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# Terms of reference: inspection of counter-terrorism safeguarding

**Published on:** 19 November 2025

In October 2025, the Home Secretary commissioned HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary, under [section 54\(2B\) of the Police Act 1996](#) (<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/16/section/54>), to inspect how police forces, [Counter Terrorism Policing \(CTP\)](#) (<https://www.counterterrorism.police.uk/>) and partner organisations [safeguard](#) ([/glossary/safeguarding/](#)) young and [vulnerable people](#) ([/glossary/vulnerable-person/](#)).

We will examine the safeguarding measures they adopt for young people under the age of 25 and other vulnerable people who:

- may be at most risk of radicalisation or exploitation by extremist groups; or
- are under investigation for terrorism offences.

In our inspection, we will address the following questions:

- How effectively do police forces and CTP understand the nature and scale of existing and emerging risks?
- How effectively do police forces and CTP share relevant [intelligence](#) ([/glossary/intelligence/](#)) between themselves and partner organisations to make sure [risk assessments](#) ([/glossary/risk-assessment/](#)) and safeguarding referrals are based on all available information?
- How effectively do police forces and CTP safeguard young and vulnerable people, including how they use measures described in the 'Prevent' strand of the [United Kingdom's Strategy for Countering Terrorism 2023 \(CONTEST\)](#)? (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/counter-terrorism-strategy-contest-2023>)
- How effectively do police forces and CTP manage the risks associated with young and vulnerable people, including how they use offender management, safeguarding and other measures described in the 'Pursue' strand of the CONTEST strategy?

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23 Stephenson Street

Birmingham

B2 4BH

✉ [contacthmicfrs@hmicfrs.gov.uk](mailto:contacthmicfrs@hmicfrs.gov.uk) (<mailto:contacthmicfrs@hmicfrs.gov.uk>)