

Radicalisation

The Counter-terrorism and Security Act places a legal duty on organisations, such as local authorities and other authorities such as education and childcare establishments, health and social care and the police, to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

This is called the Prevent Duty.

It's important that people who work with adults or children can spot anyone who may be vulnerable to radicalisation and know what to do to support them.

Radicalisation can come from various directions, including from within a family, from outside influences and through social media and online.

There's no easy way to tell this is happening. You need to be aware of changes in behaviour, such as increased secrecy, becoming withdrawn or outspoken, treating people differently and changes in work performance. Many of these are general signs that there's a problem, but if you think it's possible that someone is being radicalised or drawn into terrorism you must report it.

More obvious signs include:

- spending time with suspected extremists
- or having material or symbols associated with an extremist cause.

Radicalisation is a general term which refers to "the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups".

In the UK, extremist ideologies are classified according to the following three definitions:

- **Islamist Extremism** - This refers to anyone who's a member of, or who associates with, an Islamic proscribed group who advocate, justify, or glorify acts of violence or other illegal action to achieve fundamental changes within society.
- **Extreme Right-Wing** - A rapidly growing threat, this refers to anyone who is a member of, or associates with, a politically extreme right-wing proscribed group - such as National Action, which became the first extreme right-wing group to be labelled a terrorist organisation.
- **Other** - This refers to anybody whose ideology is unknown or who doesn't fit into the other two categories. For example, a member of the Northern-Ireland related group the Ulster Volunteers Force (UVF).

The Channel programme is the national Home Office Safeguarding project which aims to stop people from being drawn into radicalisation or becoming involved in terrorist-related activity.

It focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It provides a mechanism to make referrals.

Support Networks and useful websites:

Channel programme

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance>

Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.

Channel is part of the Prevent strategy. The process is a multi-agency approach to identify and provide support to individuals who are at risk of being drawn into terrorism.

Please click on the link to take you to the Government website which has a downloadable document 'Channel guidance'.