

ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
24 September 2015 at 7.00 pm

Further to the despatch of agenda and papers for the above meeting, please find the following background document(s):

9. **Anti-Social Behaviour Crime & Policing Act 2014**

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Kelly Webb

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Sevenoaks District Prevent Action Plan 2015-16



Introduction

The national Prevent Strategy is part of the Government's counter-terrorism strategy, Contest. It aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting extremism. It addresses all forms of terrorism but continues to prioritise according to the threat posed to national security. At present, the most significant terrorist threat faced by the UK comes from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) along with the continued threat from Al Qaida, its affiliates and like-minded terrorist organisations inspired by violent extremism.

In August 2014, the national threat level was raised from 'Substantial' to 'Severe' interpreted as a terrorist attack being 'highly likely'. It is important to emphasise that this is a reflection of the *national* threat and does not mean that our own geographical area (Sevenoaks District) faces the same degree of risk. The Home Office categorises Local Authority areas across the UK on the basis of risk as either Priority (Tiers 1 and 2) or Non-Priority Areas (Tier 3) and Kent and Medway have both been deemed to fall within Tier 3. Nonetheless, the Counter Terrorism and Security Act received Royal Assent on 12 February 2015, placing the Prevent Programme on a statutory footing and Part 5 of the Act (Chapter 1 s. 26-35) places a general duty on all specified authorities to, when exercising their functions, have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

The intensified and daily-changing nature of the threat, particularly from those seeking to travel to or from Syria, has the potential to affect areas beyond the London Boroughs or locations deemed priority areas and as such, all Local Authorities will need to be fully involved in fulfilling the new responsibilities created by the Act.

The three specific objectives of Prevent still stand and focus on:

1. Challenging the ideology that supports terrorism and those who promote it;
2. Protecting vulnerable individuals: to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support;
3. Supporting sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation.

Sevenoaks District is committed to working with partner agencies both within the public and private sector and with community and voluntary groups to support the national Prevent objectives and fulfil statutory obligations through the delivery of activities that focus on the local objectives of:

- Embedding Prevent into the mainstream (supporting key services through workforce development, ensuring that the positive input that can be made by local Councillors is fully utilised and sharing good practice with partner agencies);
- Safeguarding groups or individuals most vulnerable to extremism (ensuring that relevant connections are made between services that have ‘vulnerability-based’ agendas e.g. Families First, Supported Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children, Homelessness) and ensuring that robust multi-agency safeguarding arrangements are in place;
- Building long-term resilience within communities (identifying, understanding and countering extremist ideologies in partnership with local community, faith and voluntary groups and a range of institutions e.g. education providers).

In fulfilling the new duty, Local Authorities, including elected Members and senior officers (together with many of the other specified authorities set out within the Act) will be expected to be carrying out activity in the following 5 key areas:

- Partnership Working
- Risk Assessment and Addressing Local Priorities
- Action Plan Development
- Staff Training
- Use of Local Authority Resources

Sevenoaks District Prevent Action Plan provides a structured programme of work that aims to fulfil our local objectives whilst simultaneously taking on board recommendations made by Government.

1. Partnership Working

<p>Legislative requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish or make use of an existing local multi-agency group to agree risk and coordinate Prevent activity; • Local or regional Prevent coordinators to have access to senior Local Authority leadership to give advice and support; • Local multi-agency groups to put in place arrangements to effectively monitor the impact of Prevent work.
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Ref.	Action	Progress	Timeframe	Lead agencies
1.1	To establish robust governance for Prevent delivery as stipulated within the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 by 1 September 2015, using the quarterly CSP meetings and CSU daily briefing (on a monthly basis) to agree risk and coordinate local Prevent activity.	<p>This will be added as a standard agenda item on the Partnership meetings.</p> <p>The action plan will be updated on the first Thursday of every month at the CSU Daily Briefing.</p> <p>It will be added into the Strategic Assessment Process.</p> <p>Sevenoaks District Community Safety Strategy & Action Plan 2015-2016 & Anti Social Behaviour Strategy 2015-16 will be updated to incorporate Prevent</p>	<p>Sept 2015</p> <p>Jul 2015</p> <p>Nov 2015</p> <p>Sept 2015</p>	Sevenoaks DC (CSU), Kent Police
1.2	To ensure that the Prevent coordinators have access to senior Local Authority leadership.	<p>Access arrangements are in place and a very good working relationship exists between Council officers and Prevent coordinators.</p> <p>Feedback is received to CSUs via the Kent Prevent Board. This also enables a line of communication to be maintained between the latter and Council senior management. Council CSU Officers ensure that Council senior management are kept apprised of progress and changing circumstances.</p>	Continuous	Sevenoaks DC (CSU), Kent CC, Kent Police

2. Risk Assessment and Addressing Local Priorities

Legislative requirements				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the existing Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP), produced by Police, to begin to assess the risk of individuals being drawn into terrorism. This includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism (the risk assessment should also be informed by engagement with partner agencies); • Incorporate the duty into existing policies and procedures so that it becomes part of the day-to-day work of the Authority (ensuring that there are clear and robust safeguarding policies to identify children/adults at risk). 				

