Prevent Action Plan Cover Report

The Home Office current counter-terrorism strategy is known as the CONTEST strategy. There are four strands to CONTEST, known as the 'Four Ps':

Pursue lies within the realm of the police and security services. It is concerned with the apprehension and arrest of any persons suspected of being engaged in the planning, preparation or commission of a terrorist act.

Prevent is concerned with working with partners to reduce support for terrorism of all kinds, challenge extremists whose views are shared by terrorist organisations and challenging and isolating extremists operating on the internet.

Protect aims to strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack and reduce vulnerability to such attacks. This involves managing the risks to crowded places and the safeguarding of hazardous materials.

Prepare seeks to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack where that attack cannot be stopped. This includes work to bring a terrorist attack to an end and to increase resilience.

The Prevent Strand

The council's engagement with counter-terrorism takes place within the Prevent strand. The Prevent strand represents the safeguarding element of Contest. Prevent seeks to keep children, young people and adults safe from the harm of being drawn into terrorist activities. Following the commencement of the Prevent Duty on 1 July 2015, local authorities are required to fulfil a range of responsibilities as set out in the Prevent guidance. Broadly this work falls into the following categories:

• **Partnership** – local authorities should establish or make use of multi-agency groups to coordinate and monitor Prevent related activity.
• **Risk Assessment** – local authorities should use Counter-Terrorism Local Profiles to assess the risk of individuals being drawn into terrorism in their local area.
• **Action Plan** – Using the risk assessment, if the local authority assesses a risk in the local area, a Prevent action plan should be developed to prioritise and facilitate delivery of projects, activities or specific interventions to reduce the risk of people being drawn into terrorism in the local authority.

• **Staff Training** – local authorities will be expected to ensure that appropriate frontline staff have a good understanding of Prevent and are trained to recognise the vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism and are aware of available programmes to deal with this issue. Local authority staff are expected to be aware of, and make appropriate referrals to, Channel, which has separately been placed on a statutory footing. (see below).

• **Use of local authority resources** – local authorities are expected to ensure that publicly owned venues and resources do not provide a profile for extremists. Consideration should also be given as to whether IT equipment available to the general public should limit access to terrorist and extremist material. New contracts for the delivery of services in a local authority should reflect the principles of the duty in a suitable form.

• **Other agencies and organisations supporting children** – a range of private and voluntary agencies provide services or exercise functions for children, for example children's homes, independent fostering agencies, and bodies exercising local authority functions. These bodies must ensure as part of their local authority safeguarding arrangements that staff are aware of Prevent.

• **Out of school settings supporting children** – local authorities should take steps to understand the range of activity in their area and take appropriate and proportionate steps to ensure that children attending such settings are appropriately safeguarded.

The Channel process

The Channel process is part of Prevent. Channel is essentially asa key part of the safeguarding process, which means that partner agencies cooperate on multi-disciplinary work to minimise and manage risks to people who have been identified as being vulnerable.

They are likely to have been identified as holding extreme yet legitimate ideas but have been assessed as being at risk of moving from that position into one of criminality. In some cases they may be at risk because of exposure to such ideas and activities. Channel aims to keep them safe.

Channel seeks to involve vulnerable people in tailored support activities and offer them as much choice as possible in the intervention process. It should be stressed that people involved in the Channel process do so voluntarily and have not committed any offence.

Channel is completely confidential and completely open. The person at risk is approached and can decline to take part in an intervention. A person who has been identified as being at risk is referred to the local Channel Panel. A decision is made to whether to go ahead with an intervention or the person is deemed unsuitable and is exited from the process.

If it is decided that an intervention should proceed, the person will be contacted. This initial contact will usually be made by the police. An intervention provider will be appointed to work with the person at risk with their consent or the consent of their parents. The case will be reviewed after six months to see whether the intervention can be ended or whether it should continue.

There is no danger of future career prospects being damaged through an employer asking for a Criminal Records Bureau check. No criminal act has taken place so no record would be kept. Channel is neither a profiling nor an intelligence gathering exercise.

PREVENT ACTION PLAN REPORT

The Prevent Strategy is part of the Government's wider Counter-Terrorism Strategy called CONTEST. There are four work streams within CONTEST:

- *Pursue:* to stop terrorist attacks;
- *Prevent:* to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism;
- *Protect:* to strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack; and
- *Prepare:* to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack.

The Prevent strand which is the responsibility of a range of bodies including local authorities, schools (of all forms, state, free, academies and independent), Further Education Colleges and Universities, Clinical Commissioning Groups and Hospital Trusts, the Probation Service including Community Rehabilitation Companies and Prisons includes:

- responding to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it;
- preventing people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support; and
- working with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address.

The initial actions that will deliver the local Prevent responsibilities are set out below and have been considered by the Problem Solving Panel and the Security Review Board as well as by Safer Harrow. These actions are based on the Prevent Risk Assessment for Harrow.

