

Report of the Strategic Director Place, to the meeting of Bradford West Area Committee to be held on 17th November 2022

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Subject:

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE PREVENT TEAM IN THE
BRADFORD WEST AREA**

Summary statement:

The report outlines the work carried out in support of the Prevent strategy in the last twelve months in the Bradford West Area. It includes more detail about specific items raised at the Area Committee meeting held on 22nd September 2022.

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EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

Equality objectives

Objective 1

We will lead the Council and the District in an open, visible and accountable way with zero tolerance for discriminatory behaviour

Our District Prevent Plan is shared across the district and published on the Council's Safeguarding Website. The Counter Terrorism Local Profile is also shared with partners on an annual basis. The work of the Prevent team is accountable to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and we report back to them annually.

Objective 2:

We will work proactively to ensure that our workforce (at all levels) reflects the communities we serve and support all staff to achieve their full potential.

Work proactively to ensure that our workforce reflects the communities we serve and support all staff to achieve their full potential. Staff are regularly sent on Home Office, CTU and LA training to keep up to date with new materials and findings that relate to our work.

Objective 3

We will encourage all service areas to better understand our communities. We will actively engage with our communities to help people participate in decision-making processes, to improve the services we provide, and to enable more people to take part in the life in the District.

Encourage all services to better understand communities and actively engage communities to participate with decision making. We hold regular roundtable events in all district in Bradford to get the views of the community, we also have Prevent Champions across education, as well as a bi annual Prevent Advisory Group. We actively encourage feedback to our training and have recently held library information sessions to engage with the community across the District. Our projects work with communities across Bradford and we take feedback from all of these sources before making decisions about future Prevent work.

Objective 4

We will design, commission and deliver services that are accessible, inclusive and responsive to the needs of people and communities. We will provide information about services in a range of accessible formats so that people know what services are available to support them and how to access them.

We will aim to contract and commission locally wherever possible so that we can support our local economy. This will help us build a local supply chain connected to its wider social responsibilities and offering high-quality employment and training opportunities to local people, while delivering equitable services that are value for money.

Design, commission and deliver services that are accessible, inclusive and responsive to the needs of local people and communities. Provide services in a range of formats. We engage with communities and use information from the local CTLP, neighbourhood policing teams, schools and community groups, Prevent Champions and the Prevent

Advisory Group to ensure that the services, projects and resources we deliver respond to the needs of our communities. We ensure that we meet with groups beforehand to assess additional needs and also take feedback to assess how well these have been met.

1. SUMMARY

The report outlines the work carried out in support of the Prevent strategy in the last twelve months in the Bradford West Area. It includes more detail about specific items raised at the Area Committee meeting held on 22nd September 2022.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 At the Bradford West Roundtable on 2nd August 2022, the Prevent Team agreed to feedback to the Bradford West Committee on the work of Prevent in the Bradford West District and its impact.

2.2 On 22nd September 2022 the Committee asked for more a more detailed picture about the constituency. In particular, the Committee asked for the following, in addition to anything else they felt was appropriate:

- Which venues and how many venues had been utilised.
- The gender and ethnicity of the people the Prevent team were targeting and working with.
- The membership of the Prevent Advisory Group.
- Statistics which were reported quarterly to the Home Office.
- Specific information on what the Prevent Team had undertaken and achieved.
- Details of the groups most likely to be at risk of radicalisation.
- Measures undertaken to counter threats from far right extremists.
- Engagement with far right extremists.
- Funding and the funding criteria.
- The work which had been conducted with groups other than ethnic minorities.
- The precise schools engaged in the Prevent programme.
- What was not working in the strategy and measures to address those failings.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 The [Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015](#) contains a duty on specified authorities to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This is also known as the Prevent duty. (A copy of the Prevent Duty is included in the pack.)

3.2 Locally the work of Prevent is driven by the District Counter Terrorism Local Profile (included in the pack) and is focused on addressing vulnerability through education and awareness raising. The response is not focused on gender, ethnicity or any particular ideology but rather the threat and risks that have been identified by the Counter Terrorism Police and how we can best respond to those risks on a District level.

3.3 Additional information is provided that responds to the request for additional

information. This includes: Appendix The Prevent Duty; Appendix B District Counter Terrorism Local Profile; Appendix C The Roles and Responsibilities of the Prevent Team; Appendix D The District Prevent Plan; Appendix E Bradford Prevent training undertaken in the Bradford West area; Appendix F Bradford Prevent Advisory Group Terms of Reference; Appendix G Home Office Statistics for Quarter 1 and 2 2022..A West Yorkshire list of the numbers of people engaged in the Channel process is attached as Appendix H. Due to the voluntary nature of participation and the low numbers involved, to protect the anonymity of individuals numbers of people engaged in Channel cannot be provided at a District or constituency level.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

4.1 There are no direct costs attributable to Bradford Council in relation to Prevent engagement. A central government grant is made annually to Bradford Council to fund Prevent work in the District. This supports the following posts and their on-costs:

- Local Authority Prevent Co-ordinator
- Prevent Engagement Officer
- Prevent Education Officer
- Administrative Support

4.2 In addition, funding is made available to support the delivery of projects which contribute to delivering key Prevent objectives in the District. Bradford has secured funding to deliver 4 projects in 2021/22.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

5.1 Governance - Local delivery of the strategy is overseen through the Bradford CONTEST governance mechanism. The structure involves partnership at all levels with a range of agencies needed to ensure that we successfully deliver CONTEST in Bradford and the Prevent Strategy within this.

