



Prevent Policy

Scope:

Hartlepool United Football Club recognise and promote fundamental universal values with the Club core values which can be seen to be Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship. These values are key to building resilience to radicalisation on every level, allowing all people, including those from diverse and ethnic backgrounds, to reach their full potential within and around their activities.

These values are recognised at every level and aim to stop people being drawn into supporting terrorism by safeguarding children, and adults at risk and their families from violent extremism. It also seeks to stop the development of a rigid and narrow ideology that is intolerant of diversity, British values and which, ultimately, leaves them vulnerable to future radicalisation.

All individuals who have contact with young people and adults at risk must adhere to the provisions of preventing radicalisation. Hartlepool United Football Club is responsible for the welfare of all children and adults at risk that partake in its activities or who attend to watch matches. The club have therefore adopted the policy strategy laid down by the law to ensure the safeguarding of all (section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015).

Definition

Extremism is defined as vocal or active opposition to fundamental universal values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect, as well as the tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

There is no such thing as a 'typical extremist'. Those who become involved in extremism do so from a wide and eclectic mix of backgrounds and experiences. It should be borne in mind that many who hold extremist views do not go on to become involved in violent extremist activity.

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideology. Radicalisation can take place in a number of ways, though recent emphasis has been placed on the role of the internet in the process as well as the influence of powerful direct relationships on an individual.

Context

It is important to recognise that the Prevent Duty within the Football Club is inherently different to those of a childcare professional, however, there are areas that will overlap which are highlighted as follows;

'The general risks affecting children and young people may vary from area to area, and according to their age. Schools and childcare providers are in an important position to identify risks within a given local context. It is important that schools and childcare providers understand these risks so that they can respond in an appropriate and proportionate way.'

'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 should be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Children at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views.'

'The Prevent duty does not require teachers or childcare providers to carry out unnecessary intrusion into family life but as with any other safeguarding risk, they must take action when they observe behaviour of concern.'

There may not be one single sign which will lead you to believe a young person or adult is being radicalised. The general risks affecting children and young people may vary from area to area, and according to their age. 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, club personnel should be alerting to changes in children's and adult's behaviour that could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection.

That said, there are acknowledged signs that may be of use as an indicator such as underachievement, possession of extremist literature, social exclusion, individual traumatic events, religious conversion or zealotry, intolerance, referencing extremist ideology or views as well as influences, family conflict, confused identity issues or being the victim or witness to race or hate crimes.

Prevention

The Club will provide training to its staff and volunteers in recognising grooming in radicalisation behaviour. Training will be delivered in partnership with key organisations such as the Counter Terrorism Police on an annual basis.

Procedure

If there is any concern that a person is or may be exposed to or at risk in respect of radicalisation within the environs of Hartlepool United Football Club, you must refer this to the Safeguarding Senior Manager (SSM) or one of the Designated Safety Officers (DSO) as a priority.

The Safeguarding Lead will report this to the appropriate authorities as outlines within the Safeguarding Children Policy and the Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy.