



NHS England Prevent Newsletter

April 2024

Dear All

Welcome to the **April 2024** edition of the NHS England Prevent Newsletter. This newsletter will serve to keep you up to date on the latest issues regarding Prevent. Your continued commitment and engagement with the Prevent agenda is very much appreciated.

PLEASE NOTE: This newsletter is for reference purposes and to enhance understanding of Prevent and terrorism related issues for health practitioners. The various views and research findings are from experts working in this field of study but do not necessarily represent the policy or position of nor are they attributable to NHSE.

*This newsletter has been created for all Prevent Leads across the health sector. The information in this newsletter is for internal consumption only and is protectively marked at **OFFICIAL** under the Government Security Classification Policy. The contents of this document should not be placed on the Internet for public download. Please feel free to share with all relevant internal colleagues.*

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1. National Counter Terrorism Clinical Consultancy Service (CT CCS) Launched:

Purpose: -

“To support CT policing in the management of risk through access to clinical mental health expertise, formulation and options for health intervention”.

Following on from the [Counter Terrorism Vulnerability Support Hubs](#) that have been run over the last 8 years (and which many of you will already be familiar with), the newly specified national service has, from 2nd April 2024, gone live. The service offers Counter Terrorism Police Case Officers consistent access to clinical consultation from psychiatrists, psychologists, nurses and social workers who will provide advice and support to optimise the opportunities for people to access mental healthcare interventions and support.

The CT CCS is a national initiative that is being rolled out across all Counter Terrorism regions throughout England and Wales. Working in partnership with and hosted by CT policing, the service provides a multi-agency approach to support the reduction of risk through the provision

of specialist clinical liaison and consultation. This preventative service is being delivered through a partnership between the Counter Terrorism Policing

HQ and three NHS Trusts in a Health Provider Collaborative led by **Barnet, Enfield & Haringey Mental Health NHS Trust** in a partnership with **Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust** and **Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust**.

In recognition of the need to provide improved access to mental health formulations which use forensic practitioners with expert knowledge and capability, the Counter Terrorism Policing network can now benefit from advice and consultancy on mental health factors and related vulnerabilities in their case work from a specialist multi-disciplinary team of forensic mental health clinicians.

The Clinical Consultancy Service will enable progression of holistic and timely input from health providers – supporting

individuals with vulnerabilities who present, to access assessment, care and treatment – enabling a ‘whole system approach’.

This approach has demonstrated added value. Through effective liaison and careful information sharing processes a formulation is produced and then shared suitably. This provides increased opportunity for people to achieve improved criminal justice and health care outcomes.

Mental health needs are a key factor in the evaluation of an individual’s risk profile, particularly as terror threat activity has shifted away from high-complexity, networked group attack plots towards a higher prevalence of low sophistication self-initiated terrorist incidents.

The complex processes by which mental health problems combine with other factors during radicalisation are often misunderstood and there is a need to ensure security agencies are equipped with professional support to assist them in understanding the implications of Mental Health factors in Counter terrorism case work.

The service will provide training and support for Counter Terrorism Policing, increasing knowledge and understanding of Mental Health conditions and mental health provider systems - thus increasing service accessibility.

The Clinical Consultancy Service delivery model is informed by the [UK Contest Strategy](#) – which evidences many post-attack reviews and inquiries which highlight the demand for a collaborative, multi-agency approach to strengthen the mitigation of terrorism risk.

*The Clinical Consultancy Service (CCS)-
Jane Corrigan writes:*

I am delighted to announce that the Clinical Consultancy Service has now gone live nationally. The Clinical Consultancy Service (CCS) is a Counter Terrorism (CT) Police Interventions function delivering access to Clinical forensic expertise. The CCS provides CT case holders with advice, guidance and options to help manage the mental ill-health needs of individuals in their casework, which may help to reduce the risk of those individuals being drawn into terrorism. The service operates across England and Wales delivering the service to all 9 CT regions.

Our strategic leadership and national management team is based in London, in CTPHQ. Building on the Vulnerability

Supportive Service pilots which may of you will be familiar with, this ground-breaking new service is the first of its kind ever seen across policing, security and intelligence sectors, both within the UK and internationally, and will provide immense value to CT Policing and beyond.

The threat we face is constantly evolving, and in recent years CT Policing has witnessed a rise in mental ill-health appearing in our case work. The delivery of the CCS is a real demonstration of CT Policing's ability to adapt and evolve against this ever-changing threat picture, and it has been a real honour to be part of such a significant piece of work having managed the South England Hub for the last five years.

For the first time CT case holders will have access to a nationally consistent service which offers advice, guidance and options to help manage the mental ill-health needs of individuals across all CT casework.

The CCS gives our case holders the tools they need to most effectively mitigate risk,

enables enhanced regional access, allows for closer collaboration across our network and with health-partners, ensures subjects with unmet mental ill-health needs are identified and provides richer data.

This nationally consistent data picture will lead to better informed decision-making and will also provide us with a greater understanding of the prevalence or connection between mental ill-health and the risk of radicalisation.

The CCS's mission is to support CT Policing in the management of risk through access to clinical mental health expertise, formulation and options for health intervention and its vision is to develop a world leading collaborative model of CT risk management between health and CT policing through greater understanding of mental ill-health and better information-sharing. I am proud to see our continued collaboration with the NHS and I hope this service continues to add value and support those most in need.

Best wishes

Detective Supt Jane Corrigan
London Prevent Coordinator
Counter Terrorism Policing – SO15

If you have any queries regarding the new CCS service, please contact your NHSE regional safeguarding teams- details are attached at the foot of this newsletter.

