

Briefing to: Safer Sefton Together Partnership

Briefing from: Head of Communities

Date: 8 September 2022

Subject: Prevent Update

Prepared By: Steve Martlew, Localities Service Manager

Purpose / Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide Safer Sefton Together (SST) members with an update on Prevent.

Recommendation That: SST members note the contents of the report.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Prevent is a statutory duty placed on Local Authorities via section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. The duty to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism” rests with SST.

2. Prevent Sub-Group

- 2.1 At its meeting in June 2022 SST received a report updating members on the recent health check of the 10 Prevent Benchmarks carried out via their Regional Advisor. The health check provided some areas of strength and some areas for development which SST agreed would be managed by a sub-group led by Chris White – Locality Team Manager for Sefton Council. No volunteers have been forthcoming to form this important sub-group that will deliver the statutory responsibility on behalf of SST. Chris will be contacting the safeguarding leads from each of the SST partnership organisations to form the subgroup. Our Home Office Regional Advisor Claire Little will also attend this subgroup to provide advice and guidance.
- 2.2 One of the first tasks for the sub-group will be to review the Counter Terrorism Local Profile which was received on 17 August 2022. This information, combined with local knowledge and data will help the sub-group carry out an active risk assessment and create an action plan Sefton.

3. Prevent Benchmarks

- 3.1 The table below shows the 10 Prevent Benchmarks and the score Sefton received against each during the recent health check. A score of 3 represents a position where the duty is met, a score of 1-2 indicates that statutory responsibilities are not being met and a score of 4-5 signifies requirements are being exceeded. Sefton’s results were compared rigorously with other Local Authorities to provide consistency. Its important SST members are familiar with these benchmarks as SST is currently the only committee with governance oversight of the Prevent duty.
- 3.2 The Prevent Duty Toolkit published by the Home Office can be found here [prevent duty toolkit \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/prevent-duty-toolkit)

| | Benchmark | Score |
|-----------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Risk Assessment | 1 |
| 2 | Multi Agency Partnership Board | 2 |
| 3 | Prevent Partnership Plan | 1 |
| 4 | Referral Pathway | 5 |
| 5 | Channel Panel | 5 |
| 6 | Prevent problem-solving process | 2 |
| 7 | Training | 2 |
| 8 | Venue Hire and IT Policies | 3 |
| 9 | Engagement activity | 3 |
| 10 | Communications | 2 |

4. Summary

- 4.1 SST holds the governance oversight of the Prevent duty on behalf of Sefton. The sub-group led by Chris White will deliver the majority of the work as directed by our recent health check. Our Home Office Regional Advisor will continue to provide support where required. The sub group will report back to each SST meeting and I suggest that Prevent becomes a standing item on the agenda.

Steve Martlew
 Locality Service Manager
 31/8/22