

REPORT FROM: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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THE COUNCILS APPROACH TOWARDS THE PREVENT DUTY

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update Policy and Resources Committee on work towards the Prevent Duty and seek approval for the PBC Prevent Action Plan 2020-22.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) To ask Members to approve the proposed PBC Prevent Action Plan 2020-22.
- (2) To ask Members to designate an elected Member be to proactively involved in Prevent policy - setting, delivery and communications.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To ensure the Council continues to meet its statutory obligations in relation to the Prevent Duty.

BACKGROUND

The Prevent Duty was introduced in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. As a result, Pendle Council has a statutory duty to have due regard to prevent the individuals being drawn into terrorism. We previously had a compliance plan covering key areas and over 90% of staff undertook training to recognise and respond to signs that individuals are at risk. Tailored sessions for waste operatives to recognise specific activity linked to terror have taken place.

The plan has been updated and is presented here for approval (Appendix 1). A key action is to organise staff and Member training, which can be delivered by the East Prevent Delivery Officer, Syed Naqui (based at BwD Council).

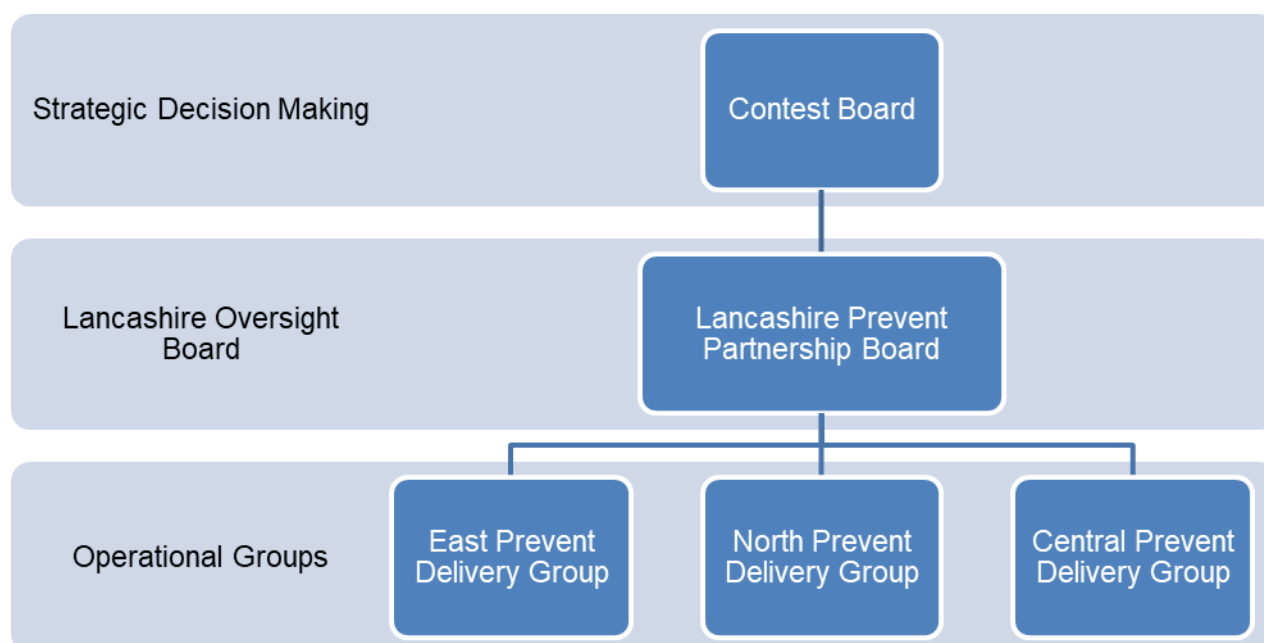
From April 2019, Lancashire has been part of the Office of Security and Counter Terrorism (OSCT) pilot programme. The OSCT have piloted cluster-based County-level approaches to Prevent delivery in 2019-20 in three areas – Kent, Buckinghamshire, and Lancashire. These pilots are designed to explore innovative delivery at county level and across a mixed economy of county and unitary authorities, to show how different types of local authorities can work together to manage

risk and prioritise delivery into hotspot areas. OSCT have provided funding for a Prevent hub in Blackburn with Darwen to service delivery across Blackburn, Lancashire and Blackpool. Each area (East, West, South) has a dedicated Prevent Delivery Officer to support local activity.

The Governance arrangements for 2020 have been set out as follows:

Governance

- The governance arrangements would have both Channel and Prevent oversight.
 - The Contest Board would continue to provide strategic oversight of the Contest Strategy.
 - The Lancashire Prevent Partnership Board would provide oversight and accountability of delivery, focus on cross cutting issues, manage resource allocation to risk and monitor the implementation of the action plan.
 - The operational groups would enable Prevent leads in local areas to meet and discuss in granular detail, activity, challenges and emerging issues.
- The structure and names of the groups were agreed as follows:



IMPLICATIONS

Policy: There are links between the Prevent Duty, our approach to cohesion, community safety and safeguarding policies.

Financial: No direct implications from this report.

Legal: The proposed Prevent Action Plan 2020-22 ensures the Council continues to meet its statutory obligations in relation to the Prevent Duty

Risk Management: Failure to agree a Prevent Action Plan risks reputational damage with partners.

Health and Safety: None arising directly from this report

Sustainability: The Action Plan will ensure that the Prevent Duty continues to be embedded in the work of the Council.

Community Safety: The Council's continued approach towards the Prevent Duty will help promote community safety across the whole borough.

Equality and Diversity: None arising directly from this report

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1: PBC Prevent Action Plan 2020-22

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS: