



Sefton Prevent

Working together to safeguard
against extremism

2020 - 2022

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What is Prevent?

The government's Prevent Strategy, originally formed in 2011 and updated in 2018, forms one element of the [Counter-terrorism Strategy \(CONTEST\)](#) and aims to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by preventing people from becoming influenced through extreme and radical ideology.

The counter-terrorism strategy is organised around 4 workstreams,

- Prevent: to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
- Pursue: to stop terrorist attacks
- Protect: to strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
- Prepare: to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack

The aim of the [Prevent Strategy](#) is to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism by focusing on the following three objectives;

- challenging **ideology** that supports terrorism and those who promote it;
- protecting vulnerable **individuals** from being drawn into terrorism through appropriate advice and support;
- supporting sectors and **institutions** where there is a risk of radicalisation.

Prevent recognises that people who are engaged in terrorist activities are often initially drawn into extremist narratives and beliefs and that these narratives (violent and non – violent) should be challenged to stop people moving from extremist groups or from extremism into terrorist related activity.

[The Counter Extremism Strategy 2015](#) defines **extremism** as; “the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect of different faiths and beliefs. We also regard calls for the death of our armed forces as extremist.”

Radicalisation is as defined in the Prevent Strategy as “the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism”

The threat level for the UK is set by the [Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre \(JTAC\)](#). Threat levels are designed to give a broad indication of the likelihood of a terrorist attack:

- **LOW** means an attack is unlikely.
- **MODERATE** means an attack is possible, but not likely
- **SUBSTANTIAL** means an attack is a strong possibility
- **SEVERE** means an attack is highly likely
- **CRITICAL** means an attack is expected imminently

The Prevent strategy identifies four types of terrorism that the UK faces, these being:

- **International**, terrorist organisations operating in Syria and Iraq (Da’esh and Al Qa’ida and like-minded organisations).

- **Northern-Ireland related**
- **Extreme right-wing**
- **Other**, these are often small movements in reaction to a single issue, specific incident, or ideology

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015

On 1st July 2015, the [Counter Terrorism and Security Act \(CTSA\) 2015](#) became statutory.

Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a statutory Prevent duty on specified authorities in the exercise of their functions, to have 'due regards to the need to Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. See [Prevent Duty Guidance](#)

2020 – 2022 Sefton Prevent Action Plan

The Sefton Prevent Action Plan 2020 - 2022 (Appendix A) is informed by national and local priorities. The key themes of the action plan are:

1. To gather community intelligence to ensure community tensions are **identified** and **resolved** at the earliest opportunity
2. To challenge the **ideology** that supports terrorism and those who promote it;
3. To support and protect vulnerable **individuals** from being drawn into terrorism through appropriate advice and support
4. To support sectors and **institutions** where there is a risk of radicalisation.
5. To ensure effective **partnerships** are in place to support the delivery of the Prevent action plan in Sefton

The Sefton Channel Panel

A key part of Prevent is "Channel". Police work with Local Authority Channel Coordinators (LACC) and public bodies, including local councils, social workers, NHS staff, schools and the justice system to identify those at risk of being drawn into terrorism, assess what the risk might be and then develop tailored support for those referred to them. This could range from mentoring to things like anger management or drug and alcohol programmes.

Not everyone referred to Channel will be deemed suitable for the programme. There is a filtering process in case the person isn't really at risk of radicalisation, and to weed out referrals that are wrong or malicious. The process is about supporting individuals identified as being vulnerable to radicalisation and extremism at an early stage is a key part of Sefton's approach to Prevent.

The Sefton Channel Panel is fundamental to this and is a voluntary safeguarding programme aimed at supporting those individuals identified as being vulnerable. As with other safeguarding practices Channel is reliant on a multi-agency response and multi-disciplinary work to minimise and manage the risk to an individual. It draws on existing collaboration between local authorities, the LACC, police, statutory partners and the local community and has three objectives:

- **Identify individuals at risk of being radicalisation or drawn into extremism**
- **Assess the nature and extent of the risk**
- **Develop the most appropriate support for the individuals concerned.**

Local authorities (via MASH or Adult Safeguarding) receive Prevent concerns and process them as an appointed body, this is to ensure that social care safeguarding concerns are not missed, that there is no delay on concerns being raised/information being shared, and that the information is going to Prevent also.

