

New National Prevent Referral Form - 1 July 2020

From 1 July 2020 the form for making Prevent referrals in Greater Manchester will change. Please see attached templates for your local authority area, including the email addresses for where your Prevent referral should be emailed.

The National Prevent Referral form has been created by Counter Terrorism Policing and will replace all regional variations. The benefit of the new National Referral Form is that there will be a set of standard questions and prompts used across the country, which will assist anyone making a Prevent referral to provide relevant information in a consistent manner. This will no doubt help the referrer to provide pertinent information and for receivers to make sound assessments.

What happens once a Prevent referral is made?

Once the Prevent referral form has been completed, it will carry an Official Sensitive protective marking, which means that the information will need to be handled with risk appropriate security measures. Once a Prevent referral has been received by the three agencies set out on the top of the referral form, the Local Authority will assess if there are any immediate safeguarding concerns for the individual whilst Counter Terrorism Policing North West will assess whether there is any concerns of radicalisation. There are three potential outcomes for a referral they are:

- Closed no further action – referrer will be informed and the case will be signposted if necessary.
- Counter Terrorism Policing North West (CTPNW) will manage the concerns raised.
- Referral to Channel – for consideration of multi-agency support. The referrer will be contacted as part of the assessment process by the Channel Coordinator.

The Greater Manchester Channel Team will note the Prevent referral for monitoring and reporting purposes.

What is Channel?

Channel can help people to make positive choices about their lives. It is an early intervention based multi-agency process designed to safeguard vulnerable people of all backgrounds from being drawn into terrorism.

Channel is a local authority lead process, which involves a range of statutory partners who meet on a monthly basis at a multi agency Channel Panel, to discuss what help and support can be offered to individuals who are assessed as being vulnerable to radicalisation.

The referrer will be notified by the Local Authority Channel Coordinator if the Prevent Referral has been forwarded to the Greater Manchester Channel Team for consideration by the Channel Panel.

A vulnerability assessment will then be undertaken to assess the risk of being drawn into radicalisation. If the individual is assessed as being at risk the case will be heard at the local authority Channel Panel meeting for consideration of multi-agency support. The referring agency / organisation may also be invited to attend the Channel Panel.

What Support Can Channel Offer?

Channel can offer a wide range of coordinated support, including:

- Education, training and mentoring opportunities
- Access to services and activities that offer support tailored to an individual's needs
- Access to people with specialist knowledge, or just someone to talk with
- Open and honest conversations about issues of concern Support for family members and loved ones.

Taking part in Channel is voluntary, which means that consent must be granted by the individual or parent/guardian in order for any support to be offered. Where we cannot seek consent, then the case will be closed to the Channel process and reviewed by CTPNW. Channel is a supportive process to help anyone, regardless of their background, faith or ethnicity, from being drawn into any form of extremism, before they become involved in illegal activity.

For more information on Channel and how to spot the signs please visit www.ltai.info

Who should I contact if I have concerns?

Anyone can make a Prevent referral. Referrals come from a wide range of partners, including the police, health professionals, schools, youth offending teams and children and adult services as well as members of the public.

If you have any concerns about an individual you should complete the attached referral form. If you would like to discuss your concerns before making a referral please contact the CTPNW on 0161 856 6362.

For Prevent training visit the Home Office website at the following web links:

Prevent E-Learning: <https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/>

Prevent referrals: <https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/preventreferrals>

Channel Awareness: <https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/channelawareness>