	Description	Actions	Partners and Resources	Milestones/Outcomes	By not later than
			Governance		
1	Establish a Prevent Working Group to develop and implement actions to meet the Prevent	Form a multi-agency Working Group to take forward the Prevent agenda	• Prevent Lead • Safeguarding Expert • Police • Voluntary and Community sector	• Report progress on Prevent to Safer Harrow quarterly	• January 2016

	Description	Actions	Partners and Resources	Milestones/Outcomes	By not later than
	objectives		• A Head Teacher • Further Education rep • Policy Team • Communications Team		
2	Continue support for the Channel programme with closer alignment to the safeguarding and risk management measures already in place for adults and young people.	• Identify individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism; • assess the nature and extent of that risk; and • develop the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned	• MPS SO15 Channel officers • Prevent Lead • Staff in referring agencies • Children's Safeguarding and LSCB • Adults Safeguarding and LSAB • Mental Health	• Regular meetings of Channel Panel to ensure effective management of cases.	• Ongoing
3	Achieve closer alignment with existing safeguarding and risk management measures.	• Ensure that we are meeting the overall needs of people referred to Channel and protecting the community.	• MPS SO15 Channel officers • Staff in Adult and Children safeguarding services • Staff in Adult & Community Learning Service • Prevent Lead.	• Explore potential for closer alignment • Protocols for alignment to be agreed	• March 2016 and annual review
4	Prepare and distribute guidance on letting Council and other publicly owned buildings so	• Ensure that Council staff and school staff who manage letting premises and staff who may have to decide to refuse a	• Prevent Lead • MPS SO15 Channel officers	• All publicly owned but non-Council or school buildings identified and owners/decision-makers made aware of	• Council buildings and schools by March 2016 • All other

	Description	Actions	Partners and Resources	Milestones/Outcomes	By not later than
	that they do not provide a venue for extremists or the dissemination of extremist views	booking are aware of this.		issue. • Awareness raising and training delivered	publicly owned buildings by June 2016
5	Ensure that publicly available IT equipment and equipment located in schools which is accessible by pupils is not capable of displaying extremist or terrorist material	• Review and if necessary extend the filters applied to publicly available IT equipment	• Prevent Lead • Library, Sport and Leisure • HSIP • Further Education rep • Adult & Community Learning Service • IT Service/Sopra Steria	• All publicly available IT equipment and equipment located in schools which is accessible by pupils has appropriate filters installed	• March 2016
6	Ensure that organisations who work with the local authority on Prevent are not engaged in any extremist activity or espouse extremist views.	• Draw up list of organisations working on Prevent with the Council; • Seek formal confirmation from them that they comply with this expectation	• Prevent Lead	• Refresh list annually • Maintain file of confirmations	• Annual update of list of contractors and organisations funded
7	When new contracts for the delivery of Council services are let, ensure that the principles of the Prevent Duty are written in to those contracts in a suitable form.	• Prepare standard addition to contracts • Add the standard addition to all new contracts	• Prevent Lead • Legal • Procurement • Grant and SDLA support Voluntary and Community Sector • Sub-contracted providers for Adult &	• All new contracts include Prevent Duty.	• With effect from 1st January 2016

	Description	Actions	Partners and Resources	Milestones/Outcomes	By not later than
			Community Learning Service		
8	Scope the range of out-of school settings including supplementary schools and tuition centres to support home education and take appropriate and proportionate steps to ensure that children attending such settings are properly safeguarded (which should include considering whether children attending such settings are at risk of being drawn into extremism or terrorism).	• Update Safeguarding policies to ensure that they take account of these settings; • Compile a list of such settings and whether they subscribe to voluntary accreditation schemes to safeguard the children in their care. • Where safeguarding concerns arise, actively consider how to make use of the full range of powers available to reduce the risks to children, including relevant planning and health and safety powers.	• Prevent Lead • Children's Services • Communities • MPS SO15 Channel officers	• Identify which, if any, settings to support home education give rise to concerns in relation to Prevent and arrange multi-disciplinary meetings to consider action.	• Start of the summer term 2016
9	Support local schools and colleges in meeting new government and Ofsted guidance on extremism.	• Develop a package of guidance and training support on extremism issues for schools	• Education Strategy and School Organisation • Prevent Lead • HSIP	• Introductory letter sent to all schools and colleges • Briefing for head teachers • Safeguarding guidance and training offer to schools • All schools and	• January 2016 for production of guidance and arranging briefing of Head Teachers. • Align other training with HSCB

