

Prevent in Healthcare: Mutual Support Guide

What support is there for NHS workers facing issues in their workplace related to the Prevent duty?

Your first port of call should be your trade union or representative body:

1. Join a trade union and/or representative body relevant to your profession **before you face workplace issues**.
2. Contact your local union or branch representative with the issue you are experiencing and ask for advice and support.
3. Make sure to write detailed notes of the issue you are experiencing: when it started, relevant communications, etc.
4. If you are asked to have a meeting with management about the issue, ask your representative or a colleague to join the meeting with you to take notes.



If you are not a member of a trade union, or they are not able to provide you with adequate support, then you can contact Medact and we will seek to support you: office@medact.org

What support is there if I have been reported to Prevent?

Prevent is meant to be a voluntary process, and so in most instances, you can choose to not proceed with and/or politely decline questioning by Prevent officers. It is important that ideally you will have sought advice from one of the below organisations or solicitors before engaging with Prevent.

You can find more information about your rights if you are approached for questioning by Prevent on the Cage and Scotland Against Criminalising Communities websites.

If you have been reported to Prevent and would like to seek **legal advice** or **support**, you can contact a number of different organisations or law firms such as those below.



- [Prevent Watch Helpline](#)
- [Liberty](#)
- [Cage Helpline](#)

- [Hodge Jones & Allen Solicitors](#)
- [Leigh Day](#)
- [DPG Law](#)

Mental health and emotional support

People may experience emotional or psychological distress due to Prevent, either because they or someone they know were reported, issues in the workplace related to Prevent, or because of wider experiences of Islamophobia or state repression.

Unfortunately there are no formal therapeutic alternatives within the NHS, for anyone anxious about a Prevent referral, given the duty is in effect across all NHS services.

However, if you are looking for a safe therapeutic space, we may be able to help locate a trusted alternative to support you. If you are interested, email reemabuhayyeh@medact.org.

Also, subscribe to [Healing Justice London](#) for updates about support they are able to offer.



I feel isolated in my workplace and afraid to speak up about Prevent. What can I do?

"It is in collectivities that we find reservoirs of hope and optimism."
– Angela Davis

Medact's Securitisation of Health Group (SHG) seeks to raise awareness of the impacts of Prevent in healthcare, and to challenge the policy.

The Group is made up of healthcare workers, public sector and education workers, and people directly affected by Prevent.

There is power in working as part of a group; [join the Securitisation of Health Group mailing list](#) for updates and information on how to get involved in our work.



The Medact logo is displayed in white on a dark blue background. It consists of a stylized waveform graphic on the left, followed by the word "medact" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font.