

Prevent Strategy and Procedures

Safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk of radicalisation

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Version control

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Document Approval. This document must be approved (in its current iteration) by:

Date	Version	Approver	Role
18/11/14	V1	Susan Marshall	Chief Nurse (Safeguarding Steering Committee)

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APPENDICES

List of policies and key documents relating to Prevent

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Terrorism	Is defined in the Terrorism Act (2000) as an action that; endangers or causes serious violence to a person or people, causing serious damage to property or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use of threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of political, religious or ideological gain.
Radicalisation	Radicalisation in this strategy refers to the process by which people comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism. Radicalisation is not an event but a process
Extremism	Is vocal or active opposition to fundamental values including democracy, the rule of the law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different beliefs and faiths. This includes the definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, either in this country or overseas.
Concern	A Prevent Concern does not have to be proven beyond reasonable doubt; it should be based on something that raises concern, which is assessed by using the Professional judgement of a member of staff
Vulnerability	Vulnerability in the context of Prevent is a person who is susceptible to extremists" messages and is at risk of being drawn into terrorism or supporting terrorism at a point in time.
Channel	Is a multi-agency partnership that works with existing safeguarding partnerships and crime reduction panels in order to assess referrals of vulnerable individuals that are at risk of being drawn into Terrorism. Channel is administered and coordinated by police, but chaired by the local authority. Channel is part of the Prevent strand of the Governments Counter Terrorism Strategy CONTEST. The Channel group provides a mechanism for supporting individuals who may be vulnerable to terrorist related activity by assessing the nature and the extent of the potential risk, agreeing and providing an appropriate support package tailored to the individual's needs.

1 INTRODUCTION

Purpose

Delivering excellent care is at the heart of all services at Sussex Community NHS Trust (SCT). Ensuring the safety of children, young people and adults at risk is the responsibility of all staff and at all times. To ensure those children, young people and adults at risk in our community are appropriately identified, supported and referred is core to safeguarding processes. SCT staff will meet and treats 8,000 patients every day in different venues some of these may be at risk of radicalisation.

There are children, young people and adults who may be susceptible to radicalism and it on the principles of prevention and protection in safeguarding that this strategy is based. There is no single profile or indication of a person who is likely to be involved in terrorist-related activity. Therefore the challenge for SCT staff will be to remain observant for changes in behaviour that may identify early indicators radicalisation.

The Department of Health issued guidance for all healthcare organisations, Building Partnerships, Staying Safe,(DH, 2011) to their contribute by building partnerships to ensure vulnerable adults are safeguarded. Three national objectives have been identified for the *Prevent* strategy:

- Objective 1: respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it
- **Objective 2: prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support**
- Objective 3: work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address.

The purpose of this strategy is to focus on **objective 2** to ensure SCT staff are aware of their responsibility and are effective in raising concerns

No one group associated with terrorism has been identified within this strategy.

Principles

This strategy provides information, guidance and governance for all staff of Sussex Community NHS Trust to ensure they respond to and can identify signs of radicalism as a safeguarding concern.

The Government has produced a counter-terrorism strategy CONTEST (2011, HM Government) and is organised around four key principles:

- Pursue - to disrupt or stop terrorist attacks (responsibility of enforcement agencies)
- ***Prevent - to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism***
- Protect - strengthening our borders, infrastructure and public spaces from attacks
- Prepare - where we cannot stop an attack, to reduce its impact by responding effectively

Each of these has work streams. The Prevent Strategy (2011, HM Government) clearly states the role that healthcare sector has in identifying, supporting and referring information about patients they may meet and treat who are vulnerable to radicalisation.

It is the principles of safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk that forms the focus of this strategy. This strategy refers to both SCT staff and patients who maybe radicalised.

Roles and Responsibilities

In the day to day activities SCT staff will meet and treat patients across and staff need to be aware of their role and responsibility to safeguard children and vulnerable adults. There are some groups who because of their vulnerability maybe easily drawn into and influenced by others to be more easily drawn into terrorism.

It is a key requirement for all staff to ensure that vulnerable children, young people and adults are protected from harm. They have a legal duty to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults.

SCT staff are not required to do anything in addition to normal duties but by using knowledge about safeguarding to use professional observations and judgements, can raise concerns if radicalisation is identified. As part of adult safeguarding training all SCT will be informed about their role in Prevent.

Indicators of vulnerability

There are three dimensions in assessing vulnerability to terrorism. These are identified in the national strategy to counter-terrorism Channel, 2011: Protecting vulnerable people from being drawn into terrorism (HM Government 2012):

- Engagement with a group, cause or ideology;
- Intent to cause harm; and
- Capability to cause harm.

It must be remembered that these are considered separately as it is possible to engage with a group without intending to cause harm. Not all individuals at risk of radicalisation and acts of terrorism are susceptible or vulnerable and maybe acting out of choice.

Identification of groups at risk

There is no obvious profile of a person who may become involved in terrorist-related activity or a single indicator of when a person may move to support extremism. There are contributing factors which may influence vulnerable young people and adults to join certain groups supporting terrorist-related activities (DH, 2011):

- Ideology and politics
- Anger or provocation
- Need for protection
- Seeking action or excitement
- Fascination with violence
- Seeking family substitutes and friends
- Seeking status and identity

Those most vulnerable are people with mental health or learning disabilities who maybe more easily drawn into terrorism. They may be underemployed or unemployed and lack belonging within their community. Concerns due to changes in behaviour, accessing on-line terrorist related materials, use of extremist language or violence may be raised by parents or carers. SCT staff need to respond appropriately and professionally to these concerns.

