



**Safer  
East Sussex  
Team**

# Safe in East Sussex

## In Focus: Preventing Violent Extremism

January 2018

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***The purpose of our Prevent work is to safeguard people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism, by engaging people who are vulnerable to radicalisation and protecting those who are being targeted by terrorist recruiters.***

The Prevent statutory duty was introduced through the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and requires local authorities, schools, colleges, universities, health bodies, prisons and probation, and police to consider the need to safeguard people from being drawn into terrorism in their day-to-day work. The purpose of the duty is twofold: it ensures we build resilience to terrorist propaganda by encouraging discussion, debate and challenge; and it helps to ensure that individuals who might be at risk of radicalisation are supported as they would be under other safeguarding processes.

The duty has prompted a significant step forward in the delivery of Prevent work in many sectors.

This newsletter outlines some of the work and progress of 'Prevent' in East Sussex.

The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership is supported by the Safer East Sussex Team, made up from Community Safety staff from Sussex Police and East Sussex County Council

## The National Picture

The scale of the terrorist threat facing the UK is unprecedented in terms of the number of current investigations and the overall number of individuals of interest. As at March 2017, MI5 investigations have resulted in the disruption of 13 major terrorist attacks since the murder of Fusilier Lee Rigby in May 2013, and this represents a pace which MI5 has not experienced before.



We have been told that the Government will soon be re-launching an updated Counter Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST). At the time of writing, we have not been provided with the updated document; but, we understand there have been a number of significant changes. The key themes of the new CONTEST Strategy will include:

- A greater focus on Prevent, to address *“the efforts of Daesh to effectively weaponise people who live here”*;
- Managing the return of foreign fighters from Syria and the surrounding regions;
- Further effort on de-radicalising terrorists in prison, and monitoring them effectively on their release;
- Improving the UK’s border security; and
- Working more closely with international partners and the private sector on counter-terrorism.

The Government will be establishing a statutory Commission for Countering Extremism that will play a key role in supporting communities and the public sector. Sara Khan will it’s the new lead Commissioner.



The Commission for Countering Extremism will have a clear remit to identify extremism and advise the government on new policies, laws and other actions that may be required to tackle it. It will also support communities and the public sector to confront extremism wherever it exists and promote British values.

The Commission will also help to train schools and colleges to spot the warning signs and help stamp out extremism. Because there is a strong correlation between extremism and the poor treatment of women and girls, the Commission will have a specific responsibility to ensure women’s rights are upheld.

Further information can be found here:

<https://homeofficemedia.blog.gov.uk/2018/01/25/factsheet-on-the-commission-for-countering-extremism/>

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## East Sussex Prevent Board



The East Sussex Prevent Board assesses the county-wide risk of people being drawn into terrorism and co-ordinates Prevent activity according to Section 29 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

The Prevent Board convened for the first time on the 10th anniversary of the 7/7 London bombings in 2015 and continues to meet 4 times a year. Membership of the Board is made up of various partners all of whom have a duty to meet the requirements of the Act. You can see the various member organisations in the diagram below.

A key document which assists the Board is the Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) which is produced on an annual basis. This document outlines the threat and vulnerability from terrorism-related activity within the County. A CTLP helps us to understand and prioritise threat and vulnerability with suggested recommendations to address any risk. These recommendations are used to inform activity and some examples are outlined overleaf.



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## Some developments this year include:

- Working with Surrey, West Sussex, Crawley and Brighton to identify the best model of sharing future Local Channel Co-ordinator roles across local authority areas.

This will involve sharing a co-ordinator across the region to ensure a more consistent approach in coordinating Channel meetings (Channel is the voluntary, confidential programme which operates throughout England and Wales to safeguard people identified as vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism). The Office for Security and Counter Terrorism will be implementing the change region by region and it is expected that Sussex as a whole will see these changes begin to take place over the summer months.

- Raising awareness with Higher and Further Education around extreme right-wing organisations due to an increase in extreme right-wing referrals to Prevent. We have sourced Far Right Session Films from the London Grid for Learning and



promoted the use of the Cross the Line App developed by Bedfordshire Police Prevent Team which aims to help young people, who might be at risk from radicalisation, to recognise the signs that they are being influenced or controlled by others. Following requests on 'Talking About' terrorist incidents a useful presentation was shared with FE partners.