	Description	Actions	Partners and Resources	Milestones/Outcomes	By not later than
				colleges to have policies in place.	programme
10	Support school and FE College Governors to fulfil their obligation to assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology.	• Develop a shared view of the risks in the Borough as a basis from which individual schools can develop their own risk assessment	• Prevent Lead • MPS SO15 Channel officers • Education Strategy and School Organisation • HSIP	• Schools and FE Colleges fulfil their Prevent Duty	• January 2016 to share our risk assessment
			Engagement		
11	Active engagement with community groups and support for their communications messaging on extremism and safer giving.	• Increase community role in tackling extremism. • Development of credible community voices.	• Harrow Interfaith Council • Harrow SACRE • Local community organisations • Harrow Prevent Lead • MPS SO15 Prevent officers. • Sub-contracted providers of Adult & Community Learning Service	• Messaging to be developed and agreed • Messages to be promoted to and by community groups • Mosques to consider issuing a statement condemning ISIS.	• Safer Giving messaging already established • Discussion with VCS Forum and VAH about messaging by February 2016

	Description	Actions	Partners and Resources	Milestones/Outcomes	By not later than
12	Increase awareness of the Channel programme amongst frontline partnership agencies and community organisations.	• Ensure that individuals at risk are in contact with agencies and organisations are referred to Channel when appropriate.	• Prevent Lead • MPS SO15 Channel officers	• Increase awareness via training and communications	• Ongoing
13	Devise forum for Young People (and, potentially other people as well) to explore ideas in a safe setting	• Consider developing programme based around the Think Programme run in Wales	• Prevent Lead and working group	• Provide space to explore ideas and reality check beliefs	• When resources allow
14	Raise awareness of schools and FE Colleges about the CHANNEL process that supports individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism and the risk thresholds that apply as well as the social care interventions that can support safeguarding.	• Prepare training materials for schools and FE Colleges	• Prevent Lead • MPS SO15 Channel officers • Education Strategy and School Organisation • HSIP • Adult & Community Learning Service	• Schools and FE Colleges fulfil their Prevent Duty • School and FE College staff will have the knowledge to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism, and to challenge extremist ideas which can be used to legitimise terrorism and are shared by terrorist groups	• See 9 above
15	Raise awareness of schools regarding suitability and supervision of	• Prepare training materials for schools	• Prevent Lead • MPS SO15 Channel officers • Education Strategy	• Schools and FE Colleges fulfil their Prevent Duty	• January 2016

	Description	Actions	Partners and Resources	Milestones/Outcomes	By not later than
	visiting speakers		and School Organisation • HSIP •		
Communications					
16	Use partner communications channels to increase awareness of the threat of terrorism and responses to their staff and the community	• Reduction in the pool of local people at risk of engaging with extremism.	• Safer Harrow Partnership member agencies	• Prevent branding and messaging to appear on partner websites and other media	• From January 2016 and ongoing
Training					
17	Prevent awareness training for frontline staff in the council, partner agencies and community organisations	• Ensure that staff in contact with potentially at risk individuals are able to identify them as such and respond appropriately. • Increase overall Prevent 'coverage' in the borough to reduce the chances of at risk individuals being 'missed'.	• Prevent Lead • MPS SO15 Prevent Officers	• Council and partner agency to identify frontline staff for training • Training to be delivered	• WRAP training programme already in place to be continued
18	Prevent awareness training for Senior Management, Councillors and School Governors	• Ensure that these groups are aware of the duty and the responsibilities of their organisations	• Prevent Lead • MPS SO15 Prevent Officers	• Training to be delivered	• To be aligned with Governors Support Unit but annually
19	Prevent work with staff working with	• Ensure that staff working on gangs related issues	• Gang Project Co-ordinator	• Training to be delivered	• See 18 above

	Description	Actions	Partners and Resources	Milestones/Outcomes	By not later than
	gangs and gang members.	are Prevent trained. • Enhance Prevent response to gang members/former gang members who are at elevated risk of being attracted by terrorist ideologies when exiting gangs.	• Youth Offending Service • Prevent Lead • Ignite • Fire Service • Wealdstone Project		
20	Up date Children's Safeguarding policies to include the Prevent Duty	• Ensure that the updated Safeguarding Policy is brought to the attention of private and voluntary agencies and organisations which provide services or, in some cases, exercise functions in relation to children. • Consider offering training to the staff of these bodies. • Provide training to the staff of Early Years providers	• Prevent Lead • LSCB • Children's Services • MPS SO15 Channel officers • Early Years Services	• Safeguarding Policy updated and distributed • HSCB to test penetration of updated policies • Consideration of training for staff of private and voluntary agencies and organisations	• March 2016 • Safer Harrow to consider when list is available • As resources are available
21	Monitoring and testing the effectiveness of local arrangements for taking forward the Prevent agenda	• Identify and implement improvements to Prevent arrangements as they arise. • Undertake an annual review of the	• Safer Harrow • Prevent Lead • HCSB • HASB • MPS SO15 Prevent Officers	• Formal annual reviews of effectiveness • Implementations of review findings	• Annually and Ongoing

	Description	Actions	Partners and Resources	Milestones/Outcomes	By not later than
		effectiveness of local arrangement s and the implementation of this action plan. • Implement findings of such reviews	• Others as appropriate		