



# **East Lothian and Midlothian Public Protection Committee**

## **Prevent Guidance Note and Referral Pathway**

## Introduction

Prevent is one of the four strands of the UK Government's 2018 [CONTEST Strategy](#) which seeks to reduce the threat to the United Kingdom and its interests overseas from terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence. Delivery of Prevent is grounded in early intervention and safeguarding.

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places the Prevent strategy on a statutory footing. Section 26 of the Act places a duty on certain bodies having "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". The specified bodies in Scotland are listed as Local Authorities, NHS, Higher and Further Education, Independent and Grant-aided schools, Scottish Prison Service and Police Scotland. Each specified authority has a Prevent SPOC who acts as the conduit of information between these specified authorities.

The primary focus of the Prevent Strategy is on intervening before a person engages in criminal behaviour and it is recognised that in essence it seeks to safeguard individuals of concern and therefore is a public protection matter.

The Prevent strategy has three strategic objectives where it seeks to challenge those who may become radicalised through exposure to extremism:

1. Respond to ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it
2. Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support
3. Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to address

This guidance sets out the multi-agency response required when responding to individuals with reference to the Prevent strategy. It sets out the guidance on how to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support.

The revised [Prevent Duty Guidance for Scotland](#) is clear that Prevent work depends on effective partnership working and when appropriate existing mechanisms should be used in establishing the risk of radicalisation to the individual and ensuring that staff capabilities are in place to deal with any required response. This includes having in place arrangements to effectively monitor local Prevent activity.

The [Scottish Local Authorities Contest Prevent Code of Practice](#) identifies a range of practical actions to enable Local Authorities to work with partners to meet their statutory duties in responding to Prevent concerns. Individuals who are at risk of becoming or supporting terrorists and who are known to Police, should be managed through Prevent Case Management or through a Prevent Multi-Agency Panel (PMAP). It is the Local Authority's responsibility to arrange and chair such meetings where necessary and Single Points of Contact (SPOC) have been appointed as follows:

<b>East Lothian Single Point of Contact</b>	
Judith Tait (Chief Operating Officer (Children’s Services) and CSWO)	01620 827 633 <a href="mailto:jtait@eastlothian.gov.uk">jtait@eastlothian.gov.uk</a>
<b>East Lothian Council Depute Single Point of Contact</b>	
Lesley Brown (Executive Director – Education & Children’s Services, Education)	07917523256 <a href="mailto:lbrown@eastlothian.gov.uk">lbrown@eastlothian.gov.uk</a>
<b>Midlothian Council Single Point of Contact</b>	
Joan Tranent (Chief Officer Children’s Services, Partnership & Communities, Chief Social Work Officer)	0131 271 3721 <a href="mailto:joan.tranent@midlothian.gov.uk">joan.tranent@midlothian.gov.uk</a>
<b>Midlothian Council Depute Single Point of Contact</b>	
Lesley Watson (Service Manager, Children’s Services)	0131 271 3729 <a href="mailto:lesley.watson@midlothian.gov.uk">lesley.watson@midlothian.gov.uk</a>
<b>NHS Lothian Single Point of Contact</b>	
Anne Neilson (Director of Public Protection)	0131 536 5064 <a href="mailto:anne.neilson@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk">anne.neilson@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk</a>
<b>NHS Lothian Depute Single Point of Contact</b>	
Carol Frith (Clinical Nurse Manager, Public Protection Team)	0131 536 5031 <a href="mailto:carol.frith@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk">carol.frith@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk</a>
<b>Police</b>	
Police Scotland Prevent Delivery Unit (East )	0131 311 3230 <a href="mailto:PreventDeliveryUnitEast@scotland.pnn.police.uk">PreventDeliveryUnitEast@scotland.pnn.police.uk</a>

Prevent concerns will be considered under existing Adult Support and Protection or Child Protection thresholds. This local guidance details the pathway for responding to the raising of a Prevent concern.

## Guidance

### 1. Initial Concern

- When a concern is raised this should be discussed in the first instance with the relevant single point of contact (SPOC). If the SPOC is unavailable, the deputy SPOC should be contacted.
- An Inter-agency Referral Discussion (IRD) should be initiated in all cases, using existing frameworks. There should be no delay in initiating the IRD.
- If agreed, a referral should be made using the National referral form and sent to the Prevent Delivery Unit East (PDUE) and a copy sent to the relevant SPOC/Depute SPOC. The referral form can be accessed from the EMPPO ([emppo@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:emppo@eastlothian.gov.uk)) or via an agency SPOC/depute SPOC.



Prevent National  
Referral Form V3.do

- The Police Scotland 'J' Division Public Protection Unit will liaise with the (PDUE) as part of the IRD process.
- The PDUE will follow the due processes and carry out necessary checks. They will refer back to the Local Authority if a PMAP is required.

## 2. Inter-agency Referral Discussion (IRD)

- It is recognised that cases will not always fall within the threshold for IRD, however rather than establishing a parallel system, it has been agreed to use the established IRD process that will collate the information, provide a summary of any previous history and detail the risk assessment and any protective factors and agreed protection plan.
- When considering Prevent in any case due consideration should be given to existing mechanisms and how these might preclude the need to call a Prevent Multi-Agency Panel (PMAP). A PMAP should not be called where other inter-agency processes are already in place that would allow for appropriate discussions and planning. In any event, if Prevent concerns are being discussed within existing forums and processes, a representative from the Police Scotland Prevent Delivery Unit East (PDUE) should be involved and it should be made clear that the meeting being convened involves discussion of Prevent concerns so that every professional attending is aware.
- The final decision to convene a PMAP will be led by Police Scotland Prevent Delivery Unit East. Other measures of welfare support, protective measures or intervention will be considered as part of the IRD.
- If the case does not proceed to PMAP, any non-Prevent related concerns will be managed by the core agencies. Ongoing Prevent concerns will be managed by the Police Scotland Prevent Delivery Unit East under standard Prevent Case Management.