- The Prevent E-learning module on the East Sussex Learning Portal has been refreshed and includes a short film on radicalisation by Sussex University presented by Dr Suraj Lakhani, Sussex University/ Director: Terrorism and Violent Extremism Research Network. To date over 3,000 people have accessed the module.

- Department of Education approval of **Think Protect Connect**, and incorporating the resource onto the national 'Educate against Hate' website.



- Guest speakers have also come to the quarterly meetings to share good practice, promote initiatives and update partners. These have included Chris Williams (Prevent Team Home Office), Hannah Latty (East Sussex Community and Faith Action Co-ordinator) and Amir Nasir (Sussex Police).

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The Education sector made the most Prevent referrals in East Sussex last year and to address this, we have been continuing to deliver **Think Protect Connect** to young people in schools across the County, so far over 2,500 young people have participated in the programme. The resource has been approved by the Department of Education and the Home Office.

**Think Protect Connect** was developed and designed by the Safer East Sussex Team in partnership with John Kahn in 2016. It was redesigned to be an 'autism friendly' resource in 2017 with funding from the Home Office. The themes for the six workshops developed as part of the resource include:

- **Exploring personal identity**
- **Group identity, belonging and shared British values**
- **The risks of stereotyping**
- **Extremist views and behaviour**
- **Online propaganda**
- **How to stay safe online**

The sub headings and content of the workshops are focused on some of the main factors and areas of knowledge which are often not present in individuals who are at risk and contribute to their increased vulnerability of being drawn into terrorism and other areas of risk such as online grooming, involvement in gangs and criminal exploitation. During workshops four, five and six a much greater emphasis is placed on building young people's digital resilience by exploring the process of online grooming and online radicalisation with a view to ensuring young people stay safe online.

<http://www.yourcountyeastsussex.co.uk/news/groundbreaking-resource-to-help-in-the-fight-against-extremism/>



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Thank you to Dave for running the sessions and answering sensitive questions well – you have helped the teachers out hugely by offering ways to teach difficult subjects like radicalisation **Tollgate Junior School**

A fantastic course which was really valuable for all of our children. The children were really engaged throughout and looked forward to a Friday afternoon with Mr Law! As a teacher it was really good to see how such a challenging subject could be taught at an age appropriate level without inflicting any fear onto the children – **Harlands Primary School**

Thank you - it was nice as a teacher that we are tackling some difficult subjects in appropriate ways and giving the children the right information – **Bourne Primary School**

Really useful to focus on the British values and they enjoyed hearing about it from somebody different from the class teacher! They looked forward to the sessions. **Chyngton Primary School**

## Building Digitally Resilient Children

Over 100 teachers, professionals and young people came to the successful **Building Digitally Resilient Children** Conference this month which was delivered in partnership between the Safer East Sussex Team and Priority 1-54 at Wellshurst Golf Club.

The feedback from both young people and adults has been extremely positive.



The overall aim of the partnership event was to equip schools and professionals working with children and young people with the understanding, skills and confidence to enable children and young people to stay safe online.

The internet has transformed the way that terrorist organisations can influence and radicalise people. It enables groups to reach a larger global audience, with broader and dynamic messages which means that vulnerable people can be easily be exposed to extremist materials easily accessible online, and radicalised by extremist views.

Will Gardner, Chief Executive Officer, Childnet International – one of our guest speakers highlighted that:

***“None of us can remove the risk which the internet can pose, but we need to equip young people with the skills they need to manage the risk they face”***

***“It was a great event and it was so impressive to see young people at the centre of everything. It must have been a huge job to organise, and congratulations on the end result.”***

The East Sussex Youth Cabinet wanted to remind everyone about the positive impact digital technology can have for young people, both creatively and mentally, and that it can provide a safe space to explore who we are, share values and beliefs, and stay connected with family and friends.



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Martha Evans, National Coordinator for the Anti-Bullying Alliance, provided some stark information about the effects of cyberbullying whilst PC Keith Beckley provided an engaging session on how to counter online threats and how to keep safe online.



