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What to do

Be aware of the possibility that young people or their parents may be becoming radicalised, and make sure you know the local procedures to follow (in the LSCB procedures)

Help to alleviate some of the vulnerability factors above.

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- Advocating violent actions and means;
- Association with known extremists;
- Articulating support for violent extremist causes or leaders;
- Using extremist views to explain personal disadvantage;
- Joining or seeking to join extremist organisations;
- Seeking to recruit others to an extremist ideology.