

Raising a concern

If you believe that someone is vulnerable to being exploited or radicalised, please use the established safeguarding or duty of care procedures within your organisation to escalate your concerns to the appropriate leads, who can raise concerns to Staffordshire Police Prevent Team if appropriate.

Staffordshire Police Prevent Team:

E: prevent@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

T: 01785 232054

For further information about the Channel Panel or Prevent contact Stoke-on-Trent City Council on 01782 238771.

Learn more about Channel via this online learning resource:

[http://course.ncalt.com/
Channel_General_Awareness](http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness)

Safeguarding Children Board (SCB)

www.safeguardingchildren.stoke.gov.uk

If you've got worries or need some advice we can help.

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Drugs and Alcohol

E-safety

Forced into a Marriage?

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Keeping our Help a Secret

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Thinking of Running Away

Who to Contact

Young Carers



www.safeguardingchildren.stoke.gov.uk

CHANNEL

**Safeguarding people at
risk of being drawn into
terrorism**



SCB Leaflet No. 11

2017 March

What is Prevent?

Prevent is part of the Government's counter-terrorism strategy that aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. It is a multi-agency approach to safeguard people at risk of radicalisation.

How does *Prevent* work?

Prevent works within the non-criminal space, using early engagement to encourage individuals and communities to challenge violent extremist ideologies and behaviours. It looks at building a deeper understanding of how individuals become radicalised. This helps to identify ways of preventing people from becoming terrorists or supporting violent extremism.

Typically, the radicalisation process includes exposure of an individual to extremist viewpoints that may eventually influence the person to carry out an act of violent extremism or terrorism. This could take weeks, months or even years. It is possible to intervene during this process and stop someone becoming a terrorist or supporting violent extremist activity.

What is Channel?

Channel is an early intervention multi-agency process designed to safeguard vulnerable people from being drawn into violent extremist or terrorist behaviour. Channel works in a similar way to existing safeguarding partnerships aimed at protecting vulnerable people.

Who does Channel work with?

Channel is designed to work with individuals of any age who are at risk of being exploited by extremist or terrorist ideologues. The process is shaped around the circumstances of each person and can provide support for any form of radicalisation or personal vulnerabilities.

How does Channel work?

Stoke-on-Trent's Channel Panel is chaired by the city council and brings together a range of multi-agency partners to collectively assess the risk and decide whether a support package is needed. The group may include statutory and non-statutory partners, as well as lead safeguarding professionals. If the group feels the person would be suitable for Channel, it will look to develop a package of support that is bespoke to the person. The partnership approach ensures those with specific knowledge and expertise around the vulnerabilities of those at risk are able to work together to provide the best support.

What does Channel support look like?

Channel interventions are delivered through local partners and specialist agencies. The support may focus on a person's vulnerabilities around health, education, employment or housing, as well as specialist mentoring and guidance and broader diversionary activities such as sport. Each support package is tailored to the person and their particular circumstances.

How will the person be involved in this process?

A person will always be informed first if it's felt that they would benefit from Channel support. The process is voluntary and their consent would be needed before taking part in the process. This process is managed carefully by the Channel Panel.

Who can make a referral?

Anyone can make a referral. Referrals come from a wide range of partners including education, health, youth offending teams, police and social services.

What happens with the referral?

Referrals are first screened for suitability through a preliminary assessment. If suitable, the case is then discussed at a Channel panel of relevant partners to decide if support is necessary.