2. Prevent Standards and Compliance Unit- Resources:

The [Independent Review of Prevent](#) made 34 recommendations on how Prevent could be improved. **Recommendation 34** recommended a dedicated Standards and Compliance Unit, answerable to ministers, which would process and investigate complaints about Prevent.

StaCU will provide a clear and accessible route for the public and practitioners to raise concerns about the activity of Prevent. Under the direction of the Home Secretary or Home Office Ministers, StaCU can also conduct thorough investigations to assess complaints or concerns regarding Prevent delivery and will also publish an annual report.

[Attached with this newsletter](#) is a **StaCU 'Frequently Asked Questions'** document and a **Toolkit** which contains all relevant contact details should you wish to raise a complaint around Prevent.

3. Prevent F2F Training update:

The Prevent training team at the Home Office are finalising the plans for the pilot of the Face-to-Face (F2F) Awareness and Ideology training modules which they have developed. It is anticipated to roll out the courses in May 2024.

The Home Office are currently looking for trainers and individuals who oversee trainers to take part in the pilot to come forward. If you would like to be involved in the F2F pilot, please register using the link and the Home Office will be in touch in due course:

<https://www.homeofficesurveys.homeoffice.gov.uk/s/Q08FRS/>

PLEASE NOTE: The Home Office are also updating their volunteer list for people who would like to take part in user research and testing to support all of their products, if you would like to be involved, please register using the above link.

4. DLUHC - Extremism Definition:

The **Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities** (DLUHC) has announced a new definition of extremism and engagement principles for Government departments in England, together with accompanying guidance.

The new the definition of extremism is set out as below:

'Extremism is the promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance, that aims to:

- 1. Negate or destroy the fundamental rights and freedoms of others; or,*
- 2. undermine, overturn, or replace the UK's system of liberal parliamentary democracy and democratic rights; or*
- 3. intentionally create a permissive environment for others to achieve the results in (1) or (2).*

The **definition** also sets out the types of behaviour that are indicative of the kind of promotion or advancement which may be relevant to the definition.

Does this change how Prevent operates?

The new DLUHC extremism definition and engagement principles will work alongside Prevent by supporting government decision making on who to fund and engage with. The threshold for making a referral to the Prevent programme is set out in existing guidance, including the [Prevent Duty Guidance](#), and will remain the same.

Please remember the overriding aim of Prevent is to stop people becoming radicalised or supporting terrorism. Prevent does this by intervening at an early stage to support those most vulnerable or susceptible to radicalisation.

The new definition of extremism does not change this.

If you have any concerns about this definition, please speak with your organisational Prevent lead or contact your local NHSE Regional Safeguarding team (contact details are at the foot of this newsletter).

5. Record number of children have been arrested for terrorism:

A record number of children have been arrested for terrorism, official figures show, as a government adviser warned of an increasing threat from online radicalisation. Recently published [Home Office figures](#) showed that 42 children aged under 17 were arrested last year, nearly one in five of the total number of people held for terror-related offences. It was the highest number since records began in 2002, up by a third on 2022's figure of 32 and double the number three years ago.

Jonathan Hall KC, the independent reviewer of terrorism legislation, said the increase could be linked to "isolated" teenagers being radicalised in "malign online spaces".

Please read more [here](#)

6. More young people being radicalised online, says senior counter-terror officer:

A senior counter-terrorism officer has warned that children and young people are increasingly being radicalised online, after spending long periods on the internet during the covid pandemic. **Detective Superintendent Andy Meeks** of investigations for **Counter Terrorism Policing North West**, said a growing number of vulnerable people were accessing extreme material after spending hours unsupervised online.

He said: "We have seen a significant increase in online investigations or investigations of individuals who've been committing acts of terrorism online. A lot, I think, coincided with the pandemic, when we saw a lot of people who spend extended periods online in isolation, and I think that has definitely led to an increase in this type of activity."

Please read more [here](#)

7. Violent online content 'unavoidable' for UK children, Ofcom finds:

Violent online content is now "unavoidable" for children in the UK, with many first exposed to it when they are still in primary school, research from the media watchdog has found. Every single British child interviewed for the **Ofcom study** had watched violent material on the internet, ranging from videos of local school and street fights shared in group chats, to explicit and extreme graphic violence, including gang-related content.

Please read more [here](#)

**WE'D LOVE
TO HEAR
FROM YOU**

Thank you for reading our Prevent newsletter, we hope you found it interesting and useful.

If have any suggestions or request for future news items or articles

relating to Prevent which you would like to see in future editions, please let us know.

If you have any queries or require any further advice from NHS England safeguarding : -

To contact your regional health, Prevent lead please use the following email address:

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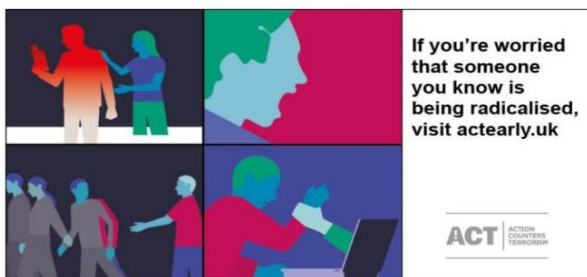
North East and Yorkshire -

england.northsafeguarding@nhs.net

(Sharon Thompson)

For further advice on how DHSC and NHS England can support and work with you please contact:

prevent@dhsc.gov.uk



You can read more about the Act
Now website [here](#)



Please click link [iREPORTit](#)

Members of the public can anonymously report any online content that they deem to be illegal or harmful, via the police through the dedicated [Counter Terrorism Internet Referral Unit](#) [Public Referral Tool](#)