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Capacity Building Through Exchange of Good Practices & Research in the Security Domain

Module 2: Radicalism

Topic: Counter-Radicalisation Strategies

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1. Introduction

This report provides the topic syllabus for the *Counter Radicalisation Strategies* topic for Module 2 of the Internal Security Fund (ISF) project *Capacity building through exchange of good practices and research in the security domain* led by the European Institute Foundation. This report provides the aim, objectives, reading list, presentation notes, topic content and sources of information for delivery of this topic.

2. Aim

The aim of the *Counter Radicalisation Strategies* topic is:-

“To examine and explore counter-radicalisation strategies for preventing and countering radicalisation, including the role of community engagement, education, and an analysis of de-radicalisation programs currently in operation.”

3. Topic syllabus

To ensure that all students attending have a clear understanding of ‘Counter Radicalisation Strategies’ this topic is divided into nine parts as follows:

- **Part 1: Counter-terrorism models** – introducing the three primary models used by governments across the world to deliver counter-terrorism functions
- **Part 2: Counter-terrorism strategy rules** – examining the rules to create effective counter-terrorism strategies based on research evidence
- **Part 3: Strategies for preventing radicalisation** – exploring the current strategies for preventing radicalisation currently in operation today
- **Part 4: Preventing radicalisation strategic priorities** – examining the priorities of preventing radicalisation strategies
- **Part 5: Preventing radicalisation in communities** – introducing the important role communities to prevent radicalisation
- **Part 6: Preventing radicalisation in schools** – examining how schools can play a vital role in preventing radicalisation
- **Part 7: Preventing radicalisation in higher education** – introducing the important role that colleges and universities play in preventing radicalisation
- **Part 8: Preventing radicalisation in prison** – examining the dangers of radicalisation in prison and how a preventative approach to help tackle radicalisation in prison
- **Part 9: Community engagement** – introducing the important role of community engagement in tackling and preventing radicalisation



4. Learning objectives

The primary learning objectives of the *Counter Radicalisation Strategies* topic are to:

1. Examine the theoretical models of contemporary counter terrorism approaches
2. Explore the rules of establishing a comprehensive counter terrorism strategic approach
3. Examine strategies to counter radicalisation in operation today across the world
4. Identify the strategic priorities of effective counter radicalisation strategies
5. Explore the role of communities in preventing radicalisation at the most local level
6. Examine how schools play an important role in safeguarding the prevention of radicalisation
7. Explore the role of higher education institutes in tackling the prevention of radicalisