

Leicestershire & Rutland  
Safer Communities Strategy  
Board



Making Leicestershire & Rutland Safer

## **LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND SAFER COMMUNITIES STRATEGY BOARD**

**27<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024**

### **HOME OFFICE – PREVENT LOCAL DELIVERY**

#### **Notable Updates:**

##### **1. New Government**

The following Ministers were appointed to the Home Office following the new government elected in July. Their portfolios have been divided as follows:

**The RT Hon Yvette Cooper** has been appointed as the new Home Secretary. The Secretary of State has overall responsibility for the departmental portfolio and oversight of the ministerial team. This includes cabinet, the National Security Council, oversight of the Security Service and public appointments.

**Dan Jarvis MP** has been appointed as Security Minister, with responsibilities including counter-terrorism, serious and organised crime, cybercrime, economic crime and hostile state activity.

**The Rt Hon Dame Diana Johnson** has been appointed Minister for Policing, Fire and Crime Prevention

**Dame Angela Eagle** has been appointed Minister for Border Security and Asylum

**The Rt Hon Lord Hanson of Flint** has been appointed Minister of State (Lords Minister)

**Seema Malhotra MP** has been appointed Minister for Migration and Citizenship

**Jess Phillips MP** has been appointed Minister for Safeguarding and Violence Against Women and Girls.

##### **2. Southport Incident**

Thank you to everyone in the network for your ongoing support in responding to the

horrific incident that took place on Monday 29 July. As this is a live investigation it would be inappropriate for the Home Office to comment further, as to do so could risk prejudicing the ongoing criminal proceedings and it is vital that we get justice for the victims and their families.

### **3. Recent Public Disorder**

We have seen unprecedented levels of disorder and violence across our streets over the past few weeks. We wanted to thank all of you in the Prevent Network who have been working tirelessly to support local responses, including providing us with high quality local insight and community sentiment, which has helped inform the national response.

Please continue sharing any community sentiment to [PreventAreas@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:PreventAreas@homeoffice.gov.uk) copying your HSG Prevent Adviser (Steph Robb).

The Home Office has made immediate funding available to support **protective security at mosques** which are at risk of violent disorder. Emergency support is only available for mosques or Muslim community centres which have been targeted or are likely to be targeted, based on supplying evidence. For more information please contact [psvc@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:psvc@homeoffice.gov.uk).

We fully appreciate that the current disorder is worrying both from a professional and personal perspective, and you may be concerned about your **personal safety**. On 13 August we sent around some external guidance on promoting safety and security. If you didn't receive this or have any concerns please get in touch Steph or Siobhan.

### **4. Counter Extremism Sprint**

The recent violent disorder has shown the damage done to social cohesion by echo chambers on social media, presenting an extremist view of the world to its users. The hateful content circulating online has manifested in some people across the country acting out their extreme right-wing views.

The Government's manifesto included the commitment to redoubling efforts to counter extremism, including online, to stop people being radicalised and drawn towards hateful ideologies. To rapidly build on the existing foundations for this area of work the Home Secretary has commissioned a sprint, led by the Home Office but working with MHCLG and with other government departments. The sprint will consider our current understanding of extremism and what new action can be taken to tackle it across the breadth of our work – from political violence to social cohesion. This will include identifying gaps in our knowledge and developing plans to close them; listening and learning from all voices across government, academia, frontline practitioners, and international partners; reviewing our structures and capabilities as well as the tools and powers currently used to tackle extremists both online and in

person; and developing a more coherent and strategic approach to Countering Extremism for the future.

## **5. Ideology Training**

Throughout the last 12 months, staff and colleagues were invited to participate in the Commission for Countering Extremism's **ideology training** for practitioners following the publication of the Independent Review of Prevent.

In total, 193 practitioners have attended so far and the CCE are keen that those who were unable to make the previous sessions try to attend. The training is delivered by experts in their fields and is in-person, giving you the opportunity to network directly with subject matter experts. To alleviate pressures on your calendars, the sessions no longer run on consecutive days and are now spaced out across the year.

The training programme will provide attendees with an in-depth history of Islamist and Extreme Right-Wing ideologies and how they have evolved into the threats you are tackling today. In parallel we are also running a separate programme on antisemitism, recognising that this uniquely runs through all extreme ideologies and conspiracies. A final programme on anti-Muslim hate will be forthcoming, final dates TBC. These training programmes will also be an important opportunity for face-to-face discussions with extremism experts and practitioners across the Prevent network, including Local Coordinators, Channel Panel Chairs, Counter-Terrorism Police, Prevent Education Officers, and Higher Education and Further Education Coordinators.

Please use Eventbrite to book onto the courses:

[Islamist Extremism Ideology Training](#)  
[Antisemitism Training](#)  
[Extreme Right Wing Ideology Training](#)

You can contact Siobhán or Steph if you have any questions, or you can contact the CCE directly - [info@counteringextremism.gov.uk](mailto:info@counteringextremism.gov.uk).

Please note that you can only book onto these events 2 months prior to the date.

## **6. Prevent and Mental Health**

Following the Forbury Gardens terror attack in June 2020, the [Prevention of Future Deaths report \(May 2024\)](#) highlighted a:

### ***Failure by Prevent to correctly assess risk, by over emphasising mental health difficulties***

In light of this report we thought it would be helpful to restate the policy position on mental health and Prevent for all our frontline practitioners. As set out in the statutory [Prevent duty guidance](#), if there is a concern about potential radicalisation or a reason to believe that someone is at risk of becoming involved in terrorism or supporting it, a referral should be made. If other support mechanisms are simultaneously required or being considered, these should proceed unless there is a good reason not to do so.

The presence of mental ill-health does not exclude a person from being suitable for Prevent. Prevent does not only act as a safeguard to individuals, but it also manages the potential terrorist risk posed by those accessing support. This means that where both mental ill-health difficulties and radicalisation concerns are present, a Prevent referral should be made. Safeguarding (e.g. Social Care services) and Channel can run in tandem, as each hold different responsibilities. While safeguarding is concerned with risk *to* the person, Channel also considers the potential harm that could be caused *by* the person, in terms of their terrorism risk.

In summary, where Prevent concerns are present, these **MUST NOT** be dismissed or accounted for based on a person's mental ill-health.

Further advice has also been shared with CTCOs and those in the decision-making chain.

National learning, such as from Prevention of Future Deaths reports, are an important way to ensure we continually improve Prevent to effectively manage risk. Thank you for your continued efforts to ensure those at risk of radicalisation are offered the support they need.

### **7. Prevent Duty Trainer Portal and Pilot**

The Prevent Duty Trainer Portal is a Home Office resource designed to provide authorised trainers across England, Wales and Scotland access to training resources to facilitate high quality face-to-face training sessions on Prevent within their organisation.

It is designed to be delivered in-person or virtually and as an alternative to the Home Office GOV.UK Prevent duty training service.

We have been piloting the Trainer Portal with the aim of providing a small group of trainers with early access to the portal and gather valuable trainer and learner feedback. There have been a number of waves of the pilot, with the final wave that started on 2nd September and running until 4th October 2024 (for Education colleagues only).

Following this last pilot wave, there will be a final iteration and review period before the Prevent Duty trainer portal will go live.

The Portal is a voluntary Home Office resource that authorised trainers in sectors under the Prevent duty can choose to use, to deliver Prevent training in line with their mandatory requirements. This service is available to Prevent trainers who have a good understanding of local Prevent risks and / or have previous experience of delivering training. Trainers will be identified by their local or regional Prevent Trainer Portal Leads, who are responsible in providing trainers access to the portal.

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