



To: **Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board**

On: **2 September 2015**

Report by:

Shona MacDougall, Director of Community Resources

PREVENT – COUNTER TERRORISM

1. Summary

- 1.1 Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 which was approved at Westminster on the 12th March 2015 places a duty on certain bodies, listed in schedule 6 to the act, to have in the exercise of their functions, "*due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism*" Scottish Local Authorities are listed under schedule 6 of the act.
- 1.2 Scottish Prevent shares the same strategic objective as Prevent does in the rest of the UK. However, the delivery of these objectives reflects a distinctly Scottish approach to Government: enabling people to shape the services they use: valuing the strengths of people and communities to build capacity and creating the conditions that allow change to happen. To put both the act and the guidance into context a multi agency workshop event took place on the 23rd June 2015 at Police Scotland's training college in Tulliallan.

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the board:

- Note the Expansion of the current internal Prevent Group to include representation from:
 - Police Scotland
 - Prison Service
 - Scottish Fire and Rescue
 - NHS
 - Capability Scotland
 - Further Education Establishments
- Note the possible allocation of additional funding from the Home Office. Should this be confirmed, proposals will be brought back on the use of this finding.



3. Background

3.1 The multiagency event at Tulliallan on 23 June, took on a workshop structure with a number of speakers covering various topics with opportunities for discussion from the floor. A number of areas that were discussed were:

- An introduction to the Scottish Prevent Guidance which put the document into context and looked forward at its application.
- The implementation of NHS Scotland's "Playing Our Part" prevent guidance which contains a self assessment toolkit
- The introduction of a new Local Authority Code of Practice for Prevent which provide Local Authorities with clear and concise information to enable them to meet the duties placed upon them under section 26 of the act and identifies the associated roles and responsibilities
- The duty on Local Authorities to chair and manage Prevent Professional Concerns Case Conferences as part of existing public and child protection arrangements when they are relevant to the case in hand.
- The training that is currently available and how it meets the needs of all of the agencies that are involved
- The proposal that the home office allocates local authorities a £10,000 one off payment to cover activity required to commence the duty

3.2 As can be seen from the topics discussed, while the Prevent duty may be relatively light touch it will require a lot of work on the part of local authorities and other agencies to interpret and put in place the mechanisms required to deliver on the terms of the duty.

3.3 Up to now the core workload of managing the Council CONTEST agenda has been on the Prevent strand and this has been taken forward through an internal Prevent group. The topics discussed at the workshop both reinforce the work that we are already doing and emphasise the fact that to strengthen community resilience and capacity to prevent the radicalisation of vulnerable people it is important that we take a more a strategic approach and that connections are made across not only the council, but our partners and the community.

4. Resources

The Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Action Plan identifies the resources requirements for each individual action.

5. Prevention



The work undertaken through the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board helps to plan resources and direct investment towards prevention and early intervention.

6. **Community Involvement/Engagement**

The Action Plan has been developed through the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Board and sub groups whereby the third sector is widely represented.

Author: David Mair, Senior Civil Contingencies Officer, Renfrewshire Council, Tel 0141 618 7402

Email: david.mair@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk