

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

8 October 2019

**SUBJECT: Counter Terrorism**

**Report of the Chief Constable**

<p><b>PURPOSE OF THE REPORT</b></p> <p>1. This report provides an update and outlines the Force's current position in relation to Counter Terrorism.</p>
<p><b>RECOMMENDATION</b></p> <p>2. That the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) uses this report to scrutinise Force performance in respect of Prevent.</p>
<p><b>POLICE AND CRIME PLAN</b></p> <p>3. In addition to making sure we can effectively respond in event of a terrorist attack, we must all work together to prevent people from being radicalised in the first place. There are often a number of complex factors which can make somebody vulnerable to radicalisation so it is crucial that we work together across the community to identify those at risk as early as we can and safeguard them from extremism. The Prevent Duty gives direction for the police and partners around our shared responsibility to combat the threat of radicalisation within our communities and we will work together to ensure that we are all playing our part in this.</p>
<p><b>KEY INFORMATION</b></p> <p>4. The PCC has committed to make sure that we have the right resources, understanding, people and governance frameworks to tackle national threats such as terrorism, serious public disorder, organised crime and civil emergencies. West Yorkshire Police is the lead force within the North East Counter Terrorism Unit (NECTU) and as such, the PCC has lead oversight for the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In addition to the general governance, accountability and administrative oversight between the OPCC and the police, the PCC works closely with the NE CTU and keeps in contact through regular meetings and briefings.</li><li>• The PCC appointed his Safeguarding Adviser as the lead policy officer within the OPCC for the police and crime plan priority of radicalisation. This is to demonstrate the link between preventing radicalisation and safeguarding and supporting those who may be vulnerable within our societies.</li><li>• In September 2018 The PCC's Safeguarding Adviser gave a presentation to the PCC's West Yorkshire Partnership Executive Group (PEG) on the new Contest Strategy. The PEG is made up of leaders from across West Yorkshire who work together to deliver the outcomes in the Police and Crime Plan, using limited resources in the most effective way possible, managing change and fulfilling reciprocal duties in current legislation.</li><li>• The PCC made a written submission to HM Government on the draft the Counter Terrorism and Border Security Act which became law earlier this year.</li></ul>

- Staff from the OPCC attended a workshop presented by the NECTU to a local authority and contributed to the conversations especially in respect of victim support issues

## **PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION**

5. Prevent, like any safeguarding strategy can only be delivered in partnership between key agencies. Whilst the police take an active role in the delivery of Prevent, many other partners are involved including those from health, education, local authorities, prisons and offender management and community groups.
  - In September 2018 The PCCs Safeguarding Adviser gave a presentation to the PCCs West Yorkshire Partnership Executive Group (PEG) on the new Contest Strategy. The PEG is made up of leaders from across West Yorkshire who work together to deliver the outcomes in the Police and Crime Plan, using limited resources in the most effective way possible, managing change and fulfilling reciprocal duties in current legislation.
  - The PCC is a member national Counter Terrorism Collaboration Strategic Board which brings together senior leaders to discuss collaboration and developments in this area.
  - The PCCs Safeguarding Adviser continues to attend the West Yorkshire CONTEST board representing the PCC at this key strategic partnership group.
  - The PCC has supported a range of community groups through the Safer Communities Fund which are focused on anti-radicalisation and safeguarding vulnerable people from extremism. Since 2014 the PCC has given £82,058.98 of Safer Communities Fund monies to 20 projects.
  - In November, officers trained in the latest police tactics to disrupt criminals and counter terrorism were deployed across Leeds to trial Project Servator. This action saw specially-trained officers in uniform and plain clothes conducting highly visible police patrols supported by firearms officers, police dogs and police horses. Project Servator officers are specially trained to spot the signs that a person may be carrying out 'hostile reconnaissance', which is the information gathering an individual carries out when planning to commit a criminal act. Project Servator's objective is to disrupt criminals while, at the same time, reassure the public; its central message is that if you see something suspicious which doesn't look and feel right, then get in touch. Officers also spoke with shoppers, retailers and business partners to encourage them to act as the police's eyes and ears, and during the trial, officers made nine arrests for offences from burglary to drug possession. They also received numerous lines of intelligence and recovered a number of weapons.



