

## 1.4.29 Safeguarding Children Vulnerable to Violent Extremism



### [Appendix 1: South Tyneside Process Map for Reporting a Prevent Concern for a Vulnerable Person](#)

**Appendix 2: HM Government Prevent Strategy published June 2011**

### **Appendix 3: HM Government Prevent Duty Guidance (Revised July 2015)**

Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the Act) places a duty on certain bodies (“specified authorities” listed in Schedule 6 to the Act), in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This guidance is issued under section 29 of the Act. The Act states that the authorities subject to the provisions must have regard to this guidance when carrying out the duty [.https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance)

**Appendix 4: 'Prevent and Safeguarding Guidance: Supporting Individuals Vulnerable to Violent Extremism', which has been issued by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO)**

## AMENDMENT

This chapter was updated in June 2016. **Appendix 1: Model Flowchart for Referral of Children and Young People for Concerns of Radicalisation in Children’s Services (e.g. Schools, Colleges, Youth Settings)** has been updated and should be re-read.

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**Appendix 2: HM Government Prevent Strategy published June 2011**

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## 1. Introduction

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- 1.1 This chapter is based on and summarises the document '**South Tyneside Safeguarding Children Extremist Ideology Practice Guidance**', which has been issued by South Tyneside Local Safeguarding Children Board (June 2016).
- 1.2 The guidance provides advice on how to manage and respond to concerns of children and young people identified as being vulnerable to and affected by the radicalisation of others.
- 1.3 **Radicalisation** is defined as the process by which people come to support terrorism and extremism and, in some cases, to then participate in terrorist groups. Extremism is a vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas (HM Government, Prevent Strategy, 2011).
- 1.4 There is no obvious profile of a person likely to become involved in extremism or a single indicator of when a person might move to adopt violence in support of extremist ideas. The process of radicalisation is different for every individual and can take place over an extended period or within a very short time frame.
- 1.5 Three main areas of concern have been identified for initial attention in developing the awareness and understanding of how to recognise and respond to the increasing threat of children/young people being radicalised:
  - Increasing understanding of radicalisation and the various forms it might take, thereby enhancing the skills and abilities to recognise signs and indicators amongst all staff working with children and young people;
  - Identifying a range of interventions - universal, targeted and specialist - and the expertise to apply these proportionately and appropriately;
  - Taking appropriate measures to safeguard the wellbeing of children living with or in direct contact with known extremists.

## 2. National Guidance and Strategies

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- 2.1 The following are part of the government's counter terrorist strategy, referred to as CONTEST.
  - **The Prevent Strategy**: The expectation is that within all local authority areas a Prevent multi-agency partnership board is established to plan and manage responses in relation to stopping people becoming or supporting terrorists or violent extremists. Children's Social Care should be involved and participate in the Area Partnership Board for Prevent and kept informed of the particular risks in their area;
  - **Channel: Protecting Vulnerable People from being Drawn into Terrorism: A Guide for**

### Local Partnerships (2012);

The Channel programme is an initiative led by the Police to provide support to those at risk of being drawn into violent extremism. The guidance identifies as good practice the importance of having:

- A clear referral process incorporating a multi-agency panel;
- An identified co-ordinator or location of expertise for advice, guidance and support;
- Information sharing protocols.