Social Care can look at the concerns from a Safeguarding point, and the form will also be sent to Prevent colleagues.

Local Authority– If the local authority identify Prevent concerns from for example a telephone call from the public, or Prevent concerns from information received from a Police MASH referral, Sefton local authority Services will then send the Prevent referral to the email address on the form, again any immediate Safeguarding issues should be highlighted to and dealt with by the appropriate professional, following the usual Sefton Council Local Authority process. **(See attached Prevent referral form for Local Authorities Appendix E)**

Partner agencies – Such as Health, Education etc., should be sending the referral form to the local authority as all referrals of concern in respect of PREVENT that are generated from within Sefton Council Local Authority should in the first instance, directed to and recorded at Sefton Council Local Authority, highlighting any potential concerns. The concerns can then therefore be looked at from a Safeguarding perspective, but also be sent to the Prevent team. **(See attached Prevent referral form for partner agencies Appendix D)**

More information about Channel can be found at: [Channel Duty Guidance](#)

What is the process for progressing a Channel / Prevent referral?

All referrals of concern in respect of PREVENT that are generated from within Sefton Council Local Authority should in the first instance, be directed to and recorded at Sefton Social Care Services, highlighting any potential concerns:

- Upon receipt of a PREVENT referral, any immediate Safeguarding issues should be highlighted to and dealt with by the appropriate professional, following the usual Sefton Social Care Services process before completion of a PREVENT specific referral form.
- Having completed the PREVENT / Channel referral form with all the available details, it should be forwarded to Prevent@merseyside.pnn.police.uk (this is the referral email address to use, most secure)
- There is no need to conduct any checks with the MASH or partners with regards to the Terrorism or Domestic Extremism risk at this stage.

What happens next?

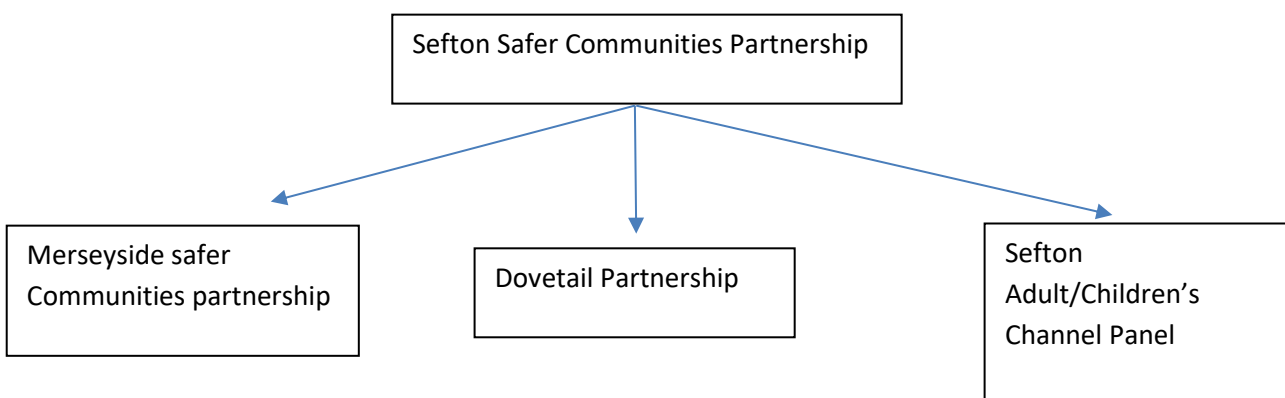
The referral will be assessed by North West Counter Terrorism Police officers and it may subsequently, be adopted as a multi-agency led case or it may be signposted out to other services or agencies if it does not meet threshold criteria.

If adopted as a multi-agency case, the LACC from the Merseyside & Cheshire Channel Team, will begin information gathering and it will be at this stage that they contact colleagues within the MASH and additional Sefton services to formulate the vulnerability assessment. The expected turn around to respond to information requests is 5 working days.

The case will then be discussed at a Channel Panel, a multi-agency meeting which will discuss and review the referral, gain consent for engagement and plan any appropriate bespoke support packages to reduce or mitigate vulnerabilities to radicalisation. This Panel will meet on a monthly basis to review the progress of the case, until such time as the individual is deemed to be no longer vulnerable to radicalisation or consent is withdrawn.