## Chief Officer Team Briefing for COM

**Title:** Prevent

**CoT Sponsor:** ACC Mark Ridley

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### SUMMARY

**The Prevent Business Plan 2019/20** – has now been developed and will be managed nationally across three pillars:

**Identify:** will cover partnership work to identify and refer both those vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism and those who pose a radicalisation risk to others by working with communities, local policing, Counter Terrorism (CT) policing, public sector, businesses and charities. A more consistent model for the production and sharing of Counter Terrorism Local Profiles (CTLPs) will ensure an intelligence led approach to mitigating local threat and the West Yorkshire Police(WYP) CTLP (capturing national, regional and local threats), has been heralded as best practice. Prevent will use HMICFRS findings, academic research (including CREST findings), professional judgement, closed case research and community consultation to improve practice and support the other CONTEST pillars e.g. in consequence management and online.

**Safeguard:** will work collaboratively to safeguard and divert those vulnerable to radicalisation or being drawn into terrorism by working increasingly with the private and charity sectors to enhance capability and embed the work of Vulnerability Support Hubs. Work with Office for Security and Counter Terrorism (OSCT) will improve the consistency and effectiveness of Channel panels, develop a single cross-sector Prevent policy and implement a national safeguarding oversight board including statutory partners

**Manage Risk:** will work with partners, to assess, manage and disrupt those individuals who pose a CT or extremism risk and those who seek to radicalise the vulnerable. National management processes will be embedded to eliminate any gaps in referrals and partners supported to deliver recognised programmes. Work will take place to embed the national disruptions strategy, including online activity and work will take place with the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) and partners to disrupt the influence/reach of overseas extremists. CTP-NE will lead the identify work-stream and in common with the other two, will map and gap practice nationally in order to share best practice and nurture innovative solutions.

**The Counter Terrorism and Border Security Act (CTBSA)** is now law and will serve to support earlier sharing of intelligence and Early Intervention as well as giving more robust powers to protect the on-line space. The drive around Individuals, Institutions and Ideology will now be complemented by a stronger focus on rehabilitation both through a partnership approach to supporting returnees to our communities but also through court approved measures including Licence Conditions, Part 4s, Terrorism Prevention and Investigation Measures (TPIMs) and Temporary Exclusion Orders. An increase in the use of the Desistance and Disengagement Programme (DDP) will further support rehabilitation and CTP-NE have created a new Managed Nominal Team who will support these rehabilitative measures in addition to delivering the disruption elements of Prevent and Deter.

**National Review of Prevent** – as an amendment to the CTBSA, Parliament has requested a national review of the Prevent strategy. Terms of reference include assessing Prevent's objectives, what the policy should include and the effectiveness of the statutory duty and communication. The review will start in the autumn and the final report will be laid before parliament prior to the 2020 summer recess.

**National Counter Terrorism Policing Headquarters (NCTPHQ)** have published a new Prevent Strategy accompanied by a Practitioners Guide (which sets prescriptive processes and timeframes for Prevent and Channel referrals), along with a Good Practice Guide and the key recommendations of the Home Affairs Select Committee review of Parson's Green have been adopted across West Yorkshire along with the OSCT Prevent Local Authority Toolkit.

**The HMICFRS CT4 Prevent Inspection** visited West Yorkshire on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018 and has now been completed in the North East. A thematic report was due to be published in June 2019 summarising CT4 findings at a national level but has still not been released. In the interim a 'hot debrief' has been conducted with Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) and counter-part Assistant Chief Constable's (ACC) across the region and is favourable in relation to West Yorkshire. In summary the team said that they were generally satisfied with their findings and that partnership working arrangements were very good. Areas for improvement centred on inconsistencies in relation to training and intelligence grading and noted feedback from front-line WYP Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) staff of a lack of resource and competing priorities. The Prevent Business Plan has been bolstered by a number of new actions that have fallen out of the inspection and the Internal Audit of Prevent that was conducted by the Office Police Crime Commissioner (OPCC), in 2018. As a result of this work all WY District Commanders have nominated Senior Leadership Team (SLT) Prevent single points of contact (SPOCs) who have been brought together as a Silver group in order to forge a clear memorandum of understanding (MOU) with CTP-NE which brings absolute clarity to which responsibilities sit with WYP local policing and which sit with CTP. This covers community engagement, training, dissemination of intelligence, action planning, governance and accountability, performance management, colocation and partnerships and will embed Prevent in Districts as an additional strand of Safeguarding. The WYP CONTEST Strategic Steering Board and District Gold boards have been fully updated and support this approach. Performance against this plan is now being managed via a series of 'Prevent Bronze Reports' in each of the five districts.