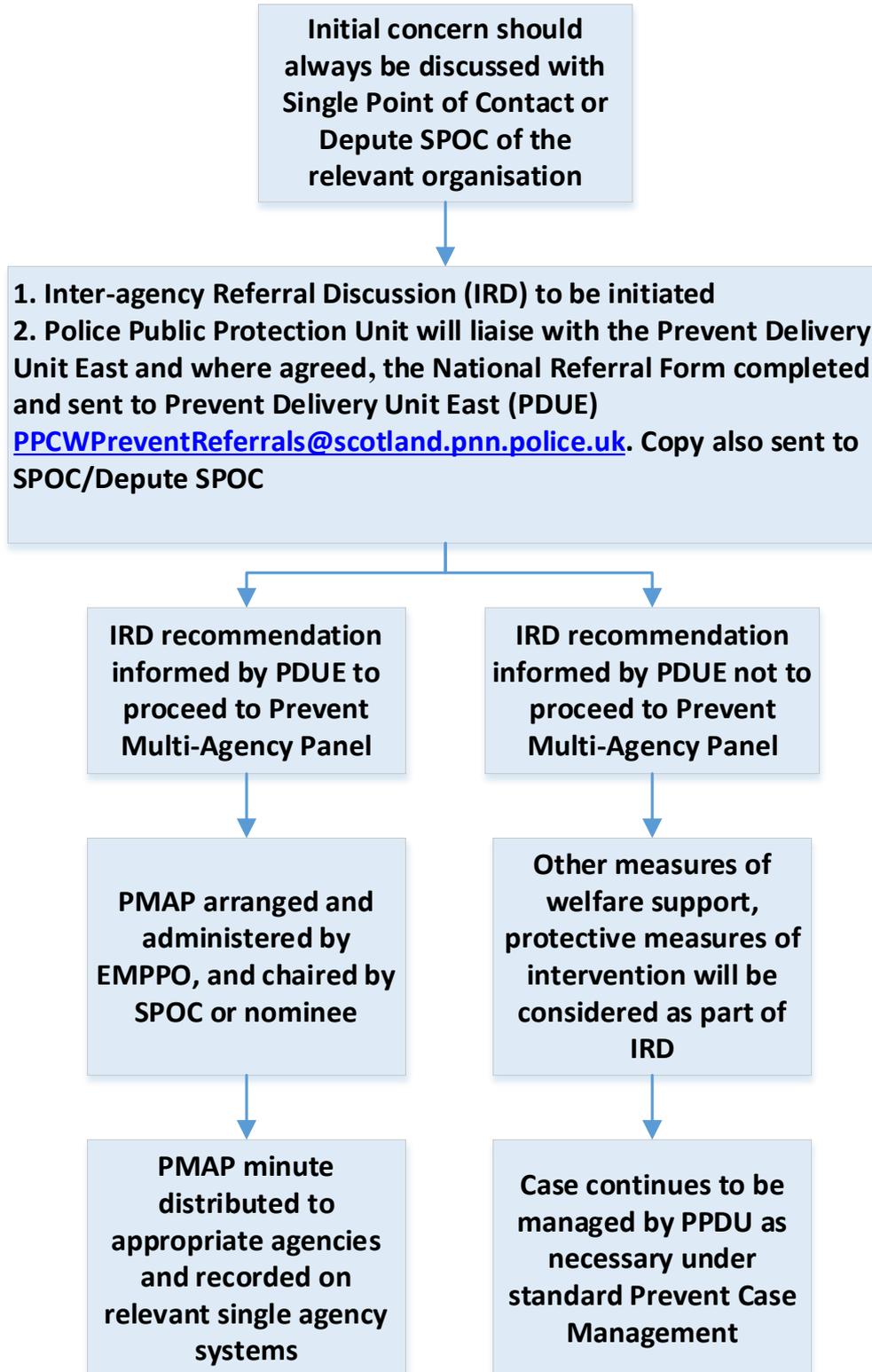
## 3. Prevent Multi-Agency Panel

- The PMAP will be chaired by the SPOC or a senior member of staff nominated by them. The PMAP will be administratively arranged and recorded by East Lothian and Midlothian Public Protection Office. It should always be identified as a Prevent Multi-Agency Panel.
- For all PMAPs a chronology should be compiled and the following items included on the agenda:
  - **Confidentiality** – due consideration should always be given to the potential for increased risk and disengagement.
  - **Client consent/information sharing** – due consideration should always be given at an early stage in the process, however if the decision is defensible, then verbal / written consent does not always need to be obtained, but should always be recorded in case notes.
  - **Professional boundaries** – due consideration should be given to professionals who continue to have a working relationship with the individual without disclosing they

are actively involved in Prevent meetings. Appropriate supports should be considered via their line management structures.

- **Record keeping/data management** – while it is recognised that responsibility for recording and storing of information in relation to Prevent Multi-Agency Panels sits with the local Police Prevent Delivery Unit, agreement has been reached within East Lothian and Midlothian that the process will be administered centrally by the EMPPO. All Prevent PMAP information (including minutes) will be distributed to the attending agencies who will have responsibility for recording this appropriately within their single agency systems.

# Prevent Referral Pathway



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