

6 March 2026

Dear [Prevent lead]

## Updates to the OfS Prevent monitoring framework

I'm writing to let you know about our plans to make updates to strengthen the OfS's 'Prevent duty: Framework for monitoring in higher education in England'.

The current framework has been in place since 2018 and we are now planning to change it in response to the updated Prevent statutory guidance (2023)<sup>1</sup> and the key recommendation for the OfS from the Independent Review of Prevent (2023)<sup>2</sup>, and to align the terminology with current best practice and definitions used by Prevent partners and government.

The changes are also informed by, and will build on, what we heard in workshops and conversations with Prevent colleagues at universities and higher education colleges, sector bodies and government, as well as our own learnings from undertaking the monitoring function over the past couple of years.

### What changes will be made?

The changes will update our existing monitoring framework and strengthen our monitoring. We will make the reporting process easier and more user friendly by:

- clarifying and incorporating information which is currently held separately on the website; and
- removing redundant information.

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<sup>1</sup> Available at [Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales \(2023\) - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/114141/prevent-duty-guidance-england-and-wales-2023.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> 'Independent Review of Prevent' by William Shawcross CVO (2023), available at [Independent Review of Prevent's report and government response - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/114141/prevent-report-and-government-response-2023.pdf)

Additionally, we will update the definition of 'Prevent serious incidents' and will make reporting requirements clearer. We will use Prevent review meetings to target areas of concern more strategically and proactively gather more detailed evidence on compliance with the duty where necessary. We will also simplify the process for providers that are newly subject to Prevent monitoring.

### **Next steps**

We are planning to run online briefing sessions in the summer to introduce the updates to you. These sessions will include a short presentation on the changes and there will be plenty of opportunities for you to ask questions. These will take place ahead of publication of the updated monitoring framework and we will share further details about these sessions in the coming weeks.

We are **not** planning any further changes for the 2025-26 Prevent accountability and data return (ADR) due in December 2026. We will send details about how to submit this return in the autumn.

If you have any questions about our plans, please do not hesitate to contact me at [prevent@officeforstudents.org.uk](mailto:prevent@officeforstudents.org.uk).

Yours sincerely

Arlene Robinson  
Head of Prevent