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**To: Chairs of Adult and Child Safeguarding Boards in the East of England**

Dear Colleagues,

This letter outlines the implications for education and health sectors following the release of a new Prevent strategy. Prevent is one of the four work streams of the cross government counter terrorism, strategy, CONTEST. CONTEST is the national counter terrorism strategy of which Prevent is one of the four strands. A new 2011 Prevent Strategy guides health (and further education) to align the escalation of Prevent concerns about an individual to Safeguarding care pathways so that people are stopped from becoming terrorist and are not drawn into terrorism.

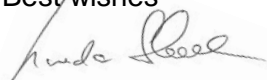
A recent statement from the Department of Health said, "Measures should be put in place so vulnerable people are supported and protected whilst receiving NHS care from any risk of radicalisation.

"The programme provides clear guidance on how to raise concerns about a vulnerable individual and also highlight the need to work closely with other public sector organisations.

"Healthcare staff already have a duty to report concerns about abuse or exploitation of vulnerable adults. Raising concerns through Prevent will be no different."

In the east of England there is a growing number of NHS Prevent Leads in health care organisations charged with escalating concerns that their colleagues may have about an individual being drawn into terrorism. If possible it would be good to link their work into the existing safeguarding structures that we are obliged to as public sector organisations.

Best wishes



**Dr Linda Sheridan**  
Deputy Regional Director, Health Protection and Director of Flu Resilience