**PREVENT**

**INFORMATION FOR STAFF**

What is Prevent?

Prevent is one of the four pillars that make up CONTEST, the UK Governments Counter Terrorism Strategy. The other three pillars are Pursue, Protect and Prepare. The aim of this strategy is to reduce the risk to the UK and its citizens and interests overseas from terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence.

In Scotland the aim is to deliver the strategy, within a Scottish landscape and to reduce the risk of terrorism in Scotland.

- **PREVENT** To stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
- **PURSUE** To stop terrorist attacks
- **PROTECT** To strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
- **PREPARE** To mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack

How does this affect the university?

UK universities have a statutory duty, along with all other public bodies in the UK, in terms of the Counter-Terrorism & Security Act 2015 ‘to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism’.

How do we carry out our statutory duty?

Simply put, Prevent is about safeguarding individuals from being drawn into terrorism, ensuring those vulnerable to extremist and terrorist narratives are given appropriate advice and support at an early stage. Prevent is no different to any other form of safeguarding from harm.
Are lecturers being asked to spy on students?

No, this is about providing those who have a duty of care to our young people with a better understanding of the potential factors which could make someone vulnerable to the radicalisation process. Tutors help safeguard students from drugs and alcohol misuse, bullying and mental health issues by signposting to the correct support. Radicalisation can have a similarly devastating effect on our young people and protecting them from the influence of extremist ideas is a part of our overall safeguarding role.

Does Prevent only focus on Muslim communities?

No. Preventative activity in Scotland has always focused on addressing all forms of violent extremist activity and has never focused solely on Scotland’s Muslim communities, or any other particular community. We face many different threats. No matter the ideology or idea which sits behind a vulnerability, the collective focus is always the early identification of risk to an individual in order to safeguard them.

If I have a concern, what should I do?

If a member of staff is concerned that one of their students is vulnerable to radicalising influences, whatever the ideology or idea involved, they should contact Gary Stephen on extension 2766 or 07834 389933. Alternatively, the Security Team can be contacted on extension 4282 or 4444 in an emergency.

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