We were very pleased to welcome and hear from Craig Pinkney, Criminologist, Urban Youth Specialist, Lecturer at UCB and one of the UK's leading thinkers/doers in responding to gangs and serious youth violence. His key message:

***“Adults may have a limited knowledge and understanding of social media. They need to teach children how to say no, rather than just telling them not to do something”. Also, “Adults and Professionals need to do a little more to understand what is going on with young people and may need to take an interest in learning more to bring themselves up-to-date.”***

Various workshops were delivered throughout the day on:

- Supporting young people online
- Exploring the theme for Safer Internet Day 2018
- Childnet's Digital Leaders Programme
- Think: Protect: Connect
- Parenting in a digital age



### **Children and young people told us what they wanted from parents:-**

- Parents need to chill out when it comes to us and technology
- They need to trust us more
- Parents need training on online safety and training on how to let us use technology
- Parents should be trained by young people

***“Thank you for such a relevant and thought-provoking day”***

***“It was an engaging and clearly well organised event”***

***“Craig's talk was excellent and so engaging and thought provoking”***

***“Thank you again for yesterday, it really was fantastic!”***

***“I really enjoyed the day. Everyone was excellent – especially the digitally leaders”***

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## Channel

Channel is a voluntary, confidential programme which operates throughout England and Wales to safeguard people identified as vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It is a multi-agency process involving partners from the local authority, the police, education, health providers, and others. Referring possible cases of early stage radicalisation works in a similar way to safeguarding processes designed to protect people from gang activity, drugs, and physical/sexual abuse.



Any concerns in relation to children and young people are reported directly through the single point of advice (SPOA) whilst all adult referrals are currently reported to police.

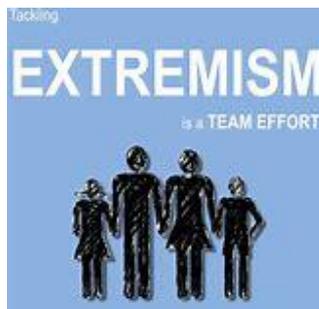
In East Sussex we are particularly concerned not to encourage or create an environment where children or adults are referred to Channel unless there is very clear evidence they are being radicalised or developing an ideology and that there is clearly no alternative or more proportionate means of dealing with the issue.

## REFERRALS



Although we have seen an increase in Prevent referrals since the Prevent duty has come into force, this has been mainly due to an increased awareness of the issue by staff and professionals and not because we have had an increase in children and young people being drawn into terrorism or adopting more extremist ideologies.

The Education sector is engaged and understands the Prevent duty as shown by the high level of engagement through education sector referrals. This is vital given the majority of those found to need support from Channel are under the age of 20.



Participation in the Channel programme is voluntary and confidential. The type of support available is wide-ranging, and can include help with education or career advice, dealing with mental or emotional health issues, drug/alcohol abuse, and theological or ideological mentoring from a Channel Intervention Provider (a specialist mentor).

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Referrals to Channel have been proportionate and over the past 12 months, we have seen only 6 Channel referrals. Four of these cases were adopted and supported by Intervention Providers. All these cases were in relation to extreme right-wing ideologies.

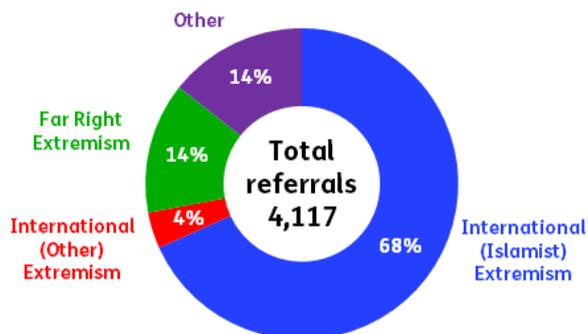
If a case is not adopted by Channel it is often because there are more pressing safeguarding concerns relating to the individual, more suitably supported by statutory services. Channel panels will only offer support where they consider it is necessary and proportionate to do so.

