

SUBJECT: Countering 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 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.• The West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan has now been refreshed and informed by our annual Needs Assessment, we have made Serious Violence a standalone priority, and reframed the fight against extremism under the title 'Countering Terrorism'.• <i>The reframed 'Countering Terrorism' priority is:</i> <i>"Acts of terror, inspired by extremist behaviours, are a significant threat to communities in West Yorkshire and nationwide. The grave consequences of terrorist acts means we have to</i>

be vigilant and work together to intervene early to combat terrorism, and safeguard vulnerable people from extreme racist, political or religious ideologies. A number of complex factors can combine to draw someone into extremism, so it is crucial that we work together across communities and partner agencies to quickly identify those at risk. I will continue to support our work at the local, regional and national scale to prevent terrorism in all its forms, strengthen our communities' protective resilience, and support those people in West Yorkshire who may have been affected by a terrorist incident”.

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

5. Countering Terrorism can only be delivered in partnership between key agencies and with the support of our communities. Whilst the police take an active role in the delivery of Prevent, like any other safeguarding strategy many other partners are involved including those from health, education, local authorities, prisons and offender management and community groups.
- The PCC will support the response to countering terrorism through the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan and by continuing to work with partners and the communities of West Yorkshire.
 - The PCC continues to be represented at the West Yorkshire CONTEST board by his Safeguarding Adviser and is keen to ensure the work of the OPCC links with and supports the work of partners across West Yorkshire in countering terrorism.
 - The PCC is a member national Counter Terrorism Collaboration Strategic Board which brings together senior leaders to discuss collaboration and developments in this area, and represents the North East PCC's on Counter Terrorism at this important national meeting.
 - The PCC wishes to draw attention to the major new national initiative aimed at helping spot early signs of radicalisation or possible involvement in terrorism is directly acting upon years of research by University of Huddersfield academics. Counter Terrorism Policing (CTP), the national policing organisation which protects the UK from terrorism, has launched a new safeguarding website and social media campaign, called Act Early, designed to help people share their concerns about relatives or friends who they are worried are becoming radicalised by ideologies. Further information can be accessed here: <https://actearly.uk/>
 - 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 £156,393 of Safer Communities Fund monies to 34 projects, £370,291 has been given to 86 projects also tackle Hate Crime and 218 projects have been awarded just over £1m to address various aspects of community cohesion.

ATTACHMENT

- [Chief Constables Report – Counter Terrorism](#)