## 3. Referral and Intervention Processes

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- 3.1 The **South Tyneside Safeguarding Children Exposed to Extremist Ideology: practice guidance** provides a model referral process for children and young people who are vulnerable to radicalisation and/or who may be at risk through living with or being in direct contact with known extremists. See **Appendix 1: Model Flow Chart for Referral of Children and Young People for Concerns of Radicalisation in Children Service (e.g. Schools, Colleges, Youth Settings)**.
- 3.2 Staff working with children should use **this guidance** to assist them in identifying and responding to concerns about children who may be vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremist activity.
- 3.3 Any member of staff who identifies such concerns, for example as a result of observed behaviour or reports of conversations to suggest the child supports terrorism and/or violent extremism, must report these concerns to the named or designated safeguarding professional in their organisation or agency, who will consider what further action is required. See also **Section 4, Understanding and Recognising Risks and Vulnerabilities of Radicalisation**.
- 3.4 As set out in the flowchart, the named or designated professional must then consider whether to share their Prevent concern according to the perceived risk following their agency's safeguarding procedure for making a referral. Professionals should also share the same information with Northumbria Police Prevent Team based in Special Branch. They can be emailed at **[specialbranch@northumbria.pnn.police.uk](mailto:specialbranch@northumbria.pnn.police.uk)** and use the words 'Prevent Referral' in the subject field or in the body of the email. You can also call the **Prevent Team in Special Branch on: 101 (ext. 63855)**. After consultation with the police and in light of any further information gathered about the child and the family, if it is considered there are grounds for further involvement, a multi-agency assessment meeting (usually involving the child, parents and relevant professionals) should be convened to determine the appropriate response and how this should be delivered.
- 3.5 The aim is to ensure an early identification of children's vulnerabilities and promote a coordinated response, wherever possible within universal provision (Tier 1) or through targeted interventions (Tier 2) and the **Early Help Assessment** process. The emphasis should be on supporting vulnerable children and young people, rather than informing on or "spotting" those with radical or extreme views.
- 3.6 The attached '**South Tyneside Safeguarding Children Exposed to Extremist Ideology: Practice Guidance**' gives examples of the range of responses where concerns of radicalisation have been identified.

- 3.7 In exceptional cases, it may be considered that a child or young person is involved or potentially involved in supporting or pursuing extremist behaviour. This may be, for example, where the child is part of a family with known extremists (e.g. people who are currently subject to criminal proceedings or who have been convicted of terrorism related offences.) Where this is the case, a referral must be made to **South Tyneside Contact and Referral Service** under the **Referrals Procedure** and the police must be informed. Further investigation by the police will be required, prior to other assessments and interventions.
- 3.8 While the nature of the risk may raise security issues, the process should not be seen as different from dealing with the likelihood of **Significant Harm** or vulnerability due to the exposure to other influences.
- 3.9 Consideration should be given to the possibility that sharing information about the concerns with the parents or young person may increase the risk to the child and therefore may not be appropriate at the referral stage - see **Information Sharing and Confidentiality Procedure**.
- 3.10 Consideration should also be given to the need for an emergency response - this will be extremely rare but examples are where there is information that a violent act is imminent or where weapons or other materials may be in the possession of a young person or member of his or her family. In this situation a 999 call must be made.
- 3.11 Where there is involvement as a result of the concerns, any provision of services should be subject to regular reviews until it is deemed appropriate to end the agreed response.

## 4. Understanding and Recognising Risks and Vulnerabilities of Radicalisation

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- 4.1 Children and young people can be drawn into violence or they can be exposed to the messages of extremist groups by many means.
- 4.2 These can include through the influence of family members or friends and/or direct contact with extremist groups and organisations or, increasingly, through the internet. This can put a young person at risk of being drawn into criminal activity and has the potential to cause Significant Harm.
- 4.3 The risk of radicalisation is the product of a number of factors and identifying this risk requires that staff exercise their professional judgement, seeking further advice as necessary. It may be combined with other vulnerabilities or may be the only risk identified.
- 4.4 Potential indicators include:
- Use of inappropriate language;
  - Possession of violent extremist literature;
  - Behavioural changes;
  - The expression of extremist views;
  - Advocating violent actions and means;

- Association with known extremists;
- Seeking to recruit others to an extremist ideology.

