Leeds Prevent Communities Newsletter

Working together to safeguard our communities

Issue 1 **November 2020**

Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of our Community newsletter produced by the Leeds Prevent Team. We want to keep you up to-date with current information in respect to safeguarding against radicalisation, key policies, strategic updates, funding, training and good practice.

We will also include wider topics including for example hate crime and other community safety. This newsletter is for all Third Sector organisations working within our Leeds communities.

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Meet the team



Nadeem Siddique is the Prevent Coordinator and leads on the strategic implementation of Prevent in Leeds.



Julia Holden is the Prevent Education Officer and supports all schools in Leeds with implementation of the statutory Prevent Duty.



Helene Heath is the Prevent Education support Officer who also supports schools. Helene is currently on maternity leave, having recently celebrated the birth of her daughter.



Jade Cicone is the Prevent Project Officer and supports all Prevent related business matters and Prevent providers in Leeds.



Brendan Tannam has recently joined the team as a Prevent Community Engagement Officer and works with communities in Leeds to raise awareness of the risks of radicalisation and build resilience of communities to refute and address narratives which support violent extremism. Brendan is always at hand to support communities around addressing vulnerabilities and incidents which cause community tensions which can lead to hate and intolerance. Brendan is keen to visit organisations and their service users to talk about the programme and to get an understanding of how the Prevent team can provide support.

One Minute Guide



The Prevent team have recently produced a One Minute Guide on Radicalisation and Preventing Extremism. The guide can be a useful resource for organisations across Leeds.

Online Harms

Online Extremism has become an increasing risk in recent times. The Online Harms White Paper, published on 8 April 2020, sets out a range of legislative and non-legislative measures to tackle a range of online harms and sets clear responsibilities for tech companies to keep UK citizens safe. As outlined in the White Paper, the Government intend to establish in law a new 'duty of care' on companies towards their users. The 'duty of care' will ensure companies have appropriate systems and processes in place to deal with harmful content on their services to keep their users safe. Companies will be required to take robust action to tackle terrorist content and online child sexual exploitation and abuse.

Hope Not Hate Report

Hope Not Hate have released their 2020 State of Hate report, their annual review on the state and nature of Britain's far right, analysing the threat it presents to the nation. The report headlines with two, seemingly contradictory propositions. The traditional far right is at the weakest it has been for possibly 50 years or more – but at the same time hatred is becoming increasingly mainstreamed. The other key focus of State of Hate this year is the continuing rise of the far-right terror threat, which continues to be a threat both at home – with thwarted plots and numerous arrests – but more significantly is taking on a more global nature and identity, following high-profile attacks in places like New Zealand, the USA and Germany.

Dates for the Diary

ISLAMOPHOBIA AWARENESS MONTH

Islamophobia Awareness Month (IAM) is currently taking place over November. IAM was founded by a number of British organisations in 2012 to deconstruct and challenge the stereotypes about Islam and Muslims. The month-long campaign aims to work with stakeholders to raise awareness of the scourge of Islamophobia and encourage better reporting of incidents to the police. Click here for a video by Councillor Arif introducing the month and activities in Leeds.

Inter Faith Week

Inter Faith Week 2020 is taking place from Sunday 8-Sunday 15 November. Inter Faith Week's aims are to:

- Strengthen good inter faith relations at all levels
- Increase awareness of the different and distinct faith communities in the UK,
- Increase understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs

Leeds Faith Forum are working with partners to organise a calendar of activities throughout the week.

Hate Crime Awareness



The Communities Migration team have created a video to support the hate crime awareness campaign week which took place on from 10th October-17th October. The aim is to raise awareness of hate crime reporting and the team would appreciate if organisations can share and retweet the video. You can access the video on Twitter and Facebook.

Prevent Webpage



Visit our new Prevent Landing Page which has been launched on the Leeds City Council website providing information on Prevent along with appropriate contact numbers.

Prevent Training

The Prevent Team are not providing face to face training at present due to Covid-19 restrictions. However, the Home Office provide an online eLearning training package which is a very helpful introduction to the work Prevent does to keep people safe from becoming radicalised and takes approximately 45 minutes to complete.

We will be promoting future training through this newsletter but if you have any requests for virtual bespoke training or if you like to talk about support your organisation may need around Prevent please just get in touch on the contact details below.

Terrorism Threat Level

The Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre (JTAC) have changed the UK national terrorism threat level from Substantial to Severe. This means that a terrorist attack is highly likely. This is a systematic, comprehensive and rigorous process, based on the latest intelligence and analysis of internal and external factors which drive the threat. This change is not based on a specific threat, but it is important to remain vigilant and are suitably prepared following the horrific events in France and Austria. We want to help reassure communities across Leeds during this time. The guidance is that the public should be alert but not alarmed and should continue to report any suspicious activity to the police. If you would like any further support please do get in touch.

How to contact us

Please don't hesitate to contact us to enquire about training, seek more information about Prevent/channel or reach out to the Prevent Community Engagement Officer to arrange a meeting.



Prevent Team contact:
Email - Prevent@leeds.gov.uk
Tel - 0113 5350810

Prevent Community Engagement Officer:
Email - brendan.tannam@leeds.gov.uk
Tel - 01135350976 or 07712215824