**The HMICFRS CT3 (Counter Terrorism Policing Part 3 Inspection)** was a joint inspection of the effectiveness of the CT network in providing a bridge between the national and local levels of policing that took place between December 2017 and March 2018. It focussed on strategic

direction, connectivity and governance with particular emphasis on Safeguarding and intelligence handling. The recent report reflected very well on Prevent and Safeguarding. Relevant areas for improvement and recommendations have been addressed within current business planning.

**The Office for Security and Counter Terrorism (OSCT)** run an annual Cross-government prioritisation process to inform the allocation of resources for Prevent activity in local authorities and have recently completed the 2019/20 process. Confirmation has now been received that Calderdale (as well as the other WYP Local Authority (LA) areas), will retain their funded status. This means that all WYP LAs (with the exception of Wakefield), will be funded in 19/20 by the Home Office in relation Prevent and all have been successful in drawing down funding for a series of projects and posts including Prevent Coordinators and Schools Coordinators. Initial scoping re 2020/21 funding is now taking place and the process is likely to be very similar to last years.

### **Local Delivery**

Working more closely with partners we have developed a new and improved CTLP document which is also delivered at a NPM level in order to elicit further community intelligence and better engage communities. This in turn will ensure that local Prevent action plans reflect the level and nature of threat within respective Districts. 'WYP Prevent Champions' was launched formally at a conference attended by over 130 people on 4<sup>th</sup> February. This has involved all policing Districts identifying and enlisting the support of willing volunteers to become Prevent SPOCs at both delivery and management level in order to develop a communication and training network. This work will now be rolled out to partnership agencies across West Yorkshire. CTPNE have been instrumental in working with Muslim communities to support their approach to reporting in general across a wide range of issues and discussions continue with representatives from the Bradford Council for Mosques and Leeds Grand mosque to explore how best to deliver this. Following the attacks in Christchurch and Sri Lanka this work has gained impetus driven by a significant community appetite to improve security at places of worship and this Protect & Prepare work has allowed fuller engagement around the whole CONTEST strategy but particularly Prevent.

### **The Military**

Work with our armed forces continues. CTPNE meet regularly with the military to ensure referral pathways are fit for purpose and that awareness is raised with military units across the wider region. The Army and RAF have re-affirmed their commitment to Prevent and now have a Military Liaison Officer in local groups in areas where there is a military presence. The MOD is not obliged to support PREVENT (except for those units that fall under Schedule 6 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 e.g. training) but have now published a Joint Services Protocol, which is now the official MOD Policy on Prevent and will trigger each Service (RN, Army, and RAF) to produce their own policies, which will be the policy that drives how Prevent is delivered.

## **Mental Health**

Mental ill health continues to feature as a significant vulnerability factor in radicalisation and increases the risks of individuals carrying out lone actor attacks. Our Northern Vulnerability Support Hub approach, delivered jointly with Counter Terrorism Policing NW, is gaining momentum with specialist Mental Health (MH) professionals advising on interventions and securing additional MH services as required. The recruitment process for two MH clinicians is now complete and they have been embedded and are supported by a Vulnerability Support Prevent Officer. The three MH nurses work agilely and increase capacity across West Yorkshire. These posts are in addition to the current support we receive from the Hub and the approach will improve the way vulnerable individuals with mental health needs are safeguarded and protected from extremists across our region.

## **Returnees from conflict zones**

Work with Local Authority Children's and Adult Social Care and District partners continues. The need to test district plans to ensure effectiveness continues to be highlighted within the current round of CONTEST Gold meetings across the county. Bradford Children's Social Care is jointly delivering workshops to the wider region to ensure that neighbouring Force areas understand the risks posed by and to adults and minors returning from conflict zones. This work ensures a greater level of preparedness should returnees from conflict zones return to West Yorkshire. This work is recognised nationally as best practice by the OSCT at the Home Office where national guidance is being developed.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

Nil