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PREVENT NEWSLETTER

WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL - PREVENT TEAM





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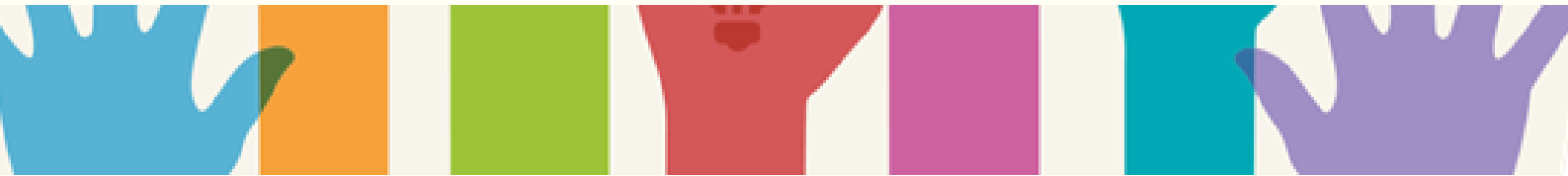
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YOUR LOCAL PREVENT TEAM

WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL - PREVENT TEAM



Prevent is a part of the Government UK's Counter-Terrorism Strategy that aims to stop people supporting terrorism or getting involved in extremist activity. It is concerned with all forms of extremism and radicalisation and focuses on safeguarding those at risk. More information about the Prevent Strategy can be found [here](#).

Westminster's local Prevent team consists of four dedicated officers that work closely with communities and institutions to strengthen our approach to safeguarding. We ensure that our support is appropriate, accessible, and responds to the needs of our residents.

Alongside our safeguarding work, we aim to increase understanding and promote debate and discussion in our communities. Through events, training, projects, and other support, we help schools, professionals, and the community to respond to the challenges of extremism and radicalisation.

www.westminster.gov.uk/prevent

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**PREVENT EDUCATION
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WHAT DO WE OFFER?

We offer the following workshops and training for various audiences such as community groups, professionals, frontline staff, parents, and young people. Our sessions are available to be delivered virtually or in person. They are all free of charge and can be adapted to meet the specific needs of your audience.



WORKSHOP TO RAISE AWARENESS OF PREVENT

Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) is designed for frontline staff, including police, social services, education, health staff, and local communities, to better understand the Prevent strategy and your role within. The training involves:

- The vulnerabilities and risk indicators of radicalisation.
- Local safeguarding and referral mechanisms and people to contact for further help and advice.
- Latest extremism and radicalisation risk.
- The current picture in Westminster.

If you haven't attended a WRAP session in a while, it is highly recommended to get a refresher session. Trends in radicalisation and extremism are constantly evolving, and it is essential to stay updated on the latest information. Attending the WRAP workshop will equip you with the necessary knowledge and tools to effectively contribute to the Prevent strategy and play a vital role in safeguarding your community. By staying informed and aware of the evolving trends and challenges, you can actively support efforts to counter extremism and promote safer communities in Westminster.

"Very interesting, did not realise how similar it is to other forms of safeguarding"

WRAP participant

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ARRANGING ANY OF THESE TRAINING SESSIONS,
PLEASE GET IN TOUCH AT PREVENT@WESTMINSTER.GOV.UK**

ONLINE GROOMING FOR PARENTS & CARERS

A partnership training delivered by the Prevent team and the Integrated Gangs & Exploitation Unit around online grooming and exploitation for parents and carers. The session aims to raise awareness of the different forms and effects of online grooming and exploitation on children and young people and equip parents and carers to prevent it, intervene early and respond appropriately.

The session will provide parents and carers with:

- Increased knowledge of grooming and exploitation, focusing on serious youth violence, extremism, and child sexual/criminal exploitation.
- An opportunity to learn about the risks young people may be exposed to online.
- The ability to identify, understand, and respond to the needs and risks posed towards vulnerable children and young people.

*"I will encourage people to attend,
it is really important issue to be aware of"*

**Online Grooming for Parents & Carers
participant**

WORKSHOP TO RAISE AWARENESS OF INCEL IDEOLOGY & EXTREME MISOGYNY

A 45-minute session aimed at educating frontline staff on various online phenomena and terms related to gender, masculinity, and controversial movements.