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Ref.	Action	Progress	Timeframe	Lead agency
2.1	Obtain and consider contents of the latest CTLP to assess current risks of both violent and non-violent extremism.	The Chief Executive will be briefed on the contents of the CTLP by the Kent Police Prevent Officer on 6 July 2015. This section will be updated after our report has been received.	Jul 2015	Sevenoaks DC (CSU), Kent Police
2.2	To deliver projects if needed and continue engagement with the community in Sevenoaks District.	The CSP will use a small amount of funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner funding for any initiatives that come up from the profile. Kent and Medway Prevent Steering Group also have a funding stream which the CSP can apply to.	Oct 2015	Kent Police, CSU
2.3	To continue to share information across Borough/District boundaries to assist with the early identification of gang criminality that may also be linked to radicalisation.	To do this through the regular Community Safety Managers meetings and take forward joint projects where necessary	Ongoing	CSP

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2.4	To incorporate the Prevent duty into existing safeguarding policies and procedures including Emergency Planning and Business Continuity.	Currently all Council reports and policies make reference to any community safety considerations (under s.17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998) in their 'Implications' section. Any concerns/risks identified as linked/potentially linked to terrorism, radicalisation or extremism should be recorded in this section.	Sept 2015	Sevenoaks DC
2.5	To work jointly with BCRP (Sevenoaks District Business Crime Reduction Partnership) to raise awareness of Prevent messages and referral processes amongst the business community.	<p>BCRP to include Prevent information in their newsletter and for a Prevent Workshop to be delivered to both BCRP Board and members meetings;</p> <p>Consideration to be given to using the Business Breakfast as an opportunity to provide a Prevent Workshop to the wider business community;</p> <p>Request businesses to display awareness-raising materials in staff areas.</p>	Sept-Dec 2015	Sevenoaks DC (CSU), BCRP

3. Staff Training and an Effective Referral Process

Legislative requirements	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure staff and Members have a good understanding of Prevent, are trained to recognise vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism/radicalisation and are aware of programmes to deal with the issue; • Ensure that there is an effective Channel referral process in place and that staff are clear on how to refer vulnerable people to Channel. 	

Ref.	Action	Progress	Timeframe	Lead agencies
3.1	To ensure that all staff complete the NCALT Prevent and Channel e-Learning Package as a mandatory requirement.	<p>The NCALT link to be provided to all staff that will be required to print out the certificate on completion and provide this to Human Resources for their files/records. This exercise takes approximately 20-30 minutes to complete; provision of the certificate will evidence full completion and will also allow the Council to provide a numerical record should this be required.</p> <p>NCALT to be incorporated into existing Induction Packages provided to new members of staff joining the Council with a mandatory requirement for completion.</p>	Jul-Sept 2015	Sevenoaks DC (CSU, all staff, Human Resources)
3.2	To ensure that all Members are asked to complete the NCALT Prevent and Channel e-Learning Package.	NCALT Link to be provided to all Members requesting that they complete it (mirroring the requirement imposed on staff).	Jul-Aug 2015	Sevenoaks DC (CSU), Council Members
3.3	To provide face-to-face training for smaller groups of front-line staff and Members as appropriate (and building our in-house capacity in order that this can be delivered without recourse to external partners).	Prevent training/briefings have historically been provided Kent Police Prevent Coordinators. However, new legislation and a reduction in resources have meant that these Officers are unable to meet the heavy demand for training provision. To address this, the CSU have agreed to be trained by Kent Police to deliver Prevent	<p>WRAP Training Jun/Jul 2015</p> <p>Training to staff/Members Sept/Oct 2015 and</p>	Sevenoaks DC (CSU), Kent Police

		briefings (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent) (WRAP)). They will be registered with and accredited by the Home Office and will be able to provide an in-house resource to deliver training to small groups of front-line staff and Members as required. (There will also be the potential to deliver training to community groups and local businesses subject to Managers other workload priorities).	then as required	
3.4	To ensure that there is an effective Channel Process in place through which referrals can be made.	<p>Kent County Council has produced draft Terms of Reference for a County-wide Channel Panel. These have been considered by the Kent and Medway Prevent Steering Group and are being presented to the Kent Chief Executives Group.</p> <p>Partners will take part of a Channel Panel if a referral is made.</p>	<p>Jul 2015</p> <p>On Going</p>	<p>Kent CC, Kent & Medway Prevent Steering Group</p> <p>CSP</p>

4. Use of Local Authority Resources

<p>Legislative requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that publicly-owned venues and resources do not provide a platform for extremists and are not used to disseminate extremist views. (This includes considering whether IT equipment available to the general public should use filtering solutions that limit access to terrorist and extremist material; • Ensure that organisations that work with the Local Authority on Prevent are not engaged in any extremist activity or espouse extremist views.

Ref.	Action	Progress	Timeframe	Lead agencies
4.1	To ensure that there is a responsible bookings policy in place that incorporates questions to raise awareness of Prevent-related issues.	<p>A Practical Guide to Venue Bookings has been provided by Kent Police that includes a succinct checklist that should be considered by venue booking staff and to which they should refer as a matter of routine. This will be provided to colleagues as appropriate by the CSU.</p> <p>Existing facilities management policies should be reviewed to ensure that risks of council facilities being used to advocate or promote extremist views are minimised (striking a balance between free speech and preventing threats to community cohesion).</p> <p>The Local Government Association has also produced guidance for Councils on this issue that will be forwarded to relevant colleagues by the CSU.</p> <p>Work with companies that manage buildings that SDC own</p>	Jul-Sept 2015	Kent Police CSU

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