



Safe in East Sussex

In Focus – Preventing Violent Extremism

November 2016

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Counter Terrorism Awareness Week

Monday 28th November – Sunday 4th December 2016

National Counter Terrorism Awareness Week is a National campaign headed by the National Counter Terrorism Security Office, for the police service and partners to inform the public about the terrorism threat; what is being done to tackle it, how communities can help us, and offering practical advice about how to stay safe and be vigilant to the threat from terrorism whether at home, in business or online. The days are themed and Monday 28th November focuses on Partnerships.

Since 2001, many plots to attack the UK have been stopped by the police and security services, saving the lives of many people, and in recent years terrorists have been convicted and jailed. There remains a strongly held belief that terrorists will try again. Therefore it is important to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting violent extremism in the first place. Agencies such as the police, council and health services are working with the people of East Sussex to stop individuals becoming or supporting terrorists by building stronger, safer communities who feel empowered to reject extremism and terrorism in all its forms.



The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership is supported by the Safer East Sussex Team, made up from Community Safety staff from Sussex Police, East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service and East Sussex County Council



East Sussex Prevent Board

The main aim of the East Sussex Prevent Board is to reduce the risk of people living or working in East Sussex being drawn into violent extremism and to work in partnership supporting people and helping to unite communities against those who want to cause harm.

The East Sussex Prevent Board had their first meeting on the 10th Anniversary of the attacks on the London transport system on 7 July 2015 and has met on a quarterly basis since.

The Board assesses the countywide risk of people being drawn into terrorism, coordinates Prevent activity and prepares an action plan to manage the threats, risks and vulnerabilities to individuals, within institutions or caused by ideologies.

It is accountable to the East Sussex Safer Communities Board through update reports presented by the Chair in order for specified authorities to comply with their duty to agree risk and coordinate Prevent activity within a local multi- agency group.

Some of the developments which have taken place include:

The development of a Prevent Training/Awareness Resource Pack. This resource pack provides information on where to access resources to ensure organisations and staff have the appropriate training and awareness. This also includes the new e-learning resource developed by the Safer East Sussex Team and Children's Services and is available on the East Sussex Learning Portal.

Support and funding from Board partners to Think Protect Connect – A digital resilience and critical thinking programme .This resource is being made available to Schools, practitioners and will be used as an intervention and education tool for low level Prevent/Channel cases.

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Prevent Board

Local Action Plan

East Sussex is not a priority Prevent area and has a lower risk compared to other areas across Sussex. Brighton & Hove and Crawley are both Tier 2 Prevent areas which mean the risks are

slightly higher due to threat levels and as a result more work is directed there to reduce the risk.

This year some of our identified actions within the Action Plan include:

- ❖ To develop and deliver appropriate Prevent provision/activities/intervention targeted at vulnerable age groups, most notably those aged 18 and under.
- ❖ Actively promote and encourage the reporting of hate crime when engaging with local communities. Particularly those working in the faith or voluntary sector to monitor the impact of hate crime on local communities and manage any concerns linked to this.
- ❖ Continue to embed Prevent within the ongoing development of Multi-agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH) and within key partner agencies such as Adult and Children's services where a lack of awareness has been identified.



Plumpton College

The Board has also encourages cooperation and the sharing of resources where appropriate. For example: Plumpton College developed a 40 minutes resource which is now used in tutorials/ student inductions to raise awareness of extremism.

A Kahoot Quiz was also developed on Prevent – and is then used via a mobile phone to answer 10 Prevent related questions once the students have completed the resource. This resource was shared with other FE Colleges across the County who often have limited time to deliver on topics such as Prevent.



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Counter Extremism Strategy 2015

This strategy sets out how the Government will work across government, and with individuals and groups across Britain, to defeat extremism in all its forms. The strategy includes

- The Threat from Extremism
- Our Strategic Response
- Countering Extremist Ideology
- Building a partnership with all those opposed to Extremism
- Disrupting Extremists
- Building Cohesive Communities

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/470088/51859_Cm9148_Accessible.pdf



As part of Building Cohesive Communities, within the Extremism Strategy, the Home Office launched a programme of support for frontline organisations working to challenge extremism in their communities (September 2016). Organisations with a track record of promoting community cohesion and tackling extremism are being encouraged to bid for support as part of the first wave of the Building a Stronger Britain Together programme.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-office-announces-support-for-groups-fighting-extremism>

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This website gives **parents, teachers** and **school leaders** practical advice on protecting children from ~~extremism and radicalisation.~~

In partnership with the Home Office, the Department for Education launched Educate Against Hate earlier this year. This website was designed to raise awareness of the risks extremism and terrorism can pose to young people. As young people grow up, they often begin to search for answers to questions about faith, belonging and identity, and to look for adventure and excitement. This can mean that they are particularly vulnerable to extremist groups.

