

Extremism Concerns

Safeguarding Reporting Form Guidance

Ensuring that we safeguard and support individuals by reducing their risk of becoming involved in extremism has now become a legal duty for staff representing all statutory organisations. Only by successfully identifying individuals can actions be delivered and if required a multi-agency approach agreed to support that individual or individuals.

It is well documented that people do not feel confident about making referrals or raising concerns regarding extremism. Professional boundaries; lack of knowledge regarding extremism; concerns about allegations of unfair labelling or allegations of racial prejudices; the balance between individual rights and protecting the wider rights of the community have all been cited as barriers to reporting. These are all real considerations that you may experience when considering “do I report or not?”.

Remember this is about safeguarding a person from harm or safeguarding the wider community from harm and it is better to adopt a ‘better safe than sorry’ approach.

This guidance is about supporting a person at risk of becoming involved in extremism and NOT vulnerability. Research has shown that many individuals involved in extremism, or violence with an extremist ideology behind the decision making process, are fully functioning members of society. They make irrational decisions motivated primarily by political reasons (to achieve a local or global objective) and not because they are violent per se.

As with all safeguarding matters early intervention is vital and is designed to ensure individuals receive support and are prevented from getting further involved in extremism or to carry out a violent act thus keeping them safe from harm to themselves or others.

Lack of timely intervention can result in an individual moving from the PREVENT strand of CONTEST and into the PURSUE strand, which effectively means investigation, arrest and prosecution rather than management at support and prevention stage which is the preferred environment.

The guide will help you give relevant details to allow information to be considered early and allow appropriate actions to be undertaken to safeguard against involvement in criminal activity.

While there are many indicators and influencers to increasing risk of involvement in extremism below are a few issues that you may consider indicators.

- Use of inappropriate language;
- Behavioural changes;
- Advocating violent actions and means
- Seeking to recruit others to an extremist ideology.
- Possession of violent extremist literature
- The expression of extremist views
- Association with known extremists;

Safeguarding Reporting Form Sections Guidance

1 Personal Details of person / organisation reporting

Name	Please give your full name
Organisation	Organisation and / or service area you work for.
Contact Numbers	Please ensure contact details are accurate to allow any questions the police may have to be answered.
Email address:	Please ensure email address is accurate for any written communications
Date of Referral	Ensure that you date the referral to allow timely responses.

2 Details of the person / Group there are concerns about

In this section should give as much information as you have available.

Surname	Try and ensure the correct spelling to avoid wrong initial investigations.
First Name	If you have first name then try and ensure correct spelling. In some instances you may just have a first name or a “nick” name. Any names is helpful
Date of birth	You may not have a date of birth but if you do then please complete
Gender	Male or Female? Whilst we recognise transgender the chances are very very slim
Ethnicity	This may be seemingly obvious however sometimes it may be difficult so any heritage profile can be helpful
Address	Their registered address or address they have been observed frequenting
Contact Details	Any contact details that you have
Others aware of behaviour	Any others who may be aware of the behaviours that can give further details.
Contact Details of others	Any contact details that you have
Other Agencies Involved	Details of individuals or agencies aware or working with the person(s)

3 Details of the Incident

In this section please provide all the information with as much detail as you have or can remember, whether it be a one off issue or a combination of factors that has made you report your concerns.

What happens next?

Individual reporting

Has the individual / group been reported? – Channel vulnerability matrix / refusal

Feedback (as per standard safeguarding procedures) – limited feedback and supportive actions

The Channel Panel – multi-agency response