The workshop will introduce participants to:

- Ideologies within the Manosphere, such as Incels.
- Symbols, memes, terms and online spaces that are commonly associated within these groups.
- The relationship between misogyny and forms of extremist violence.

By the end of the session, participants will gain a better understanding of the significance and potential impact of these online phenomena and shed light on the dangers of extremist ideologies.

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PREVENT NEWS

THE INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF PREVENT

During the February half term, the Independent Review of Prevent was published. This has been long awaited and the subject of much media speculation. The Review's recommendations pave the way for a more transparent, efficient, and sustainable programme - from establishing independent oversight and building on our extensive programme of communications community engagement, to providing support to all local authorities by evolving our delivery model and crafting new risk assessment tools, that ensures only those meeting the Prevent threshold are offered interventions. If you would like to read the Review, you can find it [here](#), along with The Home Office response can find it [here](#). There are no immediate changes that you need to be aware of, however, the Home Secretary has indicated that all the recommendations will be implemented. We are waiting for further details regarding the proposed changes and updated guidance will then follow.

COUNTER TERRORISM LOCAL PROFILE

Every year the MPS produces a Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP). The CTLP provides an outline of the key threats, risks, and vulnerabilities within London between April 2021 and September 2022 and can be used to inform risk assessments. The CTLP is not designed to provide a complete assessment of extremist concerns but seeks to raise awareness of current issues, providing information from which to determine priorities and support local Prevent delivery plans and awareness raising across a wide range of partners and communities in London.

A non-protectively marked version is produced to be shared and accompanies this newsletter.



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NATIONAL CONTEST STRATEGY REFRESH

The refreshed UK's counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST was published on 18th July [here](#), which updates the strategy to meet the needs of the current terrorism threat to the UK. It reflects on the terrorist attacks committed over the last 5 years and the Independent Reviews and legislative changes in response. The CONTEST framework brings together the work of partners to counter terrorism using 4 strands of clearly defined work, Prevent, Pursue, Protect, Prepare, the 4 'P's'.

The report recognised the evolving nature of terrorist attacks, being more dynamic requiring us to be more agile in our response. It acknowledges that technology is our biggest threat, suggesting an increase in self-initiative terrorists using wider online influences is leading to less fixed ideology and direction. The new strategy also outlines the need for CT investigations to use a range of expert advice and use non-law enforcement interventions to tackle the threat.

This is relevant as there has been an increase in minors arrested for Terrorism offences, with over half of under 18s convicted over the last 5 years having been charged with non-violent offences (collection and dissemination of terrorist publications), and bringing into close focus our role in intervening early.

PREVENT PLANNING WEBINAR FOR FE SKILLS PROVIDERS

A free webinar event for ESFA funded FE Skills providers subject to help them to embed the requirements of the Prevent Statutory Duty. This session is intended for organisations or individuals who are new to the requirements of the Prevent Duty or feel that their current arrangements need updating. The webinar will focus on both the strategic requirements of providers as well as emerging good practices in the operational implementation of the Prevent Duty. The webinar will consider the challenges faced by training providers of all types, sizes & geographical coverage:

- [Tuesday, 18th October 2023, 10.30 - 12](#)
- [Tuesday, 16th January 2024, 10.30 - 12](#)



PREVENT NEWS

PROTECTIVE SECURITY SCHEMES FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP

The Home Office is announcing the launch of two schemes to provide protective security at places of worship:

- Places of Worship Security Funding Scheme
- Protective Security for Mosques Scheme

The schemes provide funding for places of worship and associated faith community centres that are vulnerable to hate crime. These schemes aim to reduce hate crimes happening at places of worship so that people can feel safe to attend worship and practise their religion freely. This year, mosques are also able to apply for the provision of security guarding services.

Through these schemes, vulnerable places of worship can apply for physical protective security measures, such as CCTV, secure fencing and intruder alarms. All measures provided by the schemes will be supplied and installed free of charge.

The application process is open for 21 June 2023 until 15 August 2023. Unfortunately, applications received after this date will not be considered. For more information concerning eligibility, what the schemes cover, the application process and supporting guidance can be found [here](#).