Extremist groups often target young people because they know are more vulnerable. With the technology to make contact with large numbers of young people from anywhere in the world at their fingertips, there has been a worrying shift in the way that extremists are using the internet and social media to radicalise.

On the site there are separate, dedicated sections for teachers, school leaders and parents, each with information on extremism and radicalisation, how to spot its warning signs, and where to go for further support.

As well as safeguarding children who are at risk of radicalisation, it is important that schools build resilience against extremism by fostering an environment in which young people are encouraged to debate, to build an understanding of the UK's fundamental values, and to develop the critical thinking skills they need to resist extremist ideology.

<http://educateagainsthate.com/>



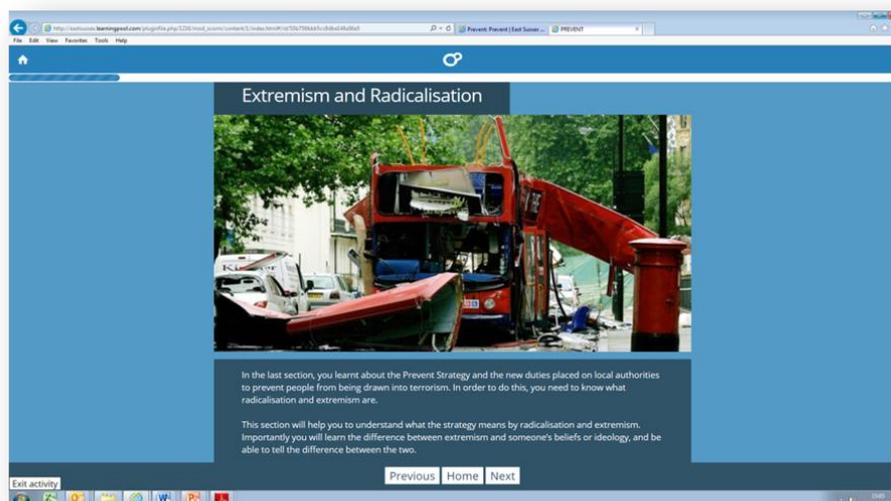
Prevent Training

In East Sussex we have provided a wide range of training opportunities to access. Frontline staff who engage with the public should understand what radicalisation means and why people may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism as a consequence of it. They need to be aware of what we mean by the term “extremism” and the relationship between extremism and terrorism.

Staff also need to know what measures are available to prevent people from becoming drawn into terrorism and how to challenge the extremist ideology that can be associated with it. They need to understand how to obtain support for people who may be being exploited by radicalising influences.



Dave Law – our Prevent Project Officer has been delivering a range of training and awareness resources over the past year. Dave continues to deliver the LSCB workshops to raise awareness of Prevent alongside school based training for safeguarding leads, school staff and governors. So far over 100 Schools have received full staff training and 14 Schools have received full Governor training. Emphasis has been on ensuring the designated safeguarding lead for the School has received Prevent training. A 40 minute E-Learning module has been produced by the Safer East Sussex Team and Children’s Services as an introduction to Prevent for the children’s workforce including Children’s Services and school staff.



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Channel

Intervention and Support

What is Channel?

Channel is an early intervention multi-agency process designed to safeguard vulnerable people from being drawn into violent extremist or terrorist behaviour. Channel works in a similar way to existing safeguarding partnerships aimed at protecting vulnerable people.

It is important to remember that Individuals are only referred to Channel if there is clear evidence that they are being radicalised or they are developing an ideology and there is clearly no alternative or more proportionate means of dealing with the issue

Who does Channel work with?

Channel is designed to work with individuals of any age who are at risk of being exploited by extremist or terrorist ideologues. The process is shaped around the circumstances of each person and can provide support for any form of radicalisation or personal vulnerabilities.

How does Channel work?

Each Channel Panel is chaired by East Sussex County Council and brings together a range of multi-agency partners to collectively assess the risk and can decide whether a support package is needed. The group may include statutory and non-statutory partners, as well as lead safeguarding professionals. If the group feels the person would be suitable for Channel, it will look to develop a package of support that is bespoke to the person. The partnership approach ensures those with specific knowledge and expertise around the vulnerabilities of those at risk are able to work together to provide the best support.

