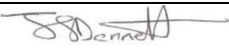


Prevent Policy Information			
Version Number:	V1.1		
Policy History:	V1.1 - New Policy adopted Full Board Trustees		
Policy update prepared by and detail of changes:	James Bennett (Designated Safeguarding Lead) 3.3 Designated Persons – RAF included 4.3 Training – Awareness Course linked 7. Websites & Links Updated Appendix 1: Factors that may contribute to vulnerability Appendix 2: Updated National Referral Form Appendix 3: Local Threats		
Policy reviewed and approved by:	Programme Committee		
Policy adopted by:	Full Board Trustees		
Signature and Date:	Name: J. Bennett	Signed: 	Date: 17/02/25
Next review date:	Nov 2026		

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Policy Statement:

Romsey Mill is committed to the government Counterterrorism and Security Act 2015, which places a duty upon Local Authorities and local authority partners to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This Prevent Duty forms part of the wider governments CONTEST counter terrorism strategy:

- Prevent terrorism – stop people becoming terrorists
- Pursue terrorism – disrupt and stop terror attacks
- Protect against terrorism – strengthen UK protection
- Prepare to deal with terrorism – mitigate impact of attacks that can't be stopped.

For Romsey Mill to fulfil the Prevent duty, it is essential that staff and volunteers identify those who may be vulnerable to radicalisation and know what to do when they are identified. Protecting individuals from the risk of radicalisation should be seen as part of our wider safeguarding duties and is similar in nature to protecting children or Adults at Risk from other forms of harm and abuse (e.g. neglect, criminal exploitation or sexual exploitation).

The aim of the Prevent strategy is to reduce the threat to others from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. The Prevent strategy has three specific strategic objectives:

1. **Respond** to the 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

Romsey Mill is committed to building resilience to radicalisation amongst those it supports by promoting fundamental British values and enabling them to challenge extremist views. It is important to emphasise that the Prevent duty is not intended to stop individuals talking about or debating controversial issues. Romsey Mill will seek to provide a safe space in which individuals can understand the risks associated with terrorism and develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist arguments at an age-appropriate level.

1.2 Definitions:

Extremism - is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British Values, including democracy, challenging discrimination, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. Included in the definition of extremism are calls for the death of

members of the armed forces, whether in this country or overseas. Terrorist groups very often draw on extremist ideas developed by extremist organisations.

Radicalisation - refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups. Individuals can be 'radicalised' by other people (sometimes by people they trust, sometimes by strangers, in real life or online), or could be 'self-initiated' by things they read on the internet or influenced by world events they see in the news.

Terrorism is the use or threat of action, both in and outside of the UK, designed to influence any international government organisation or to intimidate the public. It must also be for the purpose of advancing a political, religious, racial, or ideological cause. It is important to note that, to be convicted of a terrorism offence, a person doesn't have to commit what could be considered a terrorist attack. Planning, assisting and even collecting information on how to commit terrorist acts are all crimes under British terrorism legislation.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

Romsey Mill has a responsibility to ensure:

- That all staff undertake regular and appropriate Prevent training.
- That a Prevent Lead is appointed.
- That staff can identify and respond to early indicators in young people
- That all staff know how to raise a concern and have the confidence to challenge and intervene and follow protocols.
- That all staff are made aware of any updates or changes to this policy and ensure that it supports the Safeguarding policy.
- That staff actively promote the British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs.

3. PREVENT LEAD

3.1 A Prevent Lead will be appointed with responsibility for the coordination and implementation of the organisation's Prevent Policy. The following procedures will be followed:

- The appointment will be made by the CEO and ratified by Romsey Mill's Board of Trustees.
- The person will be a member of the Leadership and Management Team (LMT) with experience of working with children and adults.
- The person must be capable of being sympathetic but objective in the pursuance of their task.
- The person must be able to act confidentially, speedily and decisively, relating well to young people, parents/carers and statutory authorities etc.
- The person must undertake appropriate training that must be updated every two years.

3.2 The Prevent Lead has the following responsibilities:

- Receive concerns and disclosures from staff and act decisively over necessary actions.
- Gather information and make referrals.
- Ensure policies and procedures are followed and that staff are supported.
- Ensure records are completed and filed securely.
- Ensure staff and volunteers receive support and training.

