

## **Institute of Acoustics Prevent Policy**

### **1. Introduction**

The Institute of Acoustics (IOA) understands its responsibilities under the Counter Terrorism & Security Act 2015 to prevent people of all ages being radicalised or drawn into terrorism and seeks to meet its obligations in the ways shown below, after setting the context

### **2. Context**

- a) The IOA accepts students on its courses who are predominately over 20 from around the world.
- b) In addition the IOA as end point assessor for the Acoustics Apprenticeship will assess students who exceptionally may be as young as 17. Apprentices will not mix with students on IOA Courses.
- c) The IOA has always promoted a multi-cultural environment where respect for and tolerance of others beliefs is required.
- d) The IOA delivers direct training in Milton Keynes but also in partnership with Universities and organisations throughout the UK and Dubai.
- e) The IOA does not deliver training to Apprentices but End Point Assessment could be anywhere in the UK

### **3. Leadership**

- a) Responsibility for ensuring Prevent Duty is met lies with the Chief Executive
- b) Responsibility for the Prevent risk assessment / action plan (see point 4 below) and policy lies with Chief Executive
- c) Their duties are to ensure delivery of an effective risk assessment/ action plan and policy as outlined here.

### **4. Risk Assessment**

- a) Staff, students and other adults may attend training already holding extremist views. Or, during training, they may be influenced by a range of factors: global events, peer pressure, media, family views, extremist materials (hardcopy or online), inspirational speakers, friends or relatives being harmed, social networks, and more
- b) People who are vulnerable are more likely to be influenced
- c) Their vulnerability could stem from a range of causes, including: loss of identity or sense of belonging, isolation, exclusion, mental health problems, sense of injustice, personal crisis, victim of hate crime or discrimination, and bereavement.
- d) The risk of students being radicalized through contacts related to the IOA is low. Students only have direct contact with other students for very short periods (Approx. 8 days over a year) either in the IOA office or on the short residential laboratory workshops at Liverpool University or Trinity College Dublin.
- e) UK students do not attend the Laboratory workshops in Dubai.
- f) The Dubai laboratory tends to have students from the Middle and Far East and is 5 days in duration. The laboratory is provided by Dubai Acoustics Research laboratory (DARL)

who are aware of the risk of radicalization and monitor the interaction of the students during the short residential.

- g) Students can communicate through the IOA Moodle Forum, but posts are monitored.
- h) Apprentices do not have contact with other IOA students either in person or online.

#### **5. Signs that may cause concern**

- a) Students talking about exposure to extremist materials or views outside the training environment (in this event, information must be shared with relevant local authorities)
- b) Changes in behaviour, e.g. becoming isolated
- c) Fall in standard of work, poor attendance, disengagement
- d) Changes in attitude, e.g. intolerant of differences/ having closed mind
- e) Asking questions about topics not related to the course but which may be related to politics/extremism
- f) Offering opinions that appear to have come from extremist ideologies
- g) Attempts to impose own views/ beliefs on others
- h) Use of extremist vocabulary to exclude others or incite violence
- i) Accessing extremist material online or via social network sites
- j) Overt new religious practices
- k) • Other students voicing concerns about anyone

#### **6. Raising of Concerns**

- a) UK based Students, any concerns generated by tutors are to be reported to the Chief Executive, outlining the circumstances behind the concern and the nature of what was overheard/observed.
- b) Online Forums are monitored by the Education Administrator, who is to bring to the Chief Executive's attention any suspicious correspondence.
- a. Concerns raised at residential laboratories should be passed both to the respective institute's own Prevent officer/local authorities and the Education Manager/Chief Executive.
- c) It is highly unlikely that issues will be raised regarding apprentices as the IOA's contact will be limited to the End Point Assessment, however any concerns raised should be passed to the Chief Executive.
- d) The Education Manager is responsible for ensuring all tutors, laboratory supervisors and the education administrator are aware of their responsibilities.
- e) The Chief Executive is responsible for ensuring End Point Assessors are aware of their responsibility to pass on any concerns related to apprentices to Chief Executive
- f) The Chief Executive is to discuss any concerns raised and seek advice of the local Police.

**7. Understanding terminology**

- a. Radicalisation: act or process of making a person more radical or favouring of extreme or fundamental changes in political, economic or social conditions, institutions or habits of mind
- b. Extremism\*: holding extreme political or religious views which may deny right to any group or individual. Can be expressed in vocal or active opposition to
- c. Core British values: including
  - b) democracy
  - c) the rule of law
  - d) individual liberty
  - e) respectful tolerance of different faiths or beliefs.
- f) \*NB: extremism can refer to a range of views, e.g. racism, homophobia, right-wing ideology, as well as any religious extremism.

**8. Handling of Concerns**

- a) Any concerns raised will be dealt with sensitively and carefully.
- b) The Confidentiality of the reporting person will be maintained.