For the first time the Home Office released national data in relation to Prevent and Channel referrals in 2017 and further information can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/individuals-referred-to-and-supported-through-the-prevent-programme-april-2015-to-march-2016>

### Referrals to the Channel programme

Referrals to the Channel programme by reason for referral in 2015/16



\*Other includes categories described by the NPCC as 'Other' as well as Far Left, Northern Ireland related and International Sikh related extremism

Source: National Police Chiefs' Council, FOI data, Counter-terrorism 2016, 43/16, p.3

This release contains statistics on the number of individuals referred to and supported through the Prevent programme in England and Wales from April 2015 to March 2016.

It includes their journey from referral to support, followed by demographic statistics including: age, gender, concern raised by the initial referrer, and geographical location of the individual.

**Further information can be found here for professionals working with children:**

<https://czone.eastsussex.gov.uk/safeguarding/prevent/about/>

**Further information can be found here for professionals working with adults:**

<http://intranet.escc.gov.uk/sites/ASC/StaffInfo/subject/SAAR/Pages/Violentextremism'Prevent'guidance.aspx>

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## Counter Terrorism Policing South East

Since 1 April 2014, the South East Regional Organised Crime Unit has been aligned to Counter Terrorism Policing (CTP) South East with Thames Valley Police as the host Force for both functions



CTP South East covers the police force areas of Thames Valley, Hampshire, Sussex, Surrey and Kent. The Unit is hosted by Thames Valley Police and the aim of the Unit is to create a co-ordinated regional response to terrorism. It provides specialist support and expertise in counter terrorism to police forces in the South East region and supports the National Counter Terrorism Policing network when needed. CTP South East works closely with the Sussex Police Prevent Officers.



**Police and Prevent** Police officers and staff play a key role in making initial assessments and co-ordinating between different organisations that might be involved. The principle role of specialist Prevent officers and staff is to offer advice and support to police colleagues, partner agencies, communities, individuals or organisations at risk from terrorism. Officers and staff help co-ordinate interventions with those at risk and monitor progress.

They keep records in accordance with the Management of Police Data (MoPI) regulations and collate data for the Home Office on referrals and outcomes.

### The work of the Surrey and Sussex Police Prevent Teams

A current focus of the Prevent Teams is to keep people safe and discourage local citizens from travelling to Syria, Iraq and other war zones due to the high levels of violence being experienced within these countries. The Prevent Teams are active in:

- Challenging extremist ideologies of those referred to the teams.
- Supporting individuals so they are drawn away from extremism.
- Working with institutions where there are risks of radicalisation.

In Sussex and Surrey, this work is being carried out in partnership with local authority staff.

If you wish to contact the Sussex Prevent Team, you can do so by dialling 101 or emailing [prevent@sussex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:prevent@sussex.pnn.police.uk)

The Sussex Prevent Team has a Twitter feed @Preventsussex



<https://www.sussex.police.uk/advice/protect-yourself-and-others/counter-terrorism/prevent/>

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**Educate.against.hate** was launched two years ago and was developed by the Department for Education and the Home Office to provide practical advice, support and resources to protect children from extremism and radicalisation.

Most Prevent referrals come from statutory agencies and this reflects teachers' unique position in fostering resilience through critical thinking and pastoral care and support.

There are many resources available on this website, including our very own Think: Protect: Connect, lesson plans, and multi-media resources that can help schools address issues relating to extremism and radicalisation sensitively and in an engaging and age-appropriate manner.

Sections on the site include:

### Teachers

Here you will find Q&A's and resources to help you understand extremism and your responsibilities as a teacher.

### Parents

Messages of hate can take many forms. Extremist groups use them to recruit young people. Here you will find Q&A's, and resources to help you protect your child

### School Leaders

Here you will find Q&A's and useful resources to help protect your pupils from the influence of extremism under the Prevent duty.

Further information and all resources can be found here:

<https://educateagainsthate.com/>

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## For Our Children:



### An Examination of Prevent in the Curriculum

The Safer East Sussex Team was invited to take part and contribute to recommendations following a select round table discussion of Prevent in the curriculum with other local authority, education and police partners from across the UK.