3.3 As Prevent sits alongside Romsey Mill's safeguarding agenda the following have responsibility for overseeing the Prevent Duty.

Prevent Lead & DSL:

James Bennett – Children's & Youth Work Programme Manager
Office: 01223 213162 Mobile: 07818 664178

Designated Persons:

Diane Hicks – Operations & Resources manager
Office: 01223 213162 Mobile: 07827 311504

Rebekah Adenaike-Fere – Programme Development Lead Peterborough
Office: 01223 213162 Mobile: 07871942812

Trustee:

Tim Smith – Nominated Trustee for Safeguarding
Office: 01223 213162

4. PREVENT DUTY

The statutory guidance on the Prevent Duty summarises the requirements in terms of four general themes: risk assessment, working in partnership, staff training and online.

4.1 Risk Assessment

Romsey Mill will assess and monitor the risk of individuals being drawn into terrorism; the general risks may vary from area to area, local context and according to the individuals' age.

- Romsey Mill is aware of the increased risk of online radicalisation, as extremist and terrorist organisations seek to radicalise young people through the use of social media and the internet.

- There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology. As with managing other safeguarding risks, staff and volunteers should be alert, to changes in individual's behaviour which could indicate that they may need help or protection. Individuals at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views.
- Staff and volunteers should use their judgment in identifying young people who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately.
- The Prevent duty does not require staff or volunteers to carry out unnecessary intrusion into family life but as with any other safeguarding risk, they must act when they observe behaviour of concern and report it to the Prevent Lead.
- It is not necessary for Romsey Mill to have distinct procedures on implementing the Prevent Duty. General safeguarding principles apply to keeping children safe from the risk of radicalisation.

4.2 Working in Partnership

The Prevent duty builds on existing local partnership arrangements.

- Romsey Mill will follow the procedures set out by the [Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board](#) with reference to Safeguarding Children and Young People who are deemed to be vulnerable to Violent Extremism.
- Effective engagement with parents/the family as well as other partner organisations (e.g. schools and colleges) is also important as they are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation.
- It may be necessary to assist and advise families who raise concerns and be able to point them to the right support mechanisms.

4.3 Training

The statutory guidance refers to the importance of [Prevent Awareness training](#) to equip staff to identify individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism and to challenge extremist ideas.

- Romsey Mill will ensure that all staff complete training on Prevent as part of their induction. This will include threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to extremism and radicalisation; early indicators, responding to and reporting concerns.
- Romsey Mill will ensure staff undertake the government's [Prevent Awareness training](#) every three years.

4.4 Online

Romsey Mill will seek to equip and educate individuals to stay safe online supporting them to be aware of those trying to impose extreme views. Romsey Mill will ensure that suitable

filtering is in place across its buildings so that individuals are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet across its buildings.

5. REFERRAL PROCEDURE

Staff and volunteers should treat any worry or concern that a young person may be exposed to possible extremism, extremist ideology and or radicalisation as a possible safeguarding concern and follow our Safeguarding Procedures and complete a Concern Form (*see Safeguarding Policy and Adults at Risk Policy*).

Advice can be sought direct from the Prevent Team within Cambridgeshire Constabulary **01480 422596** or call **101** and select ext. number **2596 or 2595**

All Prevent concerns and incidents must be brought to the attention of the Prevent Lead who is also the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). Depending on the nature of the concern and advice received they will:

- *Under 18's*: Complete an online [safeguarding referral form](#)
- *Adult at Risk*: Complete an online [Adult at Risk Safeguarding Referral Form](#)
- *Over 18's*: Refer directly to Cambridgeshire Constabulary Prevent Team via an [online referral form](#)

The [National Prevent Referral form](#) (*see appendix 2*) can also be used to make a referral and sent to preventreferrals@cambs.police.uk

Where a concern or incident is judged to be immediate and serious the DSL will contact the Police directly using 999.

Accurate records of any additional safeguarding concerns will be kept in line with our safeguarding policy.

If a referral is then made to the Prevent team, and it is determined that there are concerns around radicalisation and violent extremism in relation to the referred individual, they can be supported through Channel.

6. CHANNEL

6.1 What is channel?

Channel is an early intervention multi-agency process designed to safeguard vulnerable people from being drawn into violent extremism and/or terrorism. Channel works in a similar way to other safeguarding partnerships such as case conferences for children in need. Channel is a pre-criminal process that is designed to support vulnerable people at the earliest possible opportunity, before they become involved in illegal activity.

