

LEICESTERSHIRE SAFER COMMUNITIES STRATEGY BOARD

14TH JUNE 2019

LSCSB UPDATE: PREVENT

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on local Prevent delivery and our plans for the future.

Background

2. Prevent is part of the UK governments counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST, and it seeks to stop people from being drawn into terrorism. It does this by providing wraparound, multi-agency support to vulnerable individuals in order to safeguard them from radicalisation. It also raises awareness of, and builds resilience against radicalisation through projects such as youth workshops, outreach programmes, training and sports engagement.

Notable developments and challenges:

3. The developments and challenges for the past year were as follows:
 - Nationally, the current threat level for international terrorism in the UK is SEVERE, meaning that an attack is highly likely;
 - 19 terrorist plots have been foiled in the past 2 years (14 Islamist-inspired, 5 extreme right wing-inspired);
 - Prevent referrals have risen by 20% to 7,318 in 2017/18 (including a 36% rise in extreme right-related referrals);
 - Locally, the highest perceived risk is in the city, and the risk of terrorism in Leicestershire is low;
 - In the last 12 months, county referrals have increased and account for 41% of the total number of referrals for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (previously it was 20%);
 - Extreme right-wing referrals are the most common type of concerns raised by the county;
 - The majority of Prevent referrals come from the education sector (roughly 1/3);
 - Train the Trainer programme for 'Prevent Champions' delivered to county colleagues.
4. The developments and challenges for the coming year are as follows:
 - Nationally, an independent review of Prevent is due to commence in August 2019;

- Locally, the structure of Prevent delivery has evolved to incorporate even more partnership working. The county is represented on the Prevent Executive Group, the Prevent Steering Group and the Prevent Operational Leads Group (each of which meet quarterly.) These groups ensure continued compliance with the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and promote continued good practice from the local authority;
- In the coming year, Prevent will continue to support vulnerable people through the Channel process;
- We will also implement ten Prevent projects over the coming months that will address the threats and risks identified by the Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) in order to build resilience to radicalisation. Although the focus for these projects will be Leicester City, I am happy to include county locations on a case by case basis.

Key issues for partnership working or affecting partners

5. Partnership working and information sharing is vital for successful Channel interventions with vulnerable individuals so continued engagement in this process from county colleagues would be much appreciated. Currently, the Channel panel has good engagement from the county and it would be good to maintain this.
6. If Board members are aware of any particular issues- community tensions, incidents within an education setting etc. that merit a Prevent response, they are advised to inform the Prevent Co-ordinator. It may be appropriate to undertake some project delivery in these areas (e.g. a schools-based workshop in an institution that has made Prevent referrals, or is having difficulty implementing the strategy.)

Issues in local areas

7. Geographically, Leicester city is the priority area for Prevent delivery locally. That said, in the last 12 months, county referrals have increased and account for 41% of the total number of referrals for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (previously it was 20%.)
8. Please contact the Prevent Co-ordinator directly if you would like to host any of the Prevent projects in your respective areas.

Recommendations for the Board

9. That:
 - (a) The Board note the contents of the report.
 - (b) Through Community Safety Partnerships (CSP's) the Board;
 - Encourage continued engagement and representation on the relevant Prevent groups and Channel panel.

- Continue to develop and progress local action plans and feed into the Counter Terrorism Local Profile.

Officer to contact

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