East Sussex Channel

In 2016 we have supported two individuals through the Channel process in East Sussex – both adults. Although we have a high number of young people referred for Prevent concerns there is often a clear lack of ideology or other factors which would deem them suitable for Channel. These lower level concerns often display concerns

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that can be hate based, misguided or through lack of their own identity or belonging are curious in finding out more. This is why education and opportunity to debate and discuss issues with young people is so important.

Raising Concerns

By raising your concerns and making a referral, you can help someone who you believe is at risk of radicalisation get support, and can prevent them becoming involved in potentially violent activities, long before any criminal activity occurs. Some signs of possible radicalisation:

Notable changes in behaviour/mood/appearance

May begin to express extreme political or radical views

Appear increasingly sympathetic to terrorist acts

Friends may change and may spend excess time on their own or on the internet

Local Safeguarding Contacts:

- Children & Young People 01323 464222
- Single Point of Advice
<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies/professional-resources/spoa/before-contact/>
- Adults 0345 60 80 191
- <https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/socialcare/worried/report/>

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UNESCO International Conference

Prevention of Violent Extremism through Education

19th-20th September 2016, New Delhi, India

Over 200 senior education policy-makers, experts, as well as youth advocates in the field, from close to 70 countries came together in New Delhi, India, from the 19th to the 20th of September, for the first “UNESCO International Conference on the Prevention of Violent Extremism through Education: Taking Action”.

Participants, concerned by the global rise in attacks perpetrated by violent extremist groups, came together to seek a common understanding about how education systems can appropriately and effectively take action. For many participants, it requires addressing controversial issues in a responsible way, in and out of school through formal and non-formal education, and ensuring that education systems, as a whole, are mobilized and equipped to face the challenge.



The UNESCO video (link below) shows the importance of preventing violent extremism through education. It is based on excerpts from “My Former Life”, produced by the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace, based on testimonies of people once engaged in promoting or perpetrating extreme violence. This video also draws attention to some of the drivers of violent extremism, to the role of education in preventing violent extremism and to educational approaches recommended by UNESCO.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79MTkVumCcQ#action=share>

UNESCO’s first Teacher’s Guide on the Prevention of Violent Extremism through education. This document has been developed in direct Response to the needs of UNESCO’s Member states

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002446/244676e.pdf>

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Think Protect Connect

This toolkit aims to provide schools other youth settings with a range of innovative resources to safeguard children and young people from online radicalisation and extremism. It is a good example of taking action as echoed at the UNESCO Conference.

This new resource will help those working with children and young people provide a safe space to explore the sensitive and controversial questions. By increasing awareness, understanding and knowledge of the issue, children and young people will be better equipped to think critically when confronted by online propaganda frequently used by extremist groups.



The resource was developed in partnership with the Safer East Sussex Team and John Khan. The project was funded by Sussex Police, Rother District Council, Hastings Borough Council, Wealden District Council, Lewes District Council and Eastbourne Borough Council.

The toolkit consists of six 'self-contained' and individually scripted workshops, a Student Resource booklet and six PowerPoints.

The six workshops focus on a range of key issues. These included:

- Personal identity and a sense of belonging
- Group identity, national identity and National (British) Values
- The process of stereotyping and the perception that all Muslims are terrorists
- What is meant by extremism, radicalisation and terrorism?
- The use of online propaganda by extremist groups and a counter-narrative response
- Online safety and the use of online propaganda by extremist and far-right populist groups

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We would like to thank the Young Person's Advisory Group for sharing with us their experiences and knowledge, and providing valuable feedback on all aspects of the development of the toolkit, for which we are indebted.



Special thanks to the following schools and college for taking part in the piloting of resources: Bexhill Community College; St Marys Horam; Hailsham Community Academy; Harbour Primary and Baird Academy Hastings

Over the coming school year 2016/17 Dave Law will be delivering the programme over 6 weeks to a number of Primary Schools across the County.



Here are some feedback/comments from teachers and pupils about the programme:

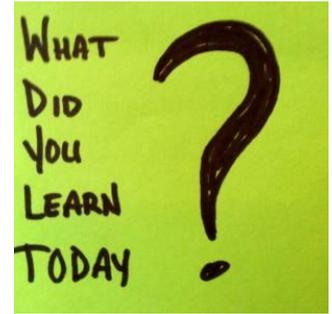
'I liked the way you used examples of everyday propaganda so students had something to link it to' [Year 8 Teacher]

'Good interpretation of extremism and clear for students to understand' [Year 9 Teacher]

- The fact that we are all different
- The honesty in the class
- Learnt more about myself
- I love the workshops because I like being able to say what I think
- I like that I can disagree with things without getting into trouble
- I learnt that you're not 100% who you think you are
- Talking about my beliefs
- I really enjoyed talking about stereotyping as it was definitely an eye opener for some people



- That you can be yourself not what other people think you should be
- We are all different
- Don't judge people
- I now know what extremism means
- I liked how we got to talk about tricky words
- We learnt about the proper definition
- Extremism doesn't always lead to violence
- Importance of checking online sources and critical thinking
- It was funny knowing how lots of day-to-day people use propaganda



Further information can be found on our website
<http://www.safeineastsussex.org.uk/think-protect-connect.html>



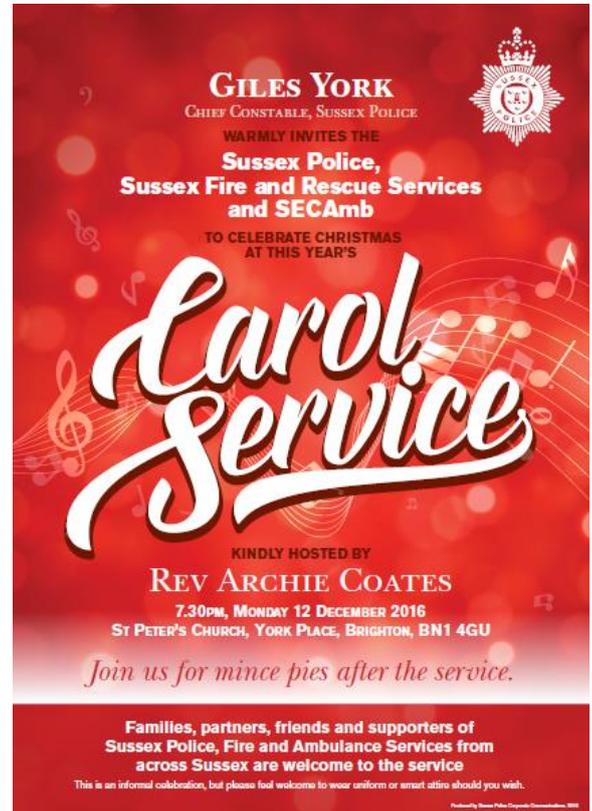
- 7 things schools need to know about extremism, radicalisation, and the Prevent Duty. <https://www.victvs.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/7-things-schools-need-to-know-about-extremism-radicalisation-and-the-Prevent-Duty-Victvs-Ltd-.pdf>
- The Prevent duty - Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf
- Extremism and Radicalisation – A Guide for Parents <https://www.victvs.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Victvs-Parents-Guide-to-Extremism-and-Radicalisation-PRINT-Ver2.pdf>
- Free posters <https://www.victvs.co.uk/free-prevent-extremism-and-radicalisation-awareness-poster-series/>
- A good site with school resources provided by Lancashire County Council http://www.preventforschools.org/?category_id=55
- London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham resources for schools <https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/children-and-young-people/schools-and-colleges/school-staff-zone/prevent-and-schools/prevent-and-schools-resources-and-lesson-plans>

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Carol Service Monday 12th December at
7.30pm

St Peter's Church, York Place, Brighton

An invitation to Sussex Police members, Sussex Fire & Rescue Services and SECamb staff - families, partners, friends and supporters are welcome



The poster is red with white and gold text. At the top right is the Sussex Police crest. The text reads: 'GILES YORK CHIEF CONSTABLE, SUSSEX POLICE WARMLY INVITES THE Sussex Police, Sussex Fire and Rescue Services and SECamb TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT THIS YEAR'S Carol Service'. Below this, it says 'KINDLY HOSTED BY REV ARCHIE COATES 7.30PM, MONDAY 12 DECEMBER 2016 ST PETER'S CHURCH, YORK PLACE, BRIGHTON, BN1 4GU'. A line of text says 'Join us for mince pies after the service.' At the bottom, it states 'Families, partners, friends and supporters of Sussex Police, Fire and Ambulance Services from across Sussex are welcome to the service' and includes a small disclaimer: 'This is an informal celebration, but please feel welcome to wear uniform or smart attire should you wish.'



This is our last
newsletter for 2016
therefore we would like
to wish all our readers a
Happy and Safe
Christmas and New
Year

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