The 'For Our Children' report investigates the implementation of Prevent within the curriculum in primary and secondary schools in the UK, mapping who is involved in the production of resources and training, and assessing the experience of individuals across sectors. The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) are required to assess schools on their promotion of "*fundamental British values and safeguard pupils from the risk of extremism*". Ofsted must consider a school's approach to safeguarding against radicalisation and their procedures for dealing with vulnerable individuals.

The report is intended to be a useful tool for those working in the area and initiating conversation about Prevent in the curriculum that is grounded in the experience of those involved. The report and recommendations were sent to the Government.

Some of the recommendations which we contributed to are as follows:

- Ensure that local authority (LA) staff working in Prevent have the correct safeguarding experience and knowledge, and that Prevent work is properly integrated into the work of the local authority more broadly.
- Develop a consistent national strategy for teacher training specifically in delivering Prevent-related lessons within the curriculum.
- Give PSHE-Citizenship statutory status. This will ensure that important and sensitive issues can be properly discussed such as honour based violence (HBV), forced marriage, and female genital mutilation (FGM).

Emma Webb, Research Fellow at the Centre for the Response to Radicalisation, the author of this report has shared the recommendations widely, at various seminars and conferences nationally.

<http://henryjacksonsociety.org/people/professional-staff/research-staff-and-associates/emma-webb/>

If anyone would like a copy of the report, please email [lucy.spencer@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:lucy.spencer@eastsussex.gov.uk)

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## Sussex University and Prevent

Dr Suraj Lakhani is a Post: Lecturer in Criminology and Sociology and regularly provides expertise on the topics of radicalisation, violent extremism, counter-terrorism and policing to media sources. These include The Times, The Wall Street Journal, BBC Radio 4, BBC Breakfast, BBC News 24 and The Guardian.



Suraj is also the Director of the Terrorism and Violent Extremism Research Network. One of the aims of this Network is to promote research on the causes of terrorism and violent extremism and how to understand and counter these.

Suraj has been active in bringing a variety of individuals and agencies from across Sussex together to be part of this ongoing work and research.

His initial research looked at issues and concerns facing charities, NGOs, educational partners, etc. with the delivery of Prevent Strategy requirements, recognising the specialist knowledge and skills of third sector agencies, and identifying knowledge gaps and opportunities to develop.

Following a number of round-table events and discussions he has compiled the findings into a report:

### **Safeguarding by Consent: An integrated approach to addressing vulnerability in the context of safeguarding activity**

The Safer East Sussex Team will be part of this ongoing work with researchers at the University of Sussex to develop a project which will look at fostering stronger relationships within and between different sectors on a range of different issues relating to safeguarding and investigating how to better inform members of the public on the services available to them and how to access these services.

We will be developing the **Safer Communities Learning Network** amongst the community and voluntary sector organisations across East Sussex. The overall aim will be to raise awareness of emerging crime trends and equip community groups with knowledge and current information in order for them to signpost individuals and groups about subjects they are currently not familiar or confident to respond to – this will include Prevent.

If anyone would like a copy of this report, please email:

[lucy.spencer@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:lucy.spencer@eastsussex.gov.uk)

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## Sussex Coast College Hastings – Prevent Awareness

Sussex Coast College has been creative when it comes to promoting messages about Prevent. These eye-catching posters have been displayed around the campus and are certainly informative whilst promoting positive statements.

#SCCHPrevent

# What is Prevent?

Prevent is a way for this college to support and educate you about the risks of terrorism and extremism. Together we can stamp out terrorism.

**How to do your bit.**  
As a student you will learn about Prevent by attending group sessions, taking part in activities during Counter Terrorism Week and throughout the year. If you have any concerns, no matter how small, talk to your tutors, they will listen to you.

**How the College will do their bit.**  
All of our staff are Home Office Prevent trained. We respect every single person and want to make sure that you understand all the facts, giving you the best education possible.

Anti-Terrorist Hotline: 0800 789 321  
SCCH Safeguarding & Prevent Team: 07848442081

**We will listen.**  
prevent@sussexcoast.ac.uk



#SCCHPrevent

# Suspect It, Report It.

Are you concerned that something you have seen or heard could be terrorist related?  
Confidentially call 0800 789 321 and report it. Your actions could save lives.