The Home Office is holding two online engagement events to promote the launch of the two schemes. Each event will provide you with an introduction to both schemes, details on how to apply and an opportunity for Q&A:

- [Tuesday, 25 July 2023 18:00 - 19:30 BST](#) (In association with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC))
- [Thursday, 27 July 2023 11:00 - 12:30 BST](#)



PREVENT COMMUNITY PROJECTS 2022-23



Each year, the Prevent team commissions projects based on the local needs of the community. The projects aim to address the Prevent objectives and to build resilient and empowered communities. We partnered up with external organisations to deliver these projects in schools, community and youth clubs, faith institutions, community organisations and other local settings.

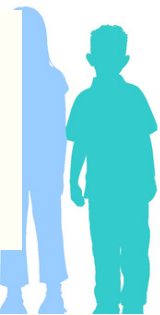
NEURODIVERSITY & EXTREMISM WORKSHOPS

A project intended to raise awareness of neurodiversity and extremism. Neurodiverse individuals are overrepresented in Prevent referrals.

The link between ASD, ADHD and radicalisation and the challenges and barriers to identification, support and safeguarding that can arise through additional mental health needs in neurodiverse people are complex and require specialist knowledge and understanding. The training sessions draw upon all key aspects of safeguarding against radicalisation/extremism in the context of neurodiversity/ASD-exploring a range of ideologies including extreme far-right extremism and Islamism, offering practical intervention advice and formulating case strategies.

The half-day workshop session will be delivered by an Autism education expert. Participants will have an improved understanding of:

- How procession and communication differences in those with ASD may increase vulnerability to radicalisation.
- How individuals on the autistic spectrum may present radicalisation safeguarding concerns differently.
- Prevalent traits and behaviours, lessening the likelihood of their misdiagnosis/misinterpretation.
- How different facets of autism can be a vulnerability/risk, enabling earlier identification.
- How to help and support individuals on the autistic spectrum, who may also have concerns related to extremism/radicalisation.
- How to create an inclusive environment for those with ASD.
- Common pathways.



WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES



Communities are a central part of the Prevent Strategy. It is only by working with our local communities that we can understand their needs, identify vulnerabilities and seek to support and empower them. We emphasise the importance of close collaboration with communities and our team continues to build relationships with different individuals and community groups and we are continually seeking to expand our network.

Our commitment is to identify gaps in existing services and provide comprehensive support wherever possible. We aim to address pre-existing challenges and respond to any emerging needs that may arise. By actively engaging with the community, we can tailor our efforts to best serve their requirements and make a positive impact on their lives.

If you are interested in sharing any thoughts or ideas around issues affecting our communities in Westminster, please get in touch with the Prevent team. We want to ensure that the work we do is genuinely impactful and reflects the needs of Westminster communities.





FUTHER INFORMATION

We kindly ask you to report at prevent@westminster.gov.uk for any leafleting or stickering that comes to your notice that may be placed in your work environment or neighbourhoods. It will help us in getting a better gauge of our communities and to tackling intolerance.

FURTHER READING AND RESOURCES

- [Individuals referred to and supported through the Prevent Programme, April 2021 to March 2022](#)
- [Internet and radicalisation pathways: technological advances, relevance of mental health and role of attackers - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- [The Internet and Radicalisation Pathways: Technological Advances, Mental Health and the Role of Attackers – GNET \(gnet-research.org\)](#)
- [State of Play 2022 \(techagainstterrorism.org\)](#)
- [Assessing Misogyny as a ‘Gateway Drug’ into Violent Extremism – GNET \(gnet-research.org\)](#)
- [Gender and Online Violent Extremism – GNET \(gnet-research.org\)](#)
- [Educate Against Hate - Prevent Radicalisation & Extremism](#)
- [Going Too Far? \(lgfl.org.uk\)](#)
- [Resources and information to parents, children and schools in understanding the digital world.](#)
- [Helping parents keep their children safe online](#)
- [Test Your Internet Filter | SWGfL Test Filtering](#)

USEFUL CONTACTS

PREVENT TEAM

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INTEGRATED GANGS & EXPLOITATION UNIT

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CHILDREN’S SERVICES

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