

Title: Community Safety Partnership - Prevent Update

Report

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Ward(s) affected: All Wards

Report for Key/

Non Key Decision: Non key-decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 This briefing note details information about the Prevent programme, its key priorities and local delivery. Haringey is a priority prevent area and as such, the programme is fully funded by the Home Office’s Office of Security and Counter Terrorism (OSCT).
- 1.2 This work aims to combat extremism in all its forms with the aim of creating a safe and secure borough. Prevent now forms part of the ‘Stronger Communities’ brief and is located within the Community Safety Unit.
- 1.3 Following a successful pilot, Haringey is a Dovetail authority whereby the Channel programme is managed and administered by the local authority rather than the police.
- 1.4 Haringey’s Prevent Strategy is aimed at preventing violent and non-violent extremism by protecting our communities and supporting vulnerable people who may be targeted by extremists trying to recruit or radicalise them.
- 1.5 There is no single profile of a person who may be vulnerable to grooming by extremists. The Prevent programme relies on close partnership working, community support and information to identify and safeguard vulnerable people and the wider community.
- 1.6 The 2015 Counter-Terrorism and Security Act places a statutory duty on local authorities and specified agencies to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. These specified agencies include but are not limited to; local authorities, health, probation, police; social services; early help; education.
- 1.7 Due to these statutory obligations, Prevent remains a key local priority for Haringey. This priority supports a number of ongoing workstreams in Haringey including the Community Safety Strategy, the Young People at Risk Strategy and the Borough Plan.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Board notes the contents of this report;

3. Managing Counter-Terrorism Risk

- 3.1 Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. The programme uses a multi-agency approach to protect vulnerable people by identifying individuals at risk, assessing the nature and extent of that risk and by developing the most appropriate support plan for individuals concerned.
- 3.2 Section 36 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 set out a duty on local authorities and partners of local panels to provide support for people vulnerable to being drawn into any form of terrorism. Channel is appropriate for anyone who is vulnerable to being drawn into any form of terrorism.
- 3.3 Channel is about ensuring that vulnerable children and adults of any faith, ethnicity or background receives support before their vulnerabilities are exploited by those that would want them to embrace terrorism, and before they become involved in criminal terrorist activity.
- 3.4 The Haringey Channel Panel includes but is not limited to the following agency partners; early help; social care; education; housing partners; SO15 Counter-Terrorism Policing; probation; CAMHS. The Haringey Channel Panel meets monthly and is currently chaired by the Assistant Director for Stronger Communities.
- 3.5 From April 2018 to April 2019, 20 concerns were raised with panel, 12 concerns went on to referral, with 7 becoming active Channel cases. 18-19 figures highlight a slight drop in referrals from the period 17-18, which can be accounted for by the improvement in the quality of referrals as a result of the roll out of widespread Prevent training across statutory partners.
- 3.6 The most common age groups for individual concerns raised, appear in the 11-15, 16-20, 26-30 age brackets. Additional safeguarding concerns from individuals referred include: Mental health, learning disabilities, history of drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, school exclusions.
- 3.7 Intervention Providers (IP) have been commissioned by the Home Office to work with individual cases where an IP has been deemed suitable in forming part of developing the most appropriate support. IP's specialise in providing ideological intervention, counselling and de-radicalisation support- in the most advanced cases.

4. Prevent Priorities

- 4.1 Prevent in Haringey aims to deliver an extensive and thorough training programme to all frontline staff in the borough. The training offers to deliver a workshop to raise awareness of Prevent (WRAP). This workshop supports professionals in recognising what makes people vulnerable to radicalisation and the steps that can be taken to offer support to prevent extremism. Since April 2019, 172 professionals have received this training.
- 4.2 In February 2018, Haringey Council appointed their first Prevent Education Officer (PEO). The PEO leads on the implementation of Prevent within Haringey's education settings. As part of this work, he supports schools by offering expert safeguarding advice and training sessions pertaining to preventing vulnerable young people from being radicalised or carrying out extremist acts.

- 4.3 The PEO supports schools in the promotion of Fundamental British Values (Democracy, Individual Liberty, Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs and Rule of Law), resilience building within the curriculum, policies and procedures which reflect the duty requirements.
- 4.4 The PEO also engages with non-mainstream education, including supplementary schools and madrassahs. As these settings do not have Prevent statutory obligations, it is harder to engage them.
- 4.5 There is often mistrust of the Prevent agenda in voluntary sector organisations. In order to combat this, in July 2019 Haringey set up a bi-monthly Community Prevent Advisory Group (CPAG). This group is chaired by Councillor Blake and different community venues are used during each meeting.
- 4.6 The overarching objective of the CPAG is to benefit the communities of Haringey, by advising on a programme of work which aims to reduce the risk of radicalisation in line with the national Prevent strategy. This includes (but is not limited to) relevant education and training, tailored advice and guidance.

5. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 5.1 This work contributes to the Contest Strategy (The United Kingdom’s Strategy for Countering Terrorism), our Haringey Borough Plan priority 2, and the Haringey Community Safety Strategy.
- 5.2 Officers and partners work strategically across related work areas and boards such as Safeguarding Children and Adults.
- 6. Use of Appendices
n/a
- 7. **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**