## **Appendix 1: Model Flow Chart for Referral of Children and Young People for Concerns of Radicalisation in Children Service (e.g. Schools, Colleges, Youth Settings)**

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[Click here to view Model Flow Chart for Referral of Children and Young People for Concerns of Radicalisation in Children Service \(e.g. Schools, Colleges, Youth Settings\).](#)

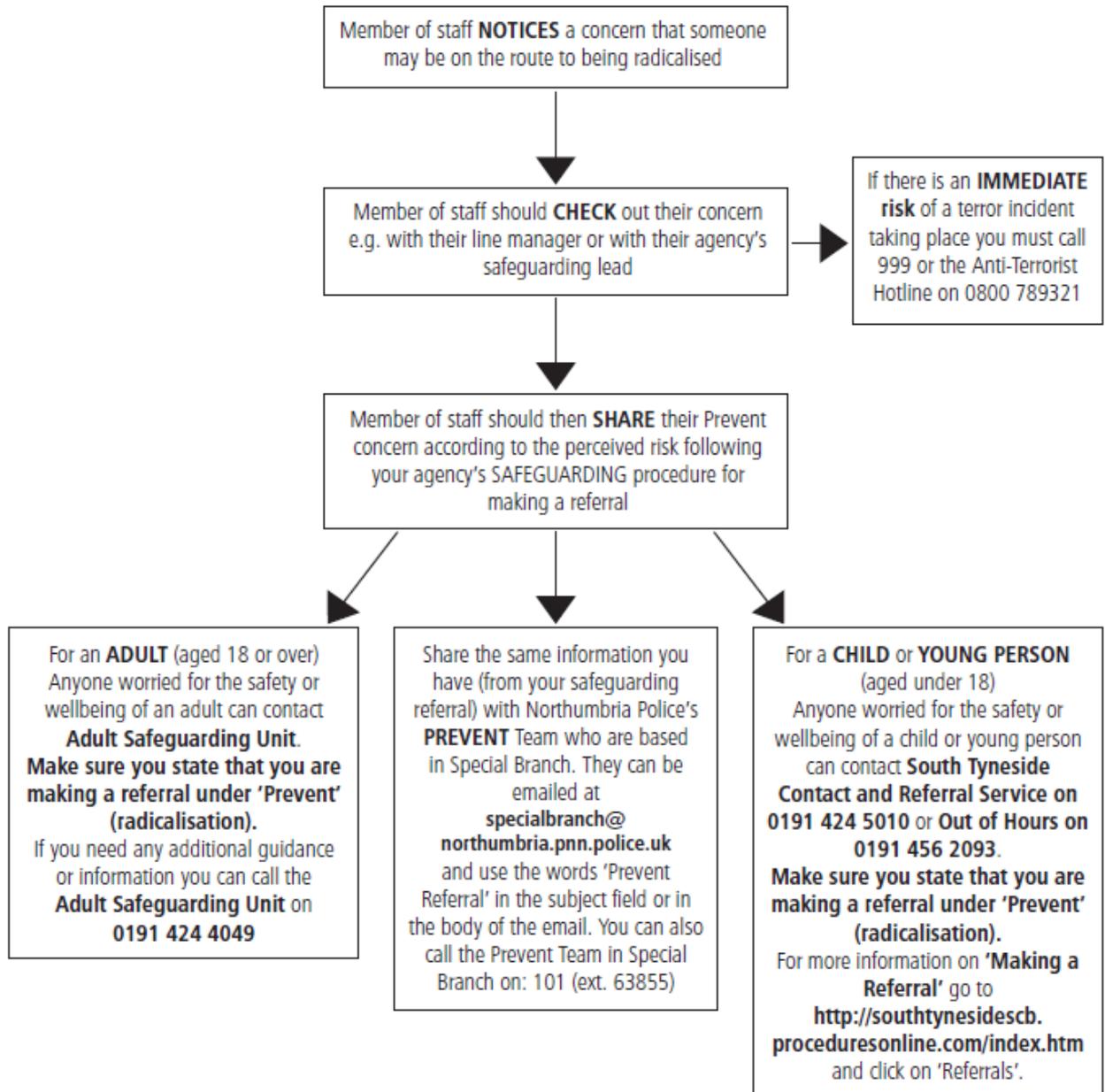
**Appendix 2: Click below to view 'HM Government Prevent Strategy published June 2011'** [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf)