Governance and Accountability

For Prevent the Sefton Safer Community Partnership (SSCP) will meet to oversee Sefton Council’s approach. It will assess ongoing performance against the Action Plan and be directly accountable.



Our Channel Multi-Agency Panels will hold operational responsibility for the same. The Chair of Sefton Adult Social Care Channel Panel is Nick Roberts and the Chair of the Children's Panel is Laura Knights.

If you become aware of an individual that you believe may meet the criteria for consideration and there is no known worker for the individual you have a duty to report your concerns (see pathways and referral documents at the end of this strategy).

Links to National Documents

This document is aligned with, a number of National Acts, Strategies and Policies:-

- Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Serious Crime Act 2015
- Modern Slavery Act 2015
- Contest (UK Counter Terrorism Strategy)
- National Prevent Strategy
- Prevent Duty for Specified Authorities
- Channel Duty Guidance 2015

Links to Local Policies

There are a number of local documents that link to this approach. These include:

- Sefton 2030 Vision
- Safeguarding Policies of both the adult and children's safeguarding boards
- Hate Crime Action Plan
- Children & Young Peoples Plan
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy

Further Information

Should you or your teams require any verbal advice on completing the forms or general information regarding Prevent referrals – please contact:

Claire Wright, Single point of contact for Sefton, Knowsley & St. Helens: 07934559107
Claire.Wright@liverpool.gov.uk

Declan Sammin Channel Supervisor on 0151 233 0343 or 07394559105
declan.sammin@liverpool.gov.uk or one of the Channel coordinators on the below details:

Alison Burnett, Single point of contact for Liverpool & Wirral: 07394559106

Alison.Burnett@liverpool.gov.uk

Bev Hurst, Single point of contact for Cheshire: 07394559108

Bev.Hurst@liverpool.gov.uk

Jenna Miller, Channel Coordinator: 07784031134

Jenna.miller@liverpool.gov.uk

Appendix A – Sefton Prevent Action Plan 2020 - 2022

Activity/Project and Objectives	Lead Officer(s)	Timescales	Activity Status/Progress
IDEOLOGY UNDERSTANDING, COUNTERING EXTREMISM AND BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE			
Establish or make use of an existing multi-agency group to agree risk and co-ordinate Prevent activity	Tanya Wilcock		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanya Wilcock identified as Prevent Lead for Sefton • The Sefton Safer Community Partnership (SSCP) has been identified to act as the multi-agency group on behalf of Sefton
The use of social media by individuals/groups to be discussed during Prevent meetings – need to consider the use of library premises as a means to access material	Tanya Wilcock		
Identify if any communities are potentially affected by international terrorist groups. Consider use of social media and	Tanya Wilcock		

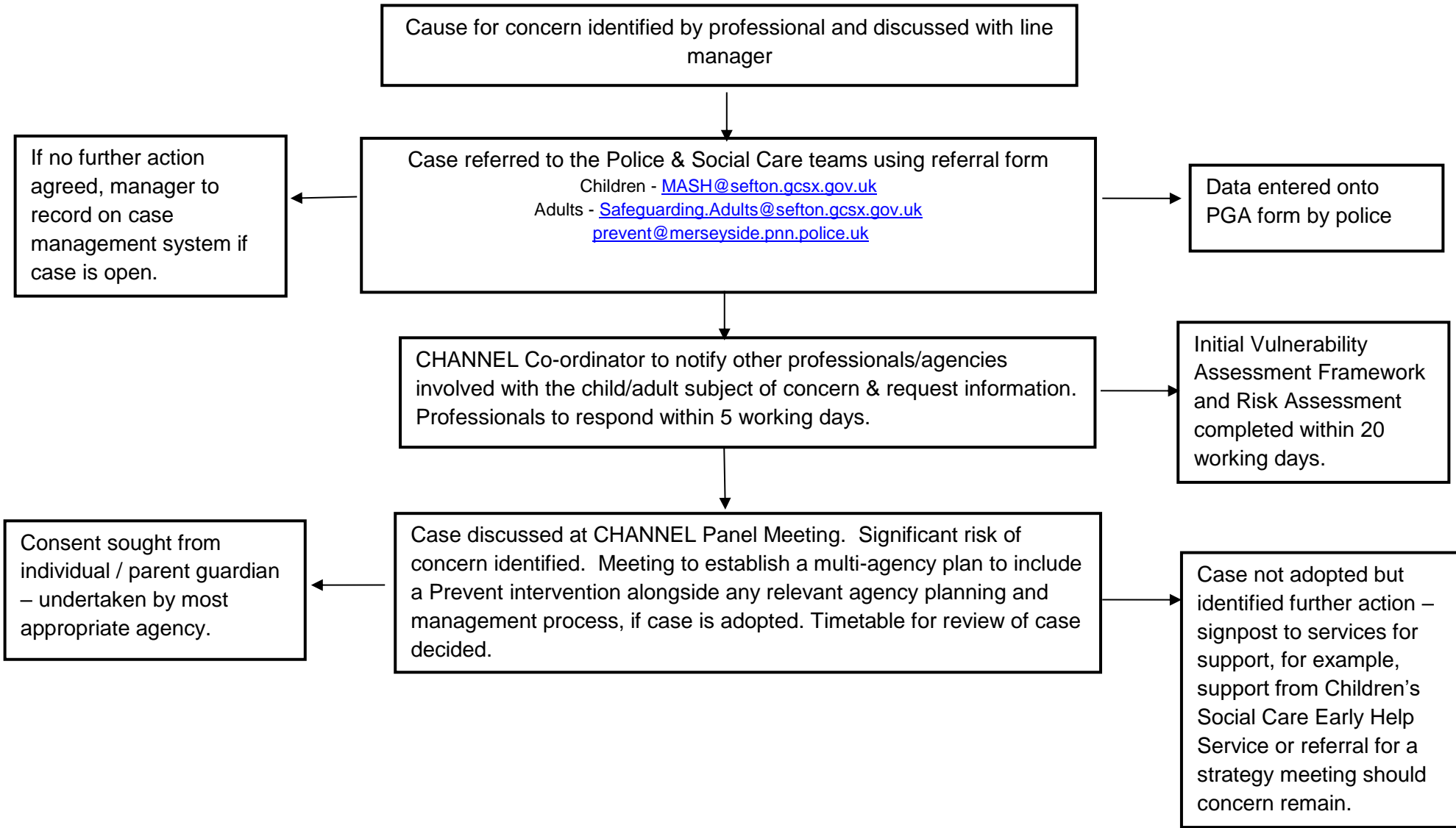
	traditions/customs pertinent to separate groups			
	Incorporate the duty into existing policies and procedures, so it becomes part of the day-to-day work of the authority	Jan McMahon		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work plan still to be developed to ensure that all policies and procedures are reviewed and updated to ensure compliance with the Act
INDIVIDUALS				
SAFEGUARDING THOSE VULNERABLE				
	Ensure appropriate frontline staff, including those of its contractors, have a good understanding of Prevent, are trained to recognise vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism and are aware of available programmes to deal with this issue	Stephan Van Arendsen		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training plans are being developed to reflect new requirements with regard to the Act
	Ensure staff are aware of, and make appropriate, referrals to CHANNEL which has separately been placed on a statutory footing in the CTS Act 2015.	Stephan Van Arendsen		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness programme to be delivered to staff • Training to be developed for roles which come into contact with children; particularly social workers, health workers, schools pastoral carers etc.

	Ensure that there are clear and robust safeguarding policies to identify children and adults at risk	Vicky Buchanan and Deborah Butcher		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of Safeguarding policies needs to be undertaken to ensure they reflect the needs of the duty
INSTITUTIONS				
MAINSTREAMING/CORE BUSINESS				
	Ensure publicly owned venues and resources do not provide a platform for extremists and are not used to disseminate extremist views through the updating of room letting protocols to ensure compliance with LA duties.	Stuart Barnes/ Tanya Wilcock		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update room letting protocols to ensure compliance with the duties.
	Ensure IT equipment available for general public uses filtering solutions that limit access to terrorist and extremist material	Tanya Wilcock		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and if necessary extend the filters applied to publicly available IT equipment • Liaise with Department of Culture and Media in relation to equipment funded in Crosby and Formby libraries.
	Ensure effective dialogue and co-ordination with community based organisations – ensure information is	Tanya Wilcock		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with Sefton CVS to share information and training opportunities with their network

	supplied to community organisations about the Prevent duty			
	Ensure that organisations who work with Sefton on Prevent are not engaged in any extremist activity or espouse extremist views	Tanya Wilcock		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw up list of organisations working on Prevent with the Council • Seek formal confirmation from them that they comply with this expectation
	Take the opportunity ensure that the principles of the duty are written in to any new contracts for the delivery of their services	Peter Moore		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare standard addition to contracts • Review contracts to ensure compliance with the Act and add standard addition
	Ensure Senior Management teams within the education sector are aware of and fulfil their responsibilities set out in Prevent	Vicky Buchanan		

