

TVC CHURCH PREVENT POLICY

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SECTION 1

Aims

The aim of this policy is to outline our approach to supporting the national Prevent Strategy linked to the safeguarding of our staff, volunteers and users of activities run by TVC Church.

Any concerns relating to a person under 18 are safeguarding issues and should be dealt with by safeguarding staff and, where necessary, the LSCB contacted. The Prevent Policy should be read in conjunction with TVC Church's Safeguarding Policy.

This policy is written with reference to the Prevent Duty contained within Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. The Duty states that specified authorities, in the exercise of their functions, must have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".

SECTION 2

Scope

This policy relates to all TVC Church staff, volunteers and attendees. This policy relates to all forms of terrorism including non-violent extremism. Examples of terrorism include right wing extremists, animal rights, ecoterrorism and cyber terrorism.

SECTION 3

The Prevent Strategy

CONTEST, the Government's national counter terrorism strategy, aims to reduce the risk to the United Kingdom and its interests overseas from international terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence.

The strategy has four main work streams:

- Pursue: to stop terrorist attacks
- Protect: to strengthen our protection against terrorist attack
- Prepare: where an attack cannot be stopped, to mitigate its impact
- **Prevent: to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism**

The Prevent strategy responds to the ideological challenge of terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threat we face from those who promote these views. It provides practical help to prevent

people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support. It works with a wide range of sectors including education, criminal justice, faith, charities, online and health where there are risks of radicalisation.

The three key objectives of the Prevent Strategy are to:

- Challenge the ideology that supports terrorism and those who promote it
- Prevent vulnerable people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support
- Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation

SECTION 4

The Prevent Duty and British Values

The Prevent Duty incorporates the responsibility of TVC Church to promote Fundamental British Values through our practices, teaching and all activities.

The British Values are:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Staff and volunteers will exemplify British Values throughout their interactions, behaviour and professional practice.

SECTION 5

Roles and Responsibilities

The **Executive Team** has overall responsibility for developing and reinforcing awareness of 'Prevent' in the activities run by TVC Church.

The **Safeguarding Lead**, together with the **Deputy Safeguarding Leads** and **Safeguarding Administrators**, are responsible for responding to concerns in relation to Prevent.

All TVC Church staff and volunteers are responsible for:

- Attending all safeguarding and Prevent training and keeping up to date with current policy and procedures

- Understanding what may contribute to increased vulnerability in relation to radicalisation and extremism
- Understanding the signs and indicators that may cause concern
- Remaining observant and vigilant to identify concerns
- Sharing concerns following TVC Church Safeguarding and Prevent referral procedures
- Promoting and reinforcing shared values; creating space for free and open debate, and to listening and supporting the voice of each individual
- Ensuring those who attend our activities are free from bullying, harassment and discrimination

SECTION 6

Practice that Supports the Prevent Duty

- Our Safeguarding Policy sets out the work we do to safeguard our members of staff, volunteers and attendees. We recognise that radicalisation is a safeguarding risk.
- Our work to promote Equality and Diversity within our activities incorporates British Values, contributes to good community relations and reduces the risk of radicalisation. We recognise we have a part to play in fostering shared values and promoting cohesion.
- Annual Prevent Awareness Training for all staff and volunteers of TVC Church ensures that all staff and volunteers have awareness of the Prevent Duty, how this relates to their position at TVC Church and their responsibility to report any concerns.

SECTION 7

Prevent Risk Assessment

Our church activities are regularly reviewed and assessed against the risk of not meeting the Prevent Duty. Areas considered at least annually include:

- Leadership – are all managers aware of and had training in their Prevent Duty Responsibilities?
- Training – do all staff and volunteers have awareness of key Prevent points?:
 - what it is and its aim
 - how to recognise TVC Church attendees who are vulnerable who may be drawn into extremism
 - British Values and how to exhibit them and incorporate them into practice

- Who and how to report any concerns
- Policy – is the Prevent Policy up to date, accessible to all staff and volunteers and implemented?
- Activities – are all events or activities which may pose a risk of radicalisation, including the presence of visiting speakers, individually risk assessed?

SECTION 8

Acting on a Concern – Prevent Referral

A Prevent Referral is a supportive activity which initially involves identification of any individual (staff, volunteer or attendee at any activities) at risk of radicalisation. A referral should be made by the Safeguarding Lead or one of the Deputy Safeguarding Leads. Appendix 4 shows the referral flow chart.

Guidance

‘Having due regard’ means that the authorities should place an appropriate amount of weight on the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism when they consider all the other factors relevant to how they carry out their usual functions.

‘Extremism’ is defined in the 2011 Prevent strategy as 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.

‘Interventions’ are projects intended to divert people who are being drawn into terrorist activity. Interventions can include mentoring, counselling, theological support, encouraging civic engagement, developing support networks (family and peer structures) or providing mainstream services (education, employment, health, finance or housing).

‘Non-violent extremism’ is extremism, as defined above, which is not accompanied by violence.

‘Prevention’ in the context of this document means reducing or eliminating the risk of individuals becoming involved in terrorism. Prevent includes but is not confined to the identification and referral of those at risk of being drawn into terrorism into appropriate interventions. These interventions aim to divert vulnerable people from radicalisation.

