

University of Glasgow

'Prevent': Information for Staff

1. Introduction

This briefing sets out the University's responsibilities relating to the Government's 'Prevent' initiative. The briefing is intended for all staff but may be of particular interest to colleagues in the following areas:

- Academic advising
- Communications
- Information Services
- Janitorial & Security Service
- Students Representative Council (SRC)
- Residential Services
- Student Support Services

2. The University's 'Prevent' Duty

2.1 *What is Prevent?*

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*'.

Within universities, the term 'Prevent' refers to measures taken to safeguard members of the university community who might be at risk of being drawn into terrorism.

2.2 *What does it mean for me?*

Many members of staff contribute to the provision of welfare and pastoral support to students. In cases where students are experiencing difficulties at university, a range of advice and support is available. This includes the network of Academic advisers, the Counselling and Psychological Service, the Interfaith Chaplaincy, the International Student Support Team, Wardening teams in halls of residence and the SRC's Advice Centre. These teams are here to provide advice and guidance to all members of staff who engage with students, and you are encouraged to make use of them in providing student support. Senior staff who have responsibility for student facing services will receive training and briefings in relation to the Prevent duty.

If you have concerns that a member of the University community might be at risk of being drawn into terrorism, you should seek advice from a member of the University's Prevent Group (see 2.3 below). You can be assured that the person you approach will treat your discussion in confidence and will not, without your permission, identify you as the source of the concerns that you share.

Where you are concerned about the wellbeing of a student, it is reasonable for you to share personal information about the student with a colleague whose role is to provide support. Should you have questions regarding sharing personal information, you should take advice from the University's Data Protection Officer, Johanna King (johanna.king@glasgow.ac.uk).

2.3 What does this mean for the University?

The University has established a Prevent working group, with responsibility in this area. The members of the Prevent Group are:

Peter Aitchison, Director of Communications & Public Affairs (*peter.aitchison@glasgow.ac.uk*)

Professor Jill Morrison, Clerk of Senate (*Jill.Morrison @glasgow.ac.uk*)

Dr Robert Partridge, Executive Director of Student Services (*Robert.Partridge@glasgow.ac.uk*)

David Duncan, Chief Operating Office & University Secretary (convener)
(*david.duncan@glasgow.ac.uk*)

Gary Stephen, Head of Security & Operational Support (*gary.stephen@glasgow.ac.uk*)

The Prevent Group's role is to ensure that the University addresses its statutory duty. It does this with reference to a Good Practice Guide that has been prepared by the Scottish universities.

Important elements of the Group's work are:

- providing information and training to staff engaged in the provision of student welfare and pastoral support;
- producing and overseeing a protocol on the management of speakers and events; and
- maintaining an effective dialogue with the Students Representative Council to manage the process among the student community.

Where, in relation to the Counter-Terrorism & Security Act, members of staff and/or students raise concerns regarding the wellbeing of students, or the invitation of potentially controversial speakers, or the staging of potentially controversial events, the Prevent Group will provide advice and ultimately will make decisions on the University's behalf.

3. Further Information

Sources of relevant information in relation to Prevent are:

1. [The Good Practice Guide](#), which discusses the University's statutory duty
2. [Guidance on Understanding Radicalism](#)
3. [Guidance on Identifying students at Risk](#)
4. [The University's protocol for managing speakers and events](#)