5.2 Two strands of the CONTEST Strategy, Protect and Prepare, deal with emergency planning, civil contingencies and business continuity. Separate plans are in place for the delivery of this work.

5.3 Links with CONTEST governance and the Council's Safer Communities Partnership have been strengthened with an annual report being delivered and a new performance framework agreed. An annual report is also presented to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

5.4 A West Yorkshire CONTEST meeting is held quarterly to brief West Yorkshire authorities and share new and emerging work where there may be transferable benefit.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

6.1 The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 puts the Prevent programme on a statutory footing and makes delivering the Channel scheme a legal requirement. Specifically, the Act:

- Creates a new duty on certain bodies to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. The duty will apply to bodies including local authorities, the police, prisons, providers of probation services, schools, colleges, and universities.
- Allows the Secretary of State to issue guidance to those bodies on how the duty should be fulfilled.
- Gives the Secretary of State power to direct a body to take certain action, which would be used to enforce compliance where the Secretary of State is satisfied that the body has failed to discharge the duty.

6.2 The Channel scheme being statutory has:

- required local authorities to ensure a multi-agency panel exists and chair the panel;
- required the panel to develop a support plan for accepted cases and signpost to other support where cases are not accepted
- ensured consent is sought prior to support being provided;
- placed a duty to cooperate on panel partners;
- required partners to pay due regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State;
- and allowed the Secretary of State to indemnify intervention providers that provide ideological/ theological support for the Channel programme.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no sustainability implications apparent

7.2 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

There are no greenhouse gas emissions apparent

7.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

7.3.1 The Prevent Strategy for Bradford District is central to reducing the threat of terrorism and extremism through a partnership structure engaging a wide range of agencies including the West Yorkshire Police.

7.3.2 Prevent sits within the context of the District's Community Safety Plan and reports annually to the District's Safer Communities Partnership. Tackling the threat to community safety and harmony is central to Prevent delivery in the District.

7.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

7.4.1 Terrorism has an impact on human rights, in particular the rights to life, freedom, respect and expression. Terrorist acts can destabilise Governments, undermine civil society, jeopardise peace and security, threaten social and economic development, and can affect the strength and resilience of our communities.

7.4.2 The Prevent Strategy provides a means for developing our partnership

arrangements and ensuring we build resilience in the community and put in place effective counter terrorism measures.

7.5 TRADE UNION

There are no trade union implications apparent

7.6 WARD IMPLICATIONS

The nature of patterns of extremism in the District mean that over time risk will vary across the district and the different ideologies that are a risk will also vary. This will impact on the levels of engagement required to mitigate any emergence of extremism and can change. Prevent work, however, does take place widely across the district. We hold quarterly roundtable meetings at a constituency level and a wide variety of Prevent project sessions, particularly in schools. Our engagement work however does educate about all types of extremism and does not focus on one particular type.

7.7 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Activities outlined in the report contribute to priorities within the Locality and ward plans.

7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Work targeted at critical thinking and cyber safety carried out by the Prevent Team have wider benefit and help to vulnerable young people from wider risks of exploitation.

7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT

None

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

Appendix E - Bradford Prevent work undertaken in the Bradford West this financial year

Appendix G - Providing targeted support to institutions or community groups based on a specific issue or need

The above appendices are “**Not for Publication**” on the grounds that they contain exempt information within paragraph 2 Information Identifying an individual (Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual) and paragraph 3 Financial or Business Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Schedule 12 A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and the public interest in applying this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

9. OPTIONS

- 9.1 Bradford West Area Committee is asked to consider the delivery of Prevent Work and make any recommendations for further consideration.
- 9.2 Based on their local knowledge Bradford West councillors are invited to offer guidance and advice for future focused Prevent work in the Bradford West constituency.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

Bradford West Area Committee is asked to note the work undertaken in implementing the Prevent agenda in Bradford (and Bradford West), its approach to supporting vulnerable people and offer any recommendations for how work can be better targeted in the constituency.

11. APPENDICES

Appendix A - The Prevent Duty

Appendix B - West Yorkshire Counter Terrorism Local Profile

Appendix C - Roles and responsibilities of the Bradford Prevent team

Appendix D – District Prevent Plan

Appendix E - Bradford Prevent training undertaken in the Bradford West area.

Appendix F – Prevent Advisory Group Terms of Reference

Appendix G – Home Office Statistics for Quarter 1 and 2 2022

Appendix H – Yearly West Yorkshire Channel Statistics

Appendix I- PEO CONTEST report for Q1 in 2022.