



Chief Officer Team Briefing for COM

Title: Counter Terrorism Prevent
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CoT Sponsor: ACC Twiggs
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SUMMARY

The Prevent Business Plan 2021/22 – is being managed across three national 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.

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.

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.

There will be **four key priorities for 2021:**

1. **Enabling our people to be successful**

For obvious reasons 2020 had a huge impact upon wellbeing. Our first priority in 2021 will be our people. We will ensure our teams are **well led, well equipped and well supported**. Our ambitious plan will be supported by **Investors in People** to galvanise the views and experiences of everyone and build upon our recently awarded Work-place Wellbeing Charter mark.

2. Friends and Family

We will reduce long-term CT vulnerabilities by working with friends and family to increase their role in reducing radicalisation through Prevent. We will raise awareness of radicalisation, increase understanding of Prevent, build trust and confidence, and increase involvement in supporting loved ones through Prevent.

3. Embedding Prevent across policing

We will embed Vulnerability to Radicalisation as the 14th core discipline of public protection. We will support forces to embed this across mainstream policing, including through strong governance, and we will support all CT pillars and capabilities to maximise early opportunities to identify terrorism related vulnerabilities and support Prevent intervention.

4. Reducing the risk from on-line radicalisation

We will work with partners and other CT pillars to tackle misinformation, increase access to positive narratives and build community resilience to radicalisation. Together, we will develop the partnerships, skills, tools and processes to better identify those vulnerable to online radicalisation and disrupt the reach and influence of extremist voices and propaganda.

Prevent activity during COVID 19

Business continuity in relation to Prevent within West Yorkshire has so far been successfully maintained following the implementation of reviewed working practices which accord with Government, WYP and PHE guidance. Daily assessment and reporting into the national CTP network has contributed to a comprehensive national overview of threat and risk and all indications are that Prevent in West Yorkshire has and will continue deliver business as usual. Indeed, Prevent referrals in West Yorkshire saw only a 1.2% drop in 2020/21 compared to 22% nationally. This has meant that an initial drop in Prevent referrals in West Yorkshire has been addressed through a raft of measures to support families, parents and partners particularly in the on-line space and that all remaining referrals are being successfully managed in accordance with prevent policy and safeguarding protocols including on-line Channel meetings and intervention provision. These efforts have paid dividends as Prevent referral numbers have now returned to normal levels.

National Review of Prevent

As an amendment to the Counter Terrorism and Border Security Act parliament has requested a national review of the Prevent strategy. This was being led by Lord Alexander Carlile but following a Judicial Review the review was suspended. Lord Walney has now been appointed as government advisor on political violence and disruption and William Shawcross has resumed the national review as the new lead in place of Lord Carlile. Findings and recommendations will be submitted to the Home Secretary and Prime Minister by the end of the year for publication subject to their approval.

The HMICFRS CT4 Prevent Inspection

A thematic report summarising CT4 findings at a national level was released in March 2020. Supt. Shelley Slarke has now assumed the role of Force Prevent Strategic Lead (FPSL). WYP have developed a 4P Counter Terrorism Strategic Plan in conjunction with CTP-NE. Regular Tactical Delivery Group meetings are now taking place and Districts will be held to account in terms of the delivery of the plans' contents at a forthcoming round of LAMs. CTP-NE and the WYP Safeguarding Central Governance Unit are now working closely together to embed Prevent as the 14th strand of Public Protection by developing joint training, processes and meetings including CTP representation at the WY Strategic Safeguarding Board. West Yorkshire Police and the North East Region will be held to account at the National Prevent Thematic Board attended by ACC Khan in relation to a number of KPIs including numbers of referrals, managed cases and positive outcomes. CTP-NE work with local policing colleagues has led to a 28.5% increase in non-CT policing referrals during 2020/21.

The OSCT (now known as Homeland Security) annual Cross-government prioritisation process

This process to inform the allocation of resources for Prevent activity in local authorities in 2022/23 is now underway and the current four funded West Yorkshire LA areas are likely to retain their funded status and will receive funding for a series of projects and posts including Prevent Coordinators and Prevent Education Officers. Two additional Regional Advisors will now also be aligned to the North East to support unfunded areas like Wakefield.

Manchester Arena Enquiry/Publicly Accessible Locations (PALs)/Protect Duty

The enquiry is still underway but is likely to identify significant learning that will inform future decision making and policy. A law requiring venue operators to consider the risk of a terrorist attack and take proportionate and reasonable measures to prepare for and protect the public from such an attack will be referred to as the 'Protect Duty'. This could include increased physical security, improved training, incident response plans and exercises for staff on what to do during an attack. The Protect Duty has the full support of victims' groups. The National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) have commenced the transition from the current 'crowded places' approach to the tiered Publicly Accessible Locations (PALs) approach which will be piloted in the North East

The National ACT (Action Counters Terrorism) Awareness Campaign

The campaign has now been rolled out across West Yorkshire. ACT is delivered at Strategic, Corporate and Operational levels and the new e-learning package has now been cascaded to thousands of businesses, statutory and third sector partners across the county. Some 2.8 million ACT modules have now been completed nationally.

Act Early

This new public facing website highlighting particularly the increased on-line threat during lock down has been developed by NCTPHQ and was officially launched in November 2020. The site is supported by an advice line and heralds Prevent as a strand of safeguarding while

educating viewers on threats, signs and referral routes. The site and help line are currently being evaluated and have already generated new referrals.

North East Regional Counter Terrorism Advisory Group

CTP North East continues to hold its Regional CTAG which has broad representation from across the diverse communities of the region. This will enable CTP-NE to directly consult West Yorkshire communities on relevant CT issues and strengthen the legitimacy of the services we provide going forwards.

Local Delivery

The National Prevent Referral Form and pathway have now been launched. The national referral form will be sent directly by referrers to CTP and Local Authority safeguarding hubs simultaneously.

Police Led Partnerships (PLPs) have now been implemented across West Yorkshire. PLPs will mirror Channel arrangements in that they will involve partners in conferencing managed cases but in circumstances in which cases are classed as 'Police Led' on the basis that we have been unable to obtain consent, where risk is higher or where disruptive tactics are appropriate.

'WYP Prevent Champions' 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. A recent CPD event saw ninety WYP Prevent Champions and partners gather at Carr Gate to update their knowledge and skills and build on this good work. This concept is now being rolled out to partnership agencies across West Yorkshire and C19 has not frustrated the comprehensive programme of training and CPD which has continued on-line.

Mental Health

Mental ill health and disabilities e.g. ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder), continue to feature as a significant vulnerability factor in radicalisation and increase the risks of individuals carrying out lone actor (henceforth to be known as Self-Initiated Terrorists) attacks particularly. Our Northern Vulnerability Support Hub approach has continued to operate remotely throughout Covid with specialist MH professionals advising on interventions and securing additional MH services as required. The current national review of these commissioning arrangements appears unlikely to affect local delivery.

Returnees from conflict zones and Afghanistan

Work with Local Authority Children's and Adult Social Care and District partners continues. This work ensures a greater level of preparedness should returnees from conflict zones return to the North East. A comprehensive set of plans which capture all elements of CT, Criminal Justice, safeguarding and Local Authority actions have been completed and provided a framework with which to dynamically respond to evacuation from Afghanistan. CTP has actively supported the governments humanitarian efforts in relation to Operation Warm Welcome and will continue to address any arising issues that are relevant to national security including vulnerability to radicalisation and aspiration to travel to support terrorism.

The Military

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 establishments) but have now published JSP345 (a Joint Services Protocol). This is the official MOD Policy on Prevent and will trigger each Service (RN, Army, and RAF) to produce their own policies, which will drive how Prevent is delivered.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

[Project Servator](#) (PDF 204KB)