6.2 What happens when a referral is made to Channel?

When referrals are made, they are screened for suitability by the police and Council Prevent teams. If a referral is considered to be suitable, it will be discussed at the Channel Panel meeting.

6.3 How does Channel work?

Each Channel Panel brings together a range of multi-agency partners to collectively assess the risks in relation to an individual and decide whether a support package is needed. The panel may include statutory and non-statutory partners, as well as lead safeguarding professionals.

If the panel feels that an individual who has been referred would benefit from support; a bespoke package of support will be tailored and offered to that individual, based on their particular needs and circumstances. Participation at this stage remains voluntary.

When an individual is referred to Channel, the referrer (or an appropriate person from the referring institution) will be invited to attend the Channel Panel meeting. Similarly, other professionals who are working with an individual will also be invited to attend. This partnership approach ensures that the people who work most closely with vulnerable individuals, and who best understand their specific needs and risks, have a key role to play in developing support packages for them.

Channel support includes things like theological or ideological mentoring, help with mental health, drug or alcohol abuse issues, as well as education and career advice. Taking part in Channel doesn't go on someone's criminal record and won't negatively impact their future education or career prospects. It means getting the right kind of help for the person who needs support to move away from extremism.

7. INDICATORS, HELP AND SUPPORT

There are many factors that can make someone vulnerable to radicalisation (see appendix 1). They can apply to any age, social class, religion, ethnic or educational background. More important than any one specific sign is the sense that something is not quite right with a particular young person. This may include spotting one sign or a combination of signs that are increasing in intensity. Sometimes the signs can be indicators of other underlying issues or challenges that are not connected to radicalisation.

Help identifying a concern can be found on the following websites:

- [ACT – Action Counters Terrorism](#)
- [Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board](#)
- [DfE – Protecting Children from Radicalisation: the prevent duty](#)
- [Educate Against Hate](#)

Appendix 1:

Factors that may contribute to vulnerability:

- Rejected by peer, faith or social group/family
- Pressure from person linked to extremism
- Victim or witness to race or religious hate crime
- Conflict with family over religious beliefs, lifestyle or politics
- Identity confusion
- Recent religious conversion
- Change in behaviour or appearance due to new influences
- Under achievement
- May possess literature related to extreme views
- Experience of poverty, disadvantage or social exclusion
- Extremist influences
- A series of traumatic events, global, national or personal

Appendix 2:

National Referral Form: Please refer to [Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Board](#) for the latest version of the [Prevent National Referral Form](#).

Appendix 3:

Local Threats

Islamist Extremism / Terrorism: Prevalent in East of England both online and in person. Accessing extremist views online continues to present a significant concern to Counter Terrorist Police. The Israel/Hamas conflict has reinvigorated Islamist Extremist/Terrorist rhetoric which ultimately led to the proscription of Hizb ut-Tahrir (HuT boast a strong Palestinian heritage and believe in the re-establishment of the Caliphate through what they claim to be non-violent methods).

Extreme Right-Wing Terrorism (ERW): Continue to see individuals with an ERW ideology using online platforms to share their views. There have been local incidences of young people (under the age of 18) expressing ERW views. In addition to sharing extremist rhetoric, individuals can purchase ERW paraphernalia from online stores which can be indicative of an extremist mindset. Vanguard Britannica (VB) is a fascist group with a heavy footprint in the Eastern Region. VB are heavily anti-establishment and anti-immigration and view the Israel-Hamas conflict as a Zionist War in which Britain should not be involved.

Left, Anarchist and Single-Issue Terrorism (LASIT): this encompasses a wide range of ideologies. It includes those from the political left-wing as well as anarchists who seek to use violence to advance their cause in opposition to the capitalist system. It also includes those with single-issue grievances who seek to use violence in opposition to a specific policy or practice.

Mixed, Unclear or Unstable Views (MUU): this relates to instances where people exhibit a combination of elements from multiple ideologies (mixed), shift between different ideologies (unstable), or where the individual does not present a coherent ideology, yet may still pose a terrorism risk (unclear). MUU views account for most referrals made to the anti-radicalisation programme and continues to grow amongst boys and young men.