

Preventing Violent Extremism

Preventing violent extremism is one of the four elements of CONTEST, the Government's Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

It is based on understanding the psychological profile which causes individuals or groups to cause maximum harm to other people based on their religious or political ideological beliefs.

The aim of PREVENT is to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

The Home Office works with Local Authorities, a wide range of Governmental Departments and Community Organisations to deliver the PREVENT Strategy.

This includes recognising those individuals or groups which have the potential to become terrorists and working with them through the CHANNEL INTERVENTION PROCESS to turn them around.

This Strategy is delivered both in the UK and internationally. It has three objectives:

... To respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat that the UK faces from those who promote it.

... To prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support.

... To work with a wide range of Institutions (including educational, faith, health and criminal justice) where there are risks of radicalisation.

Implementation of the CHANNEL INTERVENTION PROCESS in Plymouth:

Overseen by Plymouth City Council this implementation takes the form of Community Cohesion Programmes and Training.

An example of a Community Cohesion Programme is the setting up of PIETY, an independent Islamic Education Centre (the Plymouth Islamic Education Trust) opened in Plymouth in December 2013, which works closely with Plymouth City Council.

The aim of PIETY is to promote tolerance towards difference and diversity.

The Council also funds and promotes WRAP Counter-terrorism training. This training is given to Community Safety Partnership teams and groups within Further and Higher Education establishments, Fire Services, Police, Primary Care Trusts, Probation Services and registered Social Landlords.

The training works to develop an understanding of the PREVENT Agenda.

What are the gaps:

Mr. Aley, Chair of the Committee which implements CHANNEL would like to see:

1. A properly structured commissioning for WRAP training over a 3 year period to replace the current ad-hoc funding.
2. A greater number of trained Home Office appointed Intervention Providers to work within Schools and local organisations to promote community cohesion in Plymouth.

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