

Welcome to the second Newcastle Prevent Community Bulletin. We need to work with all communities in the city to raise awareness of Prevent and protect vulnerable people from the dangers of extremism and radicalisation and we can only do this with your help.

In this bulletin you will find out about any national developments, local projects and any new resources that you may find useful to help protect communities from the threat of extremism and radicalisation.

# **Prevent**

**Prevent is a national multi-agency safeguarding programme** that supports people who are at risk of becoming involved in terrorism through radicalisation. Partners involved include health, police, housing, and education.

Radicalisation means someone is being encouraged to develop extreme views or beliefs in support of terrorist groups and activities. This can happen in person or people can also radicalise themselves by accessing extremist material online that can lead to further engagement with extremist individuals, online networks, or groups.

There are still many online platforms where extremist narratives flourish and increasingly, it is vulnerable young people who are proving susceptible to these online channels, forums and narratives. We need the help of all members of our community to prevent this form of harm taking place and to safeguard vulnerable people and would ask all parents and guardians of young people to be vigilant regarding their online activity.

### To find out more visit <u>www.newcastle.gov.uk/prevent</u>

If you would like more information about the Newcastle Prevent Network, please contact, Sally Hamilton, Community Safety Development Officer, <u>sally.hamilton@newcastle.gov.uk</u> To receive updates please sign up <u>here</u>

## Home Office Funded Project – KIKIT

From 4<sup>th</sup> July- 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022, we hosted 8 Home Office funded webinars in partnership with KIKIT. KIKIT is a Midlands based BAME specialist drug and alcohol support service that provides a range of services to meet the needs of vulnerable people in communities. The webinars covered the cross-vulnerabilities between substance abuse and radicalisation, and safeguarding individuals from harmful influences online. This is why we specifically invited those practitioners who work with drug and alcohol clients to make them aware of the links between substance abuse and radicalisation (2021, Herrington). Through this webinar we were able to train and equip 150 people from across various sectors including social care, voluntary sector, and NHS with necessary skills to safeguard susceptible individuals from radicalisation.

The second part of the webinar delivered insight on how to practice online safety and report harmful online content. Feedback for all aspects of the webinars was positive with many reporting that their knowledge of this topic had improved.

### **New Home Office Prevent Training**

A new Home Office training course has been released and is designed for staff working in all sectors covered by the Prevent duty. However, the training can be completed by all sectors of the community and it will also generate a certificate of completion.

This training will be particularly useful for voluntary organisations regarding their safeguarding requirements and staff development. The training can be accessed through this link: <u>Prevent</u> <u>Training (new e-Learning)</u>

### **Prevent and Related Media Articles**

The Internet and radicalisation pathways: technological advances, relevance of mental health and role of attackers (2022). Commissioned by HM Prison & Probation Service. This study explored the role of the Internet in radicalisation pathways of convicted extremist offenders in England and Wales.

Some key findings:

- Radicalisation was found to now take place primarily online, as was evident for those sentenced in 2019–2021.
- The research highlighted the differences in behaviours of those who radicalised online and those who radicalised in person.
- Websites, platforms and applications used by convicted extremists had changed over time, with a steady decline in use of specific extremist websites/homepages to now show an increase in use of forums/chatrooms, open social media platforms and encrypted applications.

#### **Useful links**

Counter Terrorism Policing | Home

Keeping children safe in out-of-school settings: code of practice - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Free online safety group workshops | NSPCC

#### LGfL Training Centre - London Grid for Learning



Act early and tell us your concerns in confidence. You won't be wasting our time and you won't ruin lives, but you might save them.

ACT Early to prevent someone being drawn into terrorism. If you are concerned that someone is at risk of becoming radicalised by terrorists or online content. Get help <u>www.actearly.uk</u> or 08000113764



Report terrorist or extremist content online – Action Counters Terrorism

More than 20% of information received by CTP from the public, when investigated fully, turns out to be relevant to actual terrorist activity which underlines the need for communities to be vigilant and report any concerns