

	<h2>Community Leadership Committee</h2> <h3>6 September 2017</h3>
<p>Title</p>	<p>London Borough of Barnet – Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020</p>
<p>Report of</p>	<p>Strategic Lead Safer Communities</p>
<p>Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>Status</p>	<p>Public with exempted Appendix</p>
<p>Urgent</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Key</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Enclosures</p>	<p>Appendix A (exempt) - Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020 Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 1, 2,3,6 and 7 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended</p>
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<h2>Summary</h2>	
<p>This paper provides an overview of the Barnet’s Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020. It outlines the local strategy and the identified objectives and outcomes to meet the statutory prevent duty placed on local authorities in the Counter Terrorism and Security Act introduced in 2015. The forward strategy sets out the strategic context of its development, how the Council and Partnership will respond to regional, national and international commitments and the required standards relating to delivering Prevent in Barnet.</p> <p>This paper asks the Committee to endorse the objectives set out in the strategy.</p>	

Recommendations

- 1. That the Community Leadership Committee endorses the objectives set out in the London Borough of Barnet Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020.**

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 Barnet Council's has scheduled the final draft of Barnet's Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020 to be presented to chief officers on 29th August 2017.
- 1.2 Chief officers directed that internal consultation with key stakeholders was required to complete the final draft of Barnet's Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020. This final strategy would then be presented to the Community Leadership Committee for endorsement of the objectives set out within the strategy.
- 1.3 Consultation with the identified stakeholders was undertaken during August 2017 by the Prevent Coordinator. Feedback from this consultation has informed the development of this strategy which sets out the on-going partnership commitment to work together to meet the Prevent duty in Barnet in order to reduce the risk of vulnerable people being radicalised and drawn into violent extremism. This partnership focus is a central element to the strategy and is underpinned by the following partnership objectives.
- 1.4 Barnet Council's internal Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020 sets out:
 - The requirements of the Council to meet the statutory duty to prevent radicalisation of vulnerable adults and children and respond to the governments Prevent strategy.
 - The progress made and action taken since the introduction of the statutory duty.
 - Proposed actions to be delivered between July 2017 and July 2018.
 - Governance arrangements to ensure strategic oversight and compliance with the duty.

The Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020 acts as a single point of reference where required compliance, progress and actions to be implemented are recorded.

Barnet's Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020 will be supported by an annual action plan and agreed performance indicators that will be reported to the relevant governance boards both internal and partnership boards. This reporting structure is set out within the strategy and thus not duplicated in this cover report.

1.5 Barnet has a full time Prevent Coordinator funded by the Home Office, Office for Security and Counter Terrorism (OSCT). This post is responsible for overseeing the delivery of the Prevent Strategy 2017-2020 in Barnet.

In addition the OSCT has also agreed funding for a Prevent Education Officer post which is currently being recruited to. This post will be responsible to engage with Barnet schools and other education establishments to ensure Prevent safeguarding training is delivered to all relevant staff and to provide guidance to schools.

These posts ensure the oversight of our delivery of the Prevent duty including:

- Training for frontline staff in recognising, referring and responding to radicalisation
- Delivery of local projects to build capacity, increase resilience and improve understanding of extremism and radicalisation with partners such as schools, colleges, frontline staff, community groups, venues and parents
- A referral service for concerns, which acts as an early intervention service to safeguard vulnerable individuals from radicalisation.
- The providing of support and guidance to a variety of local authority departments in order to ensure the Prevent strategy is embedded into existing frameworks.

1.6 The overriding objective for Barnet

The over-riding objective of the Barnet Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020 is to keep the people of Barnet safe by accurately identifying people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism and/or violent extremism and to safeguarding children and adults by providing early intervention to protect and divert people away from being drawn into terrorist activity.

This will be achieved through implementation of the following priority actions:

<p>Action 1</p>	<p>Partnerships</p> <p>We will ensure that a multi-agency response to Prevent will be in place, supported by an evidence base and co-ordinated through The Safer Communities Partnership Board, where partners fully own and fulfil their role in delivery of Prevent locally.</p>
<p>Action 2</p>	<p>Risk Assessment(s)</p> <p>We will ensure the regional Counter Terrorism Profile (CTLTP) will be communicated appropriately to the required stakeholders.</p> <p>This will be used to inform the risk assessment and action plans locally in order to effectively reduce the risk of</p>

	individuals being drawn into terrorism or violent extremism in Barnet.
Action 3	<p>Prevent Action Plan</p> <p>The Action Plan will be owned and delivered through the partnership to reduce the risk(s) identified in Barnet.</p> <p>We will ensure records will be maintained to show Barnet Council's compliance with the statutory Prevent duty. This will include the strategy, action plans, minutes of meetings such as the Channel Panel, Prevent Delivery Group meetings, Prevent briefings, WRAP training records and Prevent performance reports.</p>
Action 4	<p>Staff Training</p> <p>We will ensure Barnet Council will have a fully trained work force (including those contracted by Barnet Council) who can recognise Prevent issues or concerns, support successful collaborative partnership working, identify the early signs of radicalisation taking positive action to manage those potentially at risk.</p>
Action 5	<p>Use of Local Authority Resources</p> <p>We will ensure venues owned by Barnet Council are not providing a platform for extremist's views.</p> <p>This includes ensuring IT equipment available to the general public uses filtering solutions that limit access to inappropriate terrorist or extremist material.</p>
Action 6	<p>Safeguarding Children and Adults from radicalisation</p> <p>We will ensure that the Prevent duty is integrated into existing safeguarding strategies, policies and procedures to ensure that vulnerable young people or adults are protected from the risks of radicalisation and being drawn into violent extremism.</p>

1.7 Barnet's final draft strategy recognises and takes into account:

- A soft touch review conducted by the council's Prevent Co-ordinator in 2016/2017 which reviewed progress made in delivering Prevent across the council between May 2014 and December 2016 highlighting areas requiring further development and focus over the next 3 years.
- The findings and recommendations of the Council's internal audit of Prevent carried out in June 2017.
- Barnet Ofsted inspection (June 2017) and any findings relevant to the delivery of Prevent.