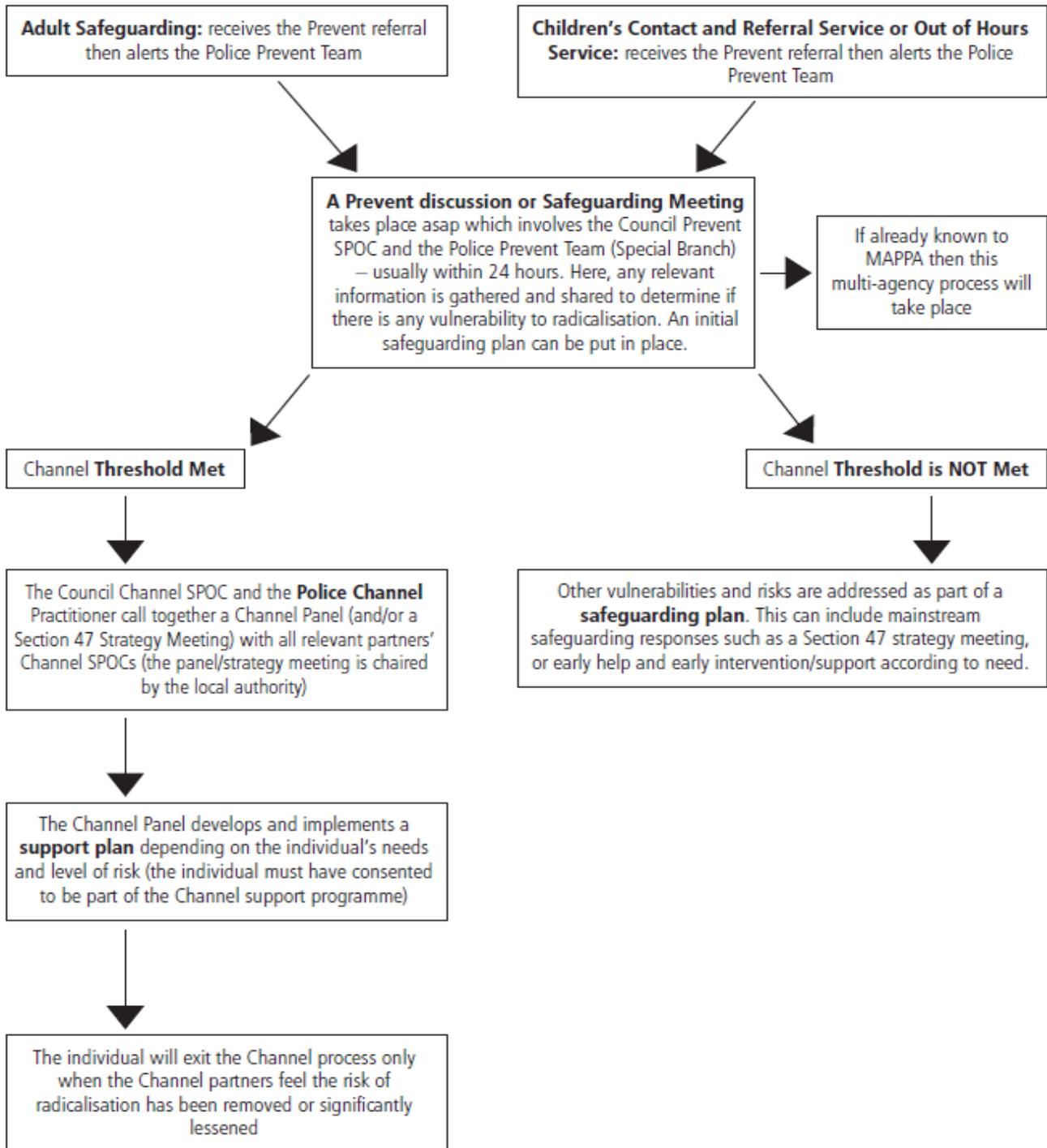
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## Appendix A: South Tyneside Process Map for Reporting a Prevent Concern for a Vulnerable Person





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