It's probably nothing but... trust your instincts and let trained officers advise and investigate further.

It is better to be safe than sorry.

Anti-Terrorist Hotline: 0800 789 321  
SCCH Safeguarding & Prevent Team: 07848442081

**We will listen.**  
prevent@sussexcoast.ac.uk



#SCCHPrevent

# Is it OK to have your own opinions? Yes.

# Is it OK to voice your own opinions? Yes.

# Is it OK to force your opinions on others? No.

Extremism is having extreme views that you want to force on others and may make you turn to violence and hurt people.

**Say No to Extremism.**  
prevent@sussexcoast.ac.uk



#SCCHPrevent

# We Have Confidence In You.

Student life can be stressful with exam pressure, deciding what you want to do next can be confusing, and comparing yourself to your friends can be frustrating. You're not alone.

Emotions are powerful and can make us do good things, as well as bad things.

Extremists know this.

If things are getting too much, talk to someone who you know and trust! Your tutors, friends and family - we will listen to you.

**We will listen.**  
prevent@sussexcoast.ac.uk



#SCCHPrevent

# Your Education Empowers You.

You are an intelligent young person who can make up your own mind. You know how to research and critically analyse the information you see and read. Other peoples' opinions are not facts.

There are more opinions out in the world than ever before - it is difficult to tell what's fact or fiction on social media.

Extremists know this.

If you are confused, talk to someone who you know and trust! Your tutors, friends and family - we will listen to you.

**We will listen.**  
prevent@sussexcoast.ac.uk



#SCCHPrevent

# We Respect Individuality.

Fitting in isn't always easy. You can feel lost and angry when people don't understand you. You're not alone.

Wanting to belong can make us do good things, as well as bad things.

Extremists know this.

If you are feeling frustrated, talk to someone who you know and trust! Your tutors, friends or family - we will listen to you.

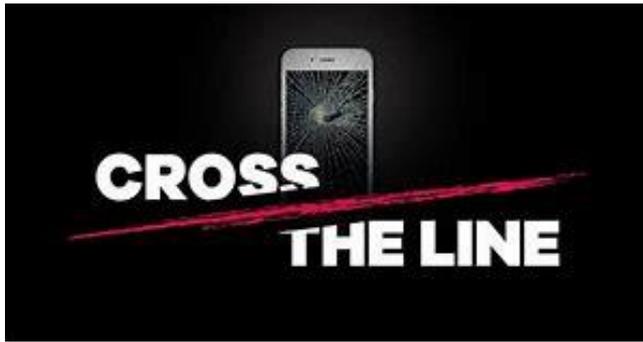
**We will listen.**  
prevent@sussexcoast.ac.uk



In their recent Ofsted Inspection report (November 2017) Inspectors said:

***“The vast majority of students and apprentices understand how to protect themselves from the dangers of radicalisation and extremism.”***

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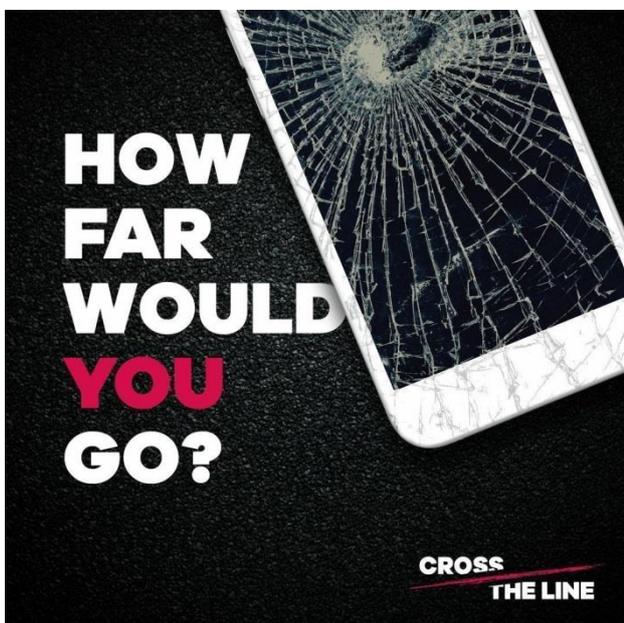
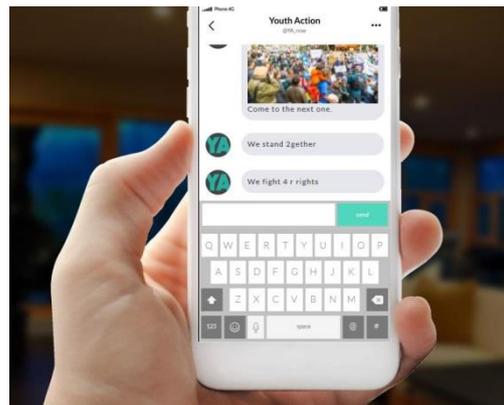