Appendix B – Referral Pathway

Sefton Prevent Referral Pathway for Vulnerable Children and Adults



Appendix C Prevent Referral Form

Upon completion of this form if your concern relates to an adult please send to:

Safeguarding.Adults@sefton.gcsx.gov.uk

If your concern relates to a child please send to:

MASH@sefton.gcsx.gov.uk

When this referral is acknowledged please send to:

Prevent@merseyside.pnn.police.uk

You will receive feedback of your referral from the PREVENT team.

If you require any assistance please call either 0151 233 0343 or 07394559105

Person Referring Name:.....

Organisation:.....

Job Title/Relationship to referee:.....

Email address:.....

Contact number:

Date referred:.....

Subject's Surname:		Forename(s):	
Male/Female:			
D.O.B:		Place of birth:	
Nationality:		Ethnicity:	
First Language:			
Address:			
Tel No Landline:			
Mobile:			
Email:			
School or Employment Details			
Social media info:			

Household composition / Parent / Guardian Details:

Name	D.O.B	Gender	Relationship to subject

Please outline as fully as possible the concerns that have led to this referral:

Does the individual know you are sharing this concern? (Please highlight in red)

- YES
- NO
- YES – and I have informed their parents/guardians.
- NO – but I have informed their parents/guardians.

Time frame from concern to completing form? (Please highlight in red)

- Less than a week
- 1-2 weeks
- 2-4 weeks
- Over 1 month
- 3 months or more

Select concerning behaviours you have noticed: (Please highlight in red)

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ABUSE | <input type="checkbox"/> USE OF INFLAMMATORY LANGUAGE | <input type="checkbox"/> FIXATED ON A TOPIC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SELF HARM | <input type="checkbox"/> CONFRONTATIONAL | <input type="checkbox"/> CLOSED TO CHALLENGE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ABSENTEEISM | <input type="checkbox"/> CHANGE IN APPEARANCE | <input type="checkbox"/> LEGITIMISING USE OF VIOLENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DRUG USE | <input type="checkbox"/> APPEARANCE/USE OF SYMBOLISM | <input type="checkbox"/> DESIRE TO TRAVEL TO CONFLICT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALCOHOL USE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPRESSION OF EXTREMIST VIEWS | <input type="checkbox"/> QUICK TO ANGER |

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> HONOUR BASED VIOLENCE | <input type="checkbox"/> SEEKING TO RECRUIT TO IDEOLOGY | <input type="checkbox"/> BECOMING SOCIALLY ISOLATED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR | <input type="checkbox"/> INTERNET USE | <input type="checkbox"/> THEM AND US LANGUAGE |

Please select if any of the below are applicable: (Please highlight in red)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY BREAKDOWN | <input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEMPLOYMENT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LEARNING DISABILITY | <input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY DISPUTE | <input type="checkbox"/> DOMESTIC ABUSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SEXUAL ABUSE | <input type="checkbox"/> FINANCIAL SUPPORT | <input type="checkbox"/> ILLNESS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISABILITY | <input type="checkbox"/> HOMELESS | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIALLY EXCLUDED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ADOLSCENCE or PERIOD OF TRANSITION | <input type="checkbox"/> TRAUMA FROM CONFLICT | <input type="checkbox"/> VICTIM OF CRIME |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VICTIM OF HATE CRIME | <input type="checkbox"/> LINKS TO CRIMINALITY | <input type="checkbox"/> GANG/GROUP MEMBERSHIP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPLAINED TRAVEL | <input type="checkbox"/> POSSESSION OF EXTREMIST MATERIAL | <input type="checkbox"/> LOSS/BEREAVEMENT |

Please use the space below to elaborate on any of the above or to provide any further information:

PREVENT USE ONLY *Notes for FIMU*