- The Counter Terrorism Profile¹ (October 2016 CTLP) for Barnet and the CTLP guidance.
- The Government's Prevent Strategy² (June 2011) and statutory guidance.
- The duty on local authorities as set out in the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

1.8 Barnet's Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020 will be reviewed annually and supported by a refreshed annual action plan. The action plan will align with the Safer Communities Community Safety Strategy 2015-2020, the business plans for Barnet's Safeguarding Adults Board, Barnet's Safeguarding Children's Board and Barnet Council's Corporate Strategy.

1.9 The delivery of Barnet's Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020 will be overseen by Barnet's Prevent Delivery Group - a sub group of Barnet's Safer Communities Partnership Board, which includes a priority on responding to and preventing the radicalisation of young people and vulnerable adults.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 To seek the approval of the Community Leadership Committee for Barnet's Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

3.1 None

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Barnet's Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020 will replace the draft Prevent Forward Strategy 2015-2018. The new strategy has a focus on integrating the Prevent Framework across the council and partnership within our existing frameworks.

4.2 Barnet's Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020 has been produced as an internal confidential document and will be protectively marked OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE in accordance with Home Office guidelines. The strategy has been created to meet the required governance arrangements for the Council's and Partnership's senior management oversight to meet the *due regard* of the duty in accordance with the act. The strategy includes:

- A summary of the progress made between May 2014 to May 2017
- Identified areas requiring further development and focus over the next three years (July 2017 to March 2020).

- An outline of the governance arrangements in place to oversee the delivery of both this Council strategy and the multi-agency partnership action plan.
- 4.2 The Prevent Delivery Group will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the strategy. This board is a sub group of the Safer Communities Partnership Board (SCPB), and will report to the SCPB with updates on progress and performance.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 The Council's Corporate Plan 2015-2020 sets out the following strategic objectives:

That Barnet Council, working with local, regional and national partners, will strive to make sure that Barnet is the place:

- Of opportunity, where people can further their quality of life.
 - Where responsibility is shared, fairly.
 - Where people are helped to help themselves, recognising that prevention is better than cure.
 - Where services are delivered efficiently to get value for money for the taxpayer.
- 5.1.2 The effective implementation of the Prevent Forward Strategy supports Barnet in achieving the commitment set out in the corporate plan that Barnet will be amongst the safest places in London, with high levels of community cohesion, and residents feeling safe.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

The Prevent Coordinator, Prevent Education Officer and Community Engagement Coordinator posts are funded through Home Office Grant Agreements which is refreshed annually. As such, there are no implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

5.3 Social Value

Not relevant in relation to this report.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

5.4.1 The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 contains a duty on specified authorities to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This is also known as the Prevent duty (12th March 2015).

[Prevent duty guidance - GOV.UK](#)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

5.4.2 Annex A, Responsibility for Functions, in the Council's Constitution provides that the Community and Leadership Committee have responsibility for the following:

5.4.3 To maintain good community relations with Barnet's diverse communities ensuring that all communities have the opportunity to participate fully in the Borough's affairs,

5.4.4 To contribute to the outcomes of the Safer Communities Strategy through fighting crime.

5.5 Risk Management

5.5.1 Risk management varies according to the different initiatives. The partnership or appropriate agencies are made aware of risks and actions to mitigate the risk are agreed and put in place. There is always risk that the partnership may not achieve the targets set due to factors outside its direct control – however there is strong partnership working in place enabling agencies to identify and highlight risk and be open to addressing the risk collectively.

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

5.6.1 Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 sets out the public sector equality duty to which the authority must have due regard. The Council's public sector equality duty is set out in s149 of the Equality Act 2010:

5.6.2 A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to —

a) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;

b) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

c) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

5.6.3 The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex and sexual orientation.

5.6.4 The London Borough of Barnet Prevent Strategy 2017-2020 and the services delivered as part of this strategy take into account the protected characteristics to ensure services are accessible and fair to all sections of the community.

5.7 Consultation and Engagement

5.7.1 Consultation was undertaken with the stakeholder groups as follows:

- A presentation on the draft Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020 was delivered to the Barnet Safer Community Partnership Board on 21/07/2017.
- The Prevent Working Group was briefed on the draft Prevent Forward Strategy 2017-2020 on 25/07/2017.
- Consultation was conducted in August 2017 as directed by the SCB Assurance Board - senior managers across the local authority's delivery and commissioning units and key partnership stakeholders comments and feedback have been incorporated into the final strategy as a result.
- Barnet and Southgate College and Middlesex University have also been consulted as the borough's Higher and Further Education establishments.

5.8 Insight

Not relevant in relation to this report.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

23rd November 2016

Briefing for the Prevent Working Group – 25/07/2017

Revised Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales, revised 16/07/2015.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/445977/3799_Revised_Prevent_Duty_Guidance__England_Wales_V2-Interactive.pdf