## Cross the Line App

Cross the Line uses smartphone technology to help deter individuals away from radicalisation, hate crime and right-wing extremism.

### How does it work?

The app takes the user on a journey which sees them getting drawn into a far right-wing group, before quickly escalating into violent hate crime. The user has a number of choices to make within the app which influences the steps they take and decides whether they eventually 'Cross the Line'.



Acts of violent extremism and hate crimes are committed by a small minority of people and are not representative of the wider public. However, people who may be vulnerable to radicalisation for a variety of reasons may be easily influenced by radical behaviour or extremist ideology.

To see a short clip of the app, click here: <http://www.ltai.info/cross-the-line/>

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## Donating to Charity

Money underpins all terrorist activity;- without it there can be no training, recruitment, facilitation or support for terrorist groups. In extreme cases, terrorists may try to set up an organisation as a sham, promoted as charitable but whose sole purpose is really to raise funds or use its facilities or name to promote or co-ordinate inappropriate and unlawful activities.

In extreme cases, terrorists may try to set up an organisation as a sham, promoted as charitable but whose sole purpose is really to raise funds or use its facilities or name to promote or coordinate inappropriate and unlawful activities.



Within the UK, the Charity Commission acts as a regulator to ensure charitable funds are only applied for the legitimate purposes of the charity in the UK.

To check a charity is genuine, you can search online here: <https://www.gov.uk/find-charity-information>



**The Fundraising Preference Service (FPS)** was launched last summer and is a website-based service developed by the Fundraising Regulator. It allows members of the public to end direct marketing communications from charities they specify through a central system.

It acts as a 'reset button' for those who are unhappy with the number of charities contacting them. The public could opt out of fundraising requests from multiple charities without having to contact each of them separately.

Charities are then required to stop sending fundraising requests or making phone calls to those who notified the Service.

Guidance can be found here on how to complain about Charity activity in the UK: <https://www.gov.uk/complain-about-charity>

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# ARE YOU READY TO PREVENT EXTREMISM?

connectfutures

## STAFF

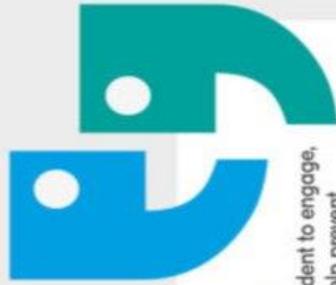


### SPOTTING THE WARNING SIGNS

Frontline staff understand Far Right and Islamist extremism and know how to spot vulnerabilities and signs of radicalisation.

### ENGAGE, PREVENT, INTERVENE

Staff are confident to engage, discuss and help prevent extremism with young people and can provide practical solutions.



### SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Leadership/management understand what front line staff may face and can provide relevant and necessary support through policy and procedure to effectively protect staff and young, vulnerable, clients and members of the public with which they work.



## ORGANISATION

### POLICY

Clear, up-to-date policies that are regularly updated and refined to safeguard against violent extremism of all kinds.

Staff understand policy and procedure and can act on it with confidence.



### PARTNERSHIPS

Actively developed partnerships with relevant external organisations and individuals with regular information and best practice sharing.



### EFFECTIVE MONITORING

Data is collected, collated and analysed as part of constant, active improvement across the whole organisation. Embedding anti extremism and safeguarding across policy, procedure, organisational activities, curriculum and communications (internal and external).



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