

'Diverting vulnerable people away from harm'



The Channel process



IT'S TRULY MULTI-AGENCY



- ✓ All referrals are carefully assessed by a local authority led Channel panel, made up of reps from different safeguarding areas i.e. health, education, social services, & the police.
 - ✓ The Channel Duty places a duty on all partners to co-operate with panels– for health this means attending panel meetings as required & identifying any interventions including for those with a mental health treatment need.
 - ✓ Support will vary according to an individual's vulnerability/needs & may include mentoring, counselling, access to specific services such as health, employment & education, training or housing.
 - ✓ A bespoke plan will be put in place and regularly reviewed by the panel until it is agreed that the person's vulnerability has been sufficiently reduced.
- See Channel Panel process** – how the Channel process works from referral through to support being delivered. [Video](#)

IT'S ABOUT SAFEGUARDING

- Channel is an early intervention process similar to other safeguarding initiatives designed to divert people away from drugs, gangs or knife crime.
- It is aimed at those most at risk of being attracted towards support for or involvement in terrorist related activity.
- It is about diverting vulnerable people away from any potential threat at an early stage, before any crime has been committed .

IT WORKS WITHIN A LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Channel requires proportionate & appropriate information sharing to be undertaken to build an accurate picture of each individual's support needs.

All personal data collected is stored on a bespoke case management system which is subject to the same rigour as other patient data & is fully compliant with the Data Protection /Human Rights law.

SOME FACTS & FIGURES :2021-22

In the year ending 31 March 2022, there were 6,406 referrals to Prevent.
 Of those aged 15 to 20 again accounted for the largest proportion (1,902; 30%).
 The majority of cases discussed at Channel Panels were male (89%)
 The number of referrals discussed at a Channel panel (1,486, 23%) and adopted as a Channel case (804, 13%)
 The category '**Vulnerability present but no ideology or terrorism risk**' accounted for the largest proportion of referrals (2,127; 33%) in the year ending March 2022.

The Prevent referral data 2021/22 is available [here](#)



CHANNEL IS NOT...

A criminal sanction: Participation does not lead to a criminal record and will not appear in any future employment checks.

Targeted at a specific faith or ethnic group:

Channel addresses all forms of radicalisation including an increasing number of people being supported because of Extreme Right-Wing concerns.

Compulsory: Channel is a voluntary programme and engagement requires consent to be given by the individual (or their parent/guardian). No one can be forced to participate in Channel.

About terrorism: Channel is a [safeguarding intervention](#) for those referred to Prevent, & is available in every area. Those who need & want support will be offered help through a multi-agency plan.

FURTHER READING:

Link to [Channel Duty Guidance](#)
 See Prevent/Channel fact sheet [here](#)