Preventing Radicalisation

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 sets out that relevant higher education bodies must have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This has become known as the Prevent Duty.

The University of Southampton and the 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.

What does the University have to do?

The legal obligation is for the University to “have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.” The Government has published some Guidance on what that means in practice, and the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) will monitor the University’s plans. In particular, HEFCE will want to know:

- That senior managers are fully aware and engaged
- That the university has a risk register and an action plan in place
- That staff receive appropriate training
- That there are systems in place to ensure external speakers are not encouraging acts of terrorism
- That the University is providing sufficient pastoral care to its students
- That the University considers its IT policies and the risk of terrorist material being downloaded through our IT system

Details of the requirements on the University and how they will be monitored by HEFCE are available here:

http://www.hefce.ac.uk/reg/prevent/

What are the University and the Students’ Union doing?

The University has established a Prevent Working Group, with representatives from across the University, and from the Student’s Union. The Working Group is tasked with preparing a risk register and an action plan for the university and helping take forward those actions.

Who is the senior responsible officer for Prevent in the University?

The senior responsible officer is the Chief Operating Officer.
Who is the senior responsible officer from the Students’ Union?

The senior responsible officer is the Vice President Welfare.

What should you do if you have concerns?

If you have concerns about the Prevent legislation and work of the University and the Students’ Union in this area, please contact:

For Students - the Vice President Welfare (welfare@soton.ac.uk)

For Staff – the Chief Operating Officer (chiefoperatingofficer@soton.ac.uk)

If you think you are, or someone you know is, at risk of radicalisation, the following free services are in place to support and advise you:

Police
24 hours
In case of emergency call 999

The Advice Centre
Offers confidential and independent advice
Located upstairs in Building 40 Highfield campus
Telephone: 02380 592085
Email: advice@susu.org

Nightline
Confidential listening and signposting service
8pm – 8am, 7 days a week
Term-time only
Telephone: 02380 595236

First Support
University crisis service
Telephone: 02380 597488
Telephone: 02380 595236
Out of hours contact Security Control Room
Telephone: 02380 593311
Email: firstsupport@southampton.ac.uk

Residences Support
for students living in halls
Telephone: 02380 595777 (24hrs)
Email: residencessupport@southampton.ac.uk
Samaritans
24 hours
Confidential emotional support
Telephone: 08457 909090
Email: jo@samaritans.org