# WHAT IF... RADICALISATION AND EXTREMISM

The What if ... series seeks to provide guidance to aid the identification of an adult safeguarding concern and the action to take

## What is radicalisation and preventing extremism?

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and other forms of extremism leading to terrorism. Whilst no single factor is usually enough to cause someone to join a terrorist organisation, several factors together can create the conditions under which terrorism can occur. Those involved in extremist activity can come from a range of backgrounds and experiences.

The Prevent Strategy is designed to help people who have been identified as being potentially vulnerable to radicalisation or extremism. The Hull Channel Panel is part of this process and is a means of providing practical, multi-agency support to people at risk of being drawn towards terrorism and/or violent extremism.

### What is the impact?

Radicalisation can be difficult to spot - signs that may indicate a person is being radicalised include isolating them from family/friends, talking as if from a scripted speech, unwilling or unable to discuss their views, increased level of anger, a sudden disrespectful attitude towards others, increased secretiveness especially about internet use.

# What to do? NOTICE - CHECK - SHARE

- If you notice a change in a person that could make them vulnerable to being exploited or radicalised; check and discuss this with your supervisor or Team Manager. Concerns should be shared with your Manager who may advise you to make a Prevent referral.
- Early detection and referral is important, it offers the opportunity to stop possible terrorism as evidence shows intervention can deter someone becoming a terrorist or supporting violent extremism, especially with family and support networks involved.
- Be person-centred, clear about the worries and use your professional judgement

Teenagers can be at greater risk because they are becoming more independent, exploring new things and pushing boundaries as they grow and discover more about their identity and sense of belonging. Radicalisers are very good at identifying people's anxieties and exploiting vulnerability; they will offer a new narrative or way to feel better. This has become easier to do online.

### What you need to know...

It is important to be able to recognise the factors that can make people susceptible to radicalisation:

- · Sense of identity
- · Questioning their place in society
- · Discriminated for their culture, gender, religion, race
- · Fed up with being bullied, angry at other people or the government
- Family issues and/or traumatic life events
- Difficulty in interacting socially & lacking empathy
- Low self-esteem

Some of the causes that lead individuals to become radicalised are no different to other factors that can lead vulnerable individuals towards risk taking behaviours. Radicalisation is a process, this process is different for everyone - it can take place over an extended period or in a very short time frame. People can be exposed to different views and receive information from various sources, some of these views may be considered radical or extreme.

## **Information & Resources**

Prevent resources and referrals can be provided via our local Prevent webpage which can be accessed here - <u>Prevent Training</u>

Face to Face Prevent Awareness Workshops can be booked onto here -<u>Prevent Face to Face Workshop</u>

Educate against hate information and resources

Act Early



E-learning available form the Home Office:

How to make a Prevent referral





Channel Awareness