‘Radicalisation’ refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

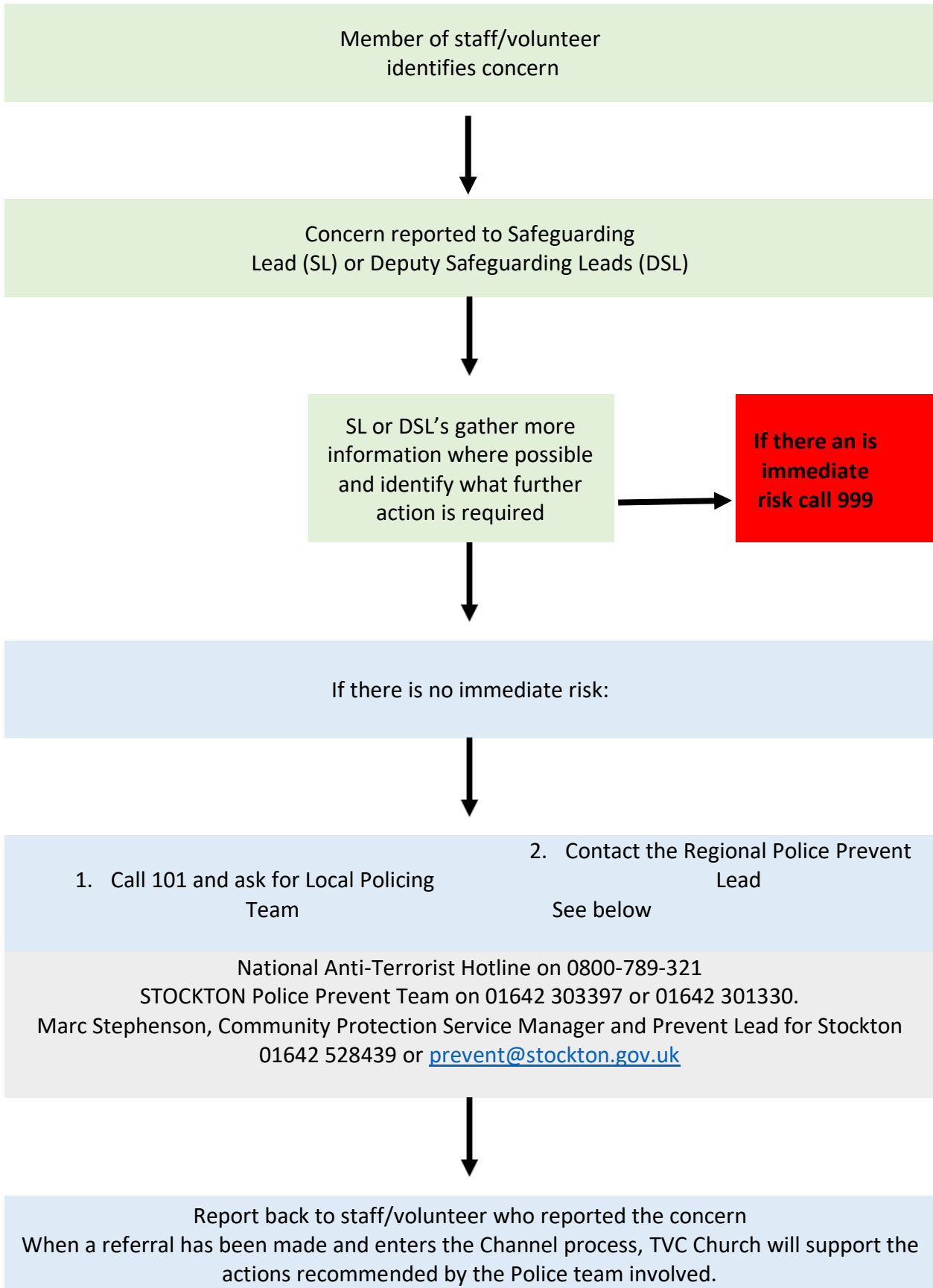
‘Safeguarding’ is the process of protecting vulnerable people, whether from crime, other forms of abuse or (in the context of this document) from being drawn into terrorist-related activity.

The current UK definition of **‘terrorism’** is given in the Terrorism Act 2000 (TACT 2000). In summary this defines terrorism as an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

‘Terrorist-related offences’ are those (such as murder) which are not offences in terrorist legislation, but which are judged to be committed in relation to terrorism.

‘Vulnerability’ describes the condition of being capable of being injured; difficult to defend; open to moral or ideological attack. Within Prevent, the word describes factors and characteristics associated with being susceptible to radicalisation.

Appendix 2 Prevent Referral Process



Appendix 3 – Signs that may cause concern

- People talking about exposure to extremist materials or views (in this event, information must be shared with relevant local authorities)
- Changes in behaviour, e.g. becoming isolated
- Fall in standard of work, poor attendance, disengagement
- Changes in attitude, e.g. intolerant of differences/ having closed mind
- Asking questions about certain topics (e.g. connected to extremism)
- Offering opinions that appear to have come from extremist ideologies
- Attempts to impose own views/ beliefs on others
- Use of extremist vocabulary to exclude others or incite violence
- Accessing extremist material online or via social network sites
- Overt new religious practices
- Drawings or posters (e.g. in accommodation) showing extremist ideology/ views/ symbols
- Students voicing concerns about anyone