

REPORT TO: STANDING CRIME SCRUTINY PANEL**DATE: Thursday 11 January 2018****REPORT TITLE: Prevent work to tackle radicalisation****REPORT AUTHOR/S:****Suj Ponnampalam****Sujeevan.ponnampalam@enfield.gov.uk****020 8379 6137****PURPOSE OF REPORT:****An update to provide information on how this national strategy is being implemented locally.****SUMMARY: This report aims to give a brief update on how the Prevent strategy is being implemented and provides details on how vulnerable people are safeguarded away from radicalisation.****1. BACKGROUND**

In Enfield we work to reduce the risk of radicalisation through the Prevent programme, this is achieved mainly by focussing our efforts on safeguarding individuals especially those that have been identified as vulnerable. To do this we regularly engage and work with teachers, social care staff and many other organisations to offer support to those who are deemed to be at risk, enable them to understand what radicalisation is so they are able to offer support and also for them to understand what support is available. We have also helped to build resilience within the community by empowering the community to resist extremist influences and give a platform for moderate speakers. It is worth remembering that Prevent aims to work with all forms of terrorism whether it is foreign inspired, far right or any other ideology. It's also worth noting that a far right organisation having been banned recently by the home secretary using counter-terrorism laws.

To bolster our Prevent programme in Enfield we have recruited two extra staff in November 2017. This was achieved by obtaining grant funding from the Home Office through its Office for Security and Counter Terrorism which already provides funding for the existing post and projects. This includes a dedicated Prevent Education Officer to work with local schools, teachers and other educational establishments by providing specific support. This is expected to increase the support we provide to schools, colleges and other educational establishments in Enfield. We have also recruited a part time officer to improve our work with communities to enable them to understand

the support that is available and improve our level of engagement. We continue to provide targeted workshops for front line officers including social workers and housing officers. This workshop is called WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent) which is available online and in person.

By working with key partners and understanding their needs, we have delivered a number of projects. We have worked with our schools to enable critical thinking amongst our young people, enabled classroom activity that encourage tolerance, respect and provides children with the tools to challenge negative influences. We have worked with communities to strengthen their resilience against radicalisation and provided support and key messages to parents who want to know more about online dangers and risk of radicalisation to their children.

2. ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Nothing to note

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

For information only.

4. NEXT STEPS

Earlier in December 2017 David Anderson QC reported on the findings from the terrorist attacks in 2017. In his report he highlighted the need for improved communication between various security agencies and the dangers posed by extremist material online. There was also emphasis for appropriate referrals to Prevent to ensure effective safeguards are put in place. To support this we regularly engage with frontline staff and professionals to ensure they understand the referral processes in Enfield.

With the situation in Syria evolving and ISIL continuing to lose territory, the Home Office has indicated that there are likely to be British children and families returning to the UK. These families may require targeted and proportionate support to aid their reintegration into schools and local communities. The Home Office have offered limited support by working with Catch 22 and the Tavistock & Portman Mental Health Trust where necessary. One of the key elements of Enfield's Prevent support is through the monthly Channel programme, which has similarities to a multi-agency safeguarding panel. The panel receives concerns about vulnerable individuals and the needs are assessed along with any risks that the police may highlight suggesting terrorism or radicalisation concerns. The support is voluntary and where this is accepted the panel is able to bring to the table unique Home Office approved intervention providers who have experience in tackling the radicalisation of individuals and are able to offer one to one support and mentoring.

The Home Office have indicated that it is their intention to move the case management and administration of the Channel Panel from the Police to the

Local Authority. This is being brought in at stages over the country and London is expected to be near the end in 2019. There are a number of consultation events taking place and some of the key issues remain to be ironed out.

Looking forward, the threat from terrorism remains severe. The patterns of radicalisation are changing and travel to conflict areas may be getting smaller in number but the country is starting to receive returnees from these conflict areas. Our work to engage communities and provide vital support still remains as important as ever.