

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

10 March 2020

SUBJECT: Counter Terrorism - Prevent

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 Counter Terrorism Policing North East (CTPNE) 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 works closely with the CTPNE and keeps in contact through regular meetings and briefings.• 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 vulnerable within our societies.• 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 made a written submission to HM Government on the draft the Counter Terrorism and Border Security Act which became law in 2019.
- Staff from the OPCC attended a workshop presented by the CTPNE to a local authority and contributed to the conversations especially in respect of victim support issues.
- The PCC responded to a call for contributions to the independent review of Prevent and submitted a written response.
- The PCC launched (Feb 2020) the West Yorkshire Victims and Witnesses strategy 2019-2021 the strategy supports People Harmed by Crime and focuses on seven key areas: Raise awareness of the PCC's approach to supporting ALL victims and witnesses, putting people and communities at the heart of policy, practice and service development; Get the initial response to victims and witnesses right first every time; Work hard to give people the support they need to cope and recover, tailored to their individual needs, whether or not they pursue action through the criminal justice system(CJS); Increase the confidence people have in the CJS and empower them to take up different options available to them through it; Address the additional vulnerabilities and complex needs that compound barriers to coping and recovering and often result in repeat occurrences; Identify and take action to fill gaps in service and achieve greater consistency in West Yorkshire; in all of the above priorities work to ensure that the needs of children and young people are given appropriate attention.

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 £99,293 of Safer Communities Fund monies to 24 projects, £341,600 has been given to 81 projects also tackle Hate Crime and 263 projects have been awarded £688,000 to address various aspects of community cohesion.
 - 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.

ATTACHMENT

- [Chief Constables Report – Counter Terrorism \(PDF 408KB\)](#)