

# Counter Terrorism – the Prevent duty

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**From:** Chief Operating Officer

**Date:** June 2018

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**\*SEE SECTION 8 FOR WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS AND SECTION 10 FOR POLICIES**

## 1 Relevant Law

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1.1 S26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

## 2 Introduction

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2.1 Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on the University to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This is known as the Prevent duty.

2.2 The University of Southampton and the Southampton University Students’ Union are committed to preventing radicalisation and terrorism amongst the student body by providing information, advice, and support to their students. Both the University and the Union recognise that our students (and our staff) may be susceptible to exploitation by people who seek to involve them in terrorism or activity in support of terrorism.

2.3 Prevent is one of four strands of the government’s counter-terrorism strategy and compliance with the Prevent Duty is monitored by the Office for Students.

## 3 What does the University have to do?

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3.1 To comply with the Prevent duty, the University has to:

3.1.1 Assess the risks associated with Prevent and draw up a plan to mitigate these.

3.1.2 Have effective welfare support systems, linking to local authorities or the police if necessary.

3.1.3 Make arrangements for sharing information about vulnerable individuals.

- 3.1.4 Have systems for assessing and mitigating risks around external speakers and events on campus, while maintaining the existing duty to promote freedom of speech.
- 3.1.5 Arrange ongoing Prevent training for relevant staff.
- 3.1.6 Have an IT usage policy which covers the Prevent duty.
- 3.1.7 Ensure that the Students' Union and Union societies are aware of policies concerning activities on campus.

## **4 What are the University and Student's Union doing?**

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- 4.1 The University has established a Prevent Monitoring Group, with representatives from across the University, and from the Student's Union. The Monitoring Group is tasked with maintaining a risk register and an action plan for the University and helping take forward those actions.

## **5 Who is the senior responsible officer for Prevent in the University?**

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- 5.1 The senior responsible officer is the Chief Operating Officer – [chiefoperatingofficer@soton.ac.uk](mailto:chiefoperatingofficer@soton.ac.uk).

## **6 Who is the senior responsible officer from the Student's Union?**

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- 6.1 The senior responsible officer is the Vice President Welfare – [welfare@soton.ac.uk](mailto:welfare@soton.ac.uk).

## **7 Our approach**

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- 7.1 The University has adopted a proportionate and risk based approach to the Prevent duty.

## **8 Welfare – what should you do if you have concerns?**

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- 8.1 The University promotes a positive environment in which staff and students are treated fairly and with respect and all staff and students are encouraged to play a role in creating such an environment.
- 8.2 There may be times when you become concerned about someone else who appears to be struggling in some way. The University has advisors to help you decide what to do <https://www.southampton.ac.uk/edusupport/contact.page>. You may wish to encourage the person to seek help and let them know there is support at the University. Telling the University about a problem will not count against them, the support services are here to help.

8.3 If you are concerned about the behaviour of a student or if a student has stopped engaging completely, and you believe that this may be due to health and wellbeing issues, contact Enabling Services or your Faculty or Professional Service Safeguarding Lead.

## 9 Options for support

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9.1 Options for support in the University include:

9.1.1 [Enabling Services drop-in sessions](#).

9.1.2 [First Support](#) when there is a crisis in office hours.

9.1.3 [Student Life](#) for students staying in Halls of Residence.

9.1.4 [Students' Union](#) advisers.

9.1.5 [Nightline](#) in term time.

9.1.6 Student peer supporters.

In exceptional circumstances, where you feel that someone is at risk, you may need to act without their consent.

## 10 Key policies and guidance

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10.1 For key related policies see the University's [Safeguarding Policy](#)<sup>1</sup> and [Data Protection Policy](#).

10.2 Additional policies and guidelines concerning particular activities can be found at the University's [Publication Scheme](#).

**In an emergency call University Security on +44(0)23 8059 2811 or email [unisecurity@soton.ac.uk](mailto:unisecurity@soton.ac.uk) or call 999.**

<sup>1</sup>In the application of this policy and associated procedure, the University has taken into account its duty of care under the Health and Safety at Work Act, 1974, the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act, 1974, the Children Act, 1989, the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act, 2006 as amended by the Protection of Freedoms Act, 2012, the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act, 2015, and the Data Protection Act, 2018.

## Document Control

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