Observed behaviours

It is important that SCT staff ensure where there are signs that someone has been or is being drawn into terrorism that this can be correctly identified. Staff need feel confident and to know support is available through the SCT Safeguarding Team.

There are a number of behaviours that may indicate the presence of these signs that may show radicalisation. These have been identified in the national strategies. An individual is engaged with an extremist group, cause or ideology includes some/all of the following:

- Spending increasing time in the company of other suspected extremists;
- Changing their style of dress or personal appearance to accord with the group;
- Their day-to-day behaviour becoming increasingly centred around an extremist ideology, group or cause;
- Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause;
- Possession of material or symbols associated with an extremist cause (e.g. the swastika for far right groups);
- Attempts to recruit others to the group/cause/ideology; or
- Communications with others that suggest identification with a group/cause/ideology

Information sharing

When SCT staff identify a person at risk of exploitation by radicalisers or are exhibiting extremist beliefs or behaviours, they must share these concerns. The concern should be initially shared with your line manager, who will then alert the Head of Safeguarding. Risks can be assessed based on information given.

If the concern is an immediate risk to the person then the police will be the first contact, requesting counter terrorist unit. The second contact will be to the Head of Safeguarding.

Safeguarding is not a single agency process and it is within the partnerships arrangements across Sussex that SCT will respond.

Contacts at SCT

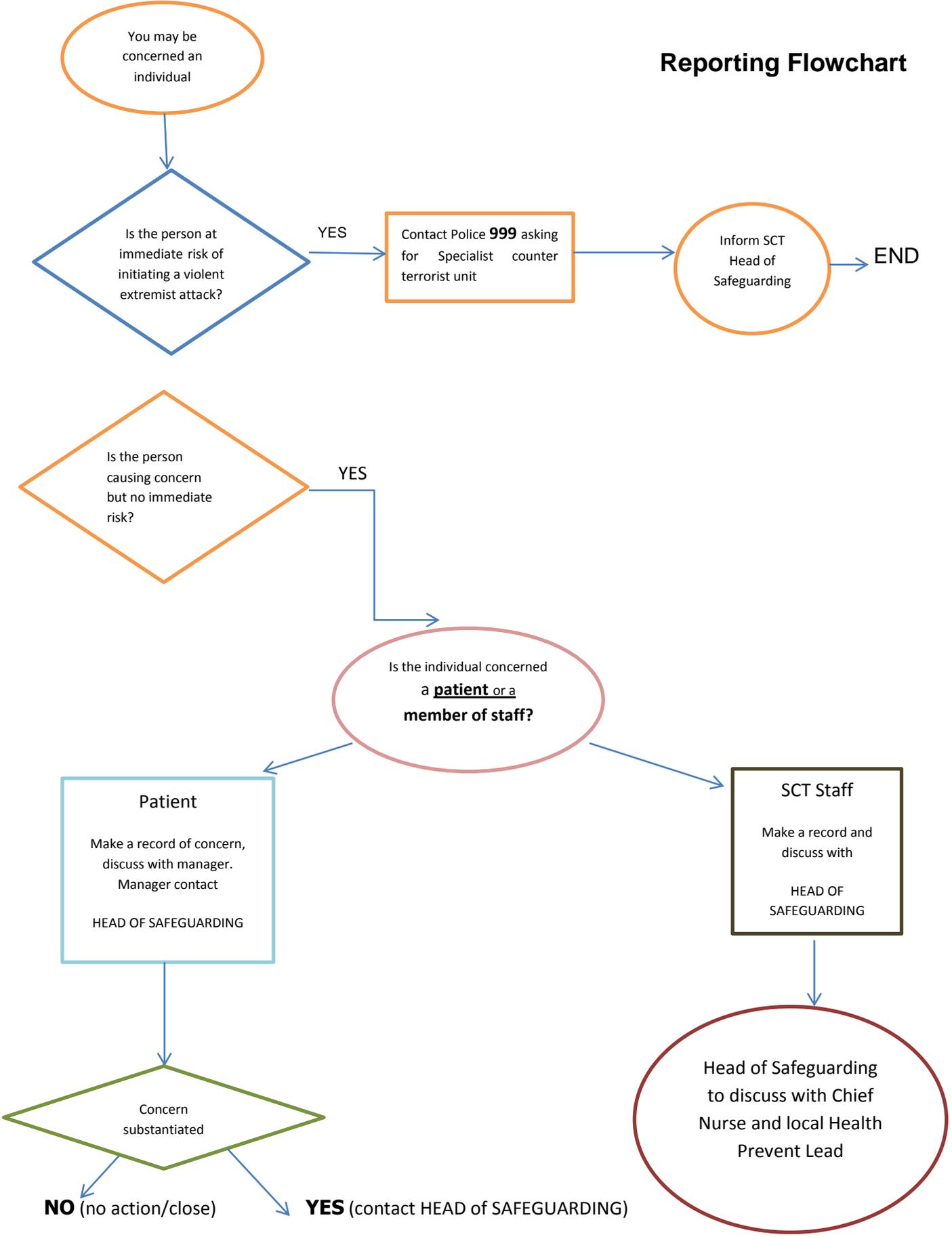
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Health *Prevent* Locality Lead

Naomi Ellis Designated Safeguarding Adults (CCG)

Reporting Flowchart



Appendix 1

List of policies and key documents relating to Prevent

Building Partnerships, Staying Safe: guidance for healthcare organisations

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/building-partnerships-staying-safe-guidance-for-healthcare-organisations>

Counter-terrorism strategy (CONTEST)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/counter-terrorism-strategy-contest>

The national security strategy - a strong Britain in an age of uncertainty

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-national-security-strategy-a-strong-britain-in-an-age-of-uncertainty>

Channel guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance>

Prevent strategy 2011

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-strategy-2011>