



Home Office

OFFICIAL



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

Office for Security and
Counter Terrorism
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF
www.homeoffice.gov.uk
T +44 (0) 20 7035 0145

Department for Communities
and Local Government
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF
www.communities.gov.uk

23 December 2014

CONSULTATION ON THE PREVENT DUTY

Dear Colleague,

We are writing to draw your attention to a new statutory Prevent duty set out in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill which is currently before Parliament. The purpose of the Prevent duty is to ensure that the bodies serving the public play a full part in work to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism or supporting terrorism. This includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit.

The duty requires certain bodies, described as "specified authorities", when exercising their functions, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. All County, District and Unitary Local Authorities in England are included in the Bill as being subject to this duty. Specified authorities are required to have due regard to the guidance when carrying out the Prevent duty. A draft of that guidance has been published for consultation by the Home Office: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/prevent-duty>.

The guidance sets out the steps that providers in different sectors should take to show leadership, understand the risks in their area, work in partnership with others, and ensure that staff have the knowledge and confidence to identify and support vulnerable individuals. We would encourage you to read the guidance and send any comments you have back to the Home Office by 30 January 2015. Responses to the consultation can be sent to: Preventdutyconsultation@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk.

The Home Office will also be organising a number of consultation events around the country in late January and will be in touch with further details about these events over the next few weeks.

Kind regards,

Christophe Prince
Director Prevent including RICU

Christophe.Prince1@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk

PP.

Sarah Benioff
Director Integration and
Community Rights

Sarah.Benioff@communities.gsi.gov.uk

OSCT Prevent