

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

13 February 2019

SUBJECT: Counter Terrorism

Report of the Chief Constable

<p>PURPOSE OF THE REPORT</p> <p>1. This report provides an update and outlines the Force's current position in relation to Counter Terrorism.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>2. That the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) uses this report to scrutinise Force performance in respect of Prevent.</p>
<p>POLICE AND CRIME PLAN</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>KEY INFORMATION</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">• In addition to the general governance, accountability and administrative oversight between the OPCC and the police, the PCC has also been working closely with the NE CTU on a number of projects and keeps in contact through regular meetings and briefings.• The PCC has 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. The same officer is establishing working relations with the NECTU and Prevent team.• 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.

- The PCC made a written submission to HM Government on the draft the Counter Terrorism and Border Security Act which will become law in April 2019. .

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 is now a member of 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.



Chief Officer Team Briefing for COM

February 2019

Title:

Counter Terrorism

CoT Sponsor:

ACC Ridley

SUMMARY

The new CONTEST strategy will be underpinned by the Counter Terrorism and Border Security Act which will become law in April 2019. This 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 through a partnership approach to supporting returnees to our communities but also through court approved measures including Licence Conditions, Part 4s, TPIMs and Temporary Exclusion Orders. An increase in the use of the Desistance and Disengagement Programme (DDP) will further support rehabilitation.

National Counter Terrorism Policing Head Quarters (NCTPHQ) have published a Good Practice Guide as well as a new Prevent Strategy (accompanied by a Practitioners Guide which sets prescriptive processes and timeframes for Prevent and Channel referrals in order to ensure objectivity and consistency nationally). The key recommendations of the Home Affairs Select Committee review of Parson's Green will now be supplemented by some twelve further recommendations and 23 learning points under Op. Air. The Office for Security and Counter Terrorism (OSCT) have also recently published a Prevent Local Authority Toolkit which contains a useful benchmarking tool which is being applied by all Local Authorities in West Yorkshire. National priorities remain to Identify and then safeguard or manage those at risk of radicalisation and NCTPHQ are due to visit CTP-NE in January in order to develop the business plan for the forthcoming twelve months. The plan will be likely to centre around the current good Practice Guide strategic objectives which focus on Public Confidence, Engagement, Training, Intelligence (CTLP), Processes, and Governance & Performance Management.

Prevent Referrals. New Home Office statistics for 2017/18 show a 20 percent increase in the number of people referred to and supported through the Prevent programme with extreme right wing concerns up by some 36%. Conversely Islamist related concerns saw a 14% reduction. The largest increase in right wing referrals was seen in the North East. The relevant period is likely to be affected by the five terrorist attacks that took place during 2017 and referral numbers have seen overall reductions in more recent months. Referrals from Community members is up by 29%, but from friends and family the number remains low at

just 3% of the total. We are obviously keen to increase public understanding and build confidence to encourage more people to come forward and safeguard their loved ones.

HMICFRS CT4 Prevent Inspection visited West Yorkshire on 15th November 2018 and has now been completed in the North East. A thematic report will be published in June 2019 summarising CT4 findings at a national level. In the interim a 'hot debrief' has been conducted 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. Some minor areas for improvement were identified but mainly centred on the sharing of best practice in order to ensure a consistent approach. 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 OPCC in 2018. As a result of this work all WY District Commanders have nominated SLT Prevent SPOCs who have been brought together as a Silver group in order to forge a clear 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.

The 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. This involved a meeting on 19th October 2018 where a robust and well evidenced case was made for WY Local Authorities to retain their current status and for Calderdale to remain at Tier 2. Confirmation has now been received that this bid has been successful and that while there may be a move away from specific 'tiering', Calderdale (as well as the other WYP 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 invited to submit bids prior to 18th January. There is an expectation that LAs will prioritise their funding towards a Prevent Coordinator, Schools Coordinator and project work respectively.

Planning is underway for the Chief Constable to host a briefing for West Yorkshire MPs following requests from Calderdale and Kirklees. This will include the latest threat assessment advice on Protect & Prepare and Prevent delivery.

ONGOING WORK AND DEVELOPMENTS

We continue to focus on local delivery by working at strategic, tactical and operational levels and have acted on feedback in order to work more closely with partners to develop a new and improved CTLP document which is also delivered at a Non Protectively Marked 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.

Our work to strengthen the local policing interface between CTP and communities will advance significantly on 4th February when our 'WYP Prevent Champions' model will be launched formally. 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 following a successful pilot at Bradford. It is hoped that, following early trials with Health, this model will be rolled out into the statutory and third sectors.

Research undertaken by Huddersfield University was presented to the national Counter Terrorism Independent Advisory Group (CTIAG) chaired by ACSO Basu. Members of the group are actively considering how best to take the research forward into communities to improve community reporting and further build trust and confidence in Prevent. Following a recent visit to Clarendon House ACSO Basu has asked to look more closely at our Prevent work specifically and will return to visit us on 8th February where among other things he will visit Bradford District in the afternoon in order to better understand our success around the Prevent Champions model.

CTPNE have been instrumental in working with Muslim communities to support their approach to reporting in general across a wide range of issues. Discussions continue with representatives from Bradford Council for Mosques and Leeds Grand mosque to explore how best to deliver this.

- **The Military**

Work with the Military and colleagues from the RAF 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 rollout of an overarching Joint Services Policy for Prevent which will cover all aspects from initial training and awareness raising through to Channel referral and review is now imminent.

- **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' Mental Health Hub approach, delivered jointly with Counter Terrorism Policing NW, is gaining momentum with specialist MH professionals advising on interventions and securing additional MH services as required. The recruitment process for two new MH clinicians is now complete we are hoping to have them in post imminently. The three MH nurses will then work agilely from Clarendon House and will increase capacity across both the NNE and YATH. These posts will be 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.

- **Channel Programme**

The Dovetail Channel pilot, currently being trialled in Kirklees as one of the nine national pilot sites has become national practice. Learning from this is now informing how CTPNE work with other WY authorities and wider partners to support Channel. The roll-out across the county and wider region has been put back until 2020 by OSCT. Discussions continue nationally between CS Adams and OSCT in order to harmonise Channel guidance for both police and local authorities. It is hoped that this will reduce the confusion that currently exists and better safeguard the most vulnerable.

- **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 and currently rewriting national guidance.

- **Further and Higher Education**

The HE/FE prevent co-ordinator is now established in role and covers 341 educational establishments and 21 universities across the North East working to the Department for Education. In the short time the co-ordinator has been in post, he has sought to improve partnerships across the sector in order to increase understanding, support the delivery of training, and ensure effective referral mechanisms are in place. The co-ordinator attends District CONTEST Silver meetings and has worked with CTPNE to implement processes to ensure that CTLPS are more effectively shared with HE/FE in order to improve tasking. Op. Birdstone was timed to support the return of our university students in order to tackle radicalisation in our HE establishments.

- **Education**

Staff continue to hold sessions with teaching staff, primarily safeguarding leads and LA prevent education officers to highlight the need to ensure that those making referrals within schools are following established safeguarding procedures in order to ensure that responses are proportionate and best serve the needs of the child or young person. This highlights the need for schools to check out information thoroughly prior to making a referral.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Nil