

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety

Prevent Strategy

1. Purpose of Report

To approve the Borough Council's approach and response to the Prevent Duty as a Specified Authority. This is in accordance with the Council's Corporate Priority of Community Safety – a safe place for everyone.

2. Recommendation

The Policy Overview Working Group RECOMMENDS to Cabinet to RESOLVE that the Prevent Strategy be approved.

3. Detail

On 1 July 2015, the Counter Terrorism and Security Act (CTSA) 2015 became statutory. Section 26 places a statutory Prevent duty on specified authorities in the exercise of their functions, to have 'due regards to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. Specified authorities include Schools, Colleges, Universities, Local Authorities, Health, the Police and Prisons.

Broxtowe's Prevent Strategy is informed by national and local priorities and supports CONTEST (the National Counter Terrorism Strategy) and is supported by the Counter Terrorism Action Plan.

The updated and strengthened CONTEST Strategy was launched in June 2018. The aim of CONTEST is to reduce the risk to the UK and its citizens and interests overseas from terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence.

The CONTEST Strategy consists of the following four work strands:

- Prevent: to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
- Pursue: to stop terrorist attacks
- Protect: to strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
- Prepare: to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack.

CONTEST recognises that there is no socio-demographic profile of a terrorist in the UK, and no single pathway or 'conveyor belt', leading to terrorism. The aim of Prevent is to safeguard and support those vulnerable to radicalisation, to stop them from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. The Strategy also includes supporting the rehabilitation and disengagement of those already involved in terrorism.

The Prevent Delivery Model below set out the national approach to tackling the causes and risk factors that can lead to an individual becoming radicalised,

support those who are at risk of radicalisation and rehabilitate those who have already engaged with terrorism.

The Prevent Delivery Model

- Rehabilitation - of those already engaged in terrorism by providing support to those already engaged to disengage and rehabilitate
- Early Intervention - safeguard and support those most at risk of radicalisation by using safeguarding principles, provide tailored multi-agency support to those identified as most at risk
- Tackle causes of radicalisation - working online and offline to empower communities and individuals

The Broxtowe Counter Terrorism Action Plan 2023-2026 is informed by the Nottinghamshire Counter Terrorism Local Profile, the Broxtowe Situational Risk Assessment and the Benchmarking document.

The Broxtowe Prevent Strategy 2025-28 can be found at **Appendix 1**.

The Broxtowe Counter Terrorism Action Plan 2023-26 can be found at **Appendix 2**.

The Broxtowe Situational Risk Assessment Summary can be found at **Appendix 3**.

Useful links can be found at **Appendix 4**.

The Equalities Impact Assessment can be found at **Appendix 5**.

4. Key Decision

This report is a key decision as defined under Regulation 8 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

5. Updates from Scrutiny

The Policy Overview Working Group recommended the strategy be approved by Cabinet.

6. Financial Implications

The comments from the Head of Finance Services were as follows:
There are no additional financial implications for the Council to consider at this stage with ongoing business as usual activities continuing to be met within existing resources. Any significant budget implications in the future, over and above virement limits, would require approval by Cabinet.

7. Legal Implications

The comments from the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal Services were as follows:

Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (CTSA 2015) places a duty on Local Authorities, schools, colleges, universities, health bodies, prisons and probation and police to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism, by embedding the Prevent Duty as a part of their wider existing day-to-day safeguarding duties. The Prevent duty does not confer new functions on any specified authority. The term 'due regard' as used in the Act means that the Council should place an appropriate amount of weight on the need to prevent people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism when they consider all the other factors relevant to how they carry out their usual functions. Updated statutory guidance, The Prevent Duty Guidance, issued under section 29 of the CTSA 2015, came into force on 31 December 2023. The Council is required to have regard to the Guidance when carrying out its Prevent duty. The purpose of the Guidance is to set out the expectations for each of the main statutory sectors and describe the ways in which they should comply with the Prevent duty. When developing a Prevent strategy, Elected Members and the Council's scrutiny process have a key role in shaping the Strategy.

8. Human Resources Implications

The comments from the Human Resources Manager were as follows:

Not applicable.

9. Union Comments

The Union comments were as follows:

Not applicable.

10. Climate Change Implications

Any climate change implications are contained within the report.

11. Data Protection Compliance Implications

There are no Data Protection issues in relation to this report.

12. Equality Impact Assessment

As this is a change to policy / a new policy an equality impact assessment is included in the appendix to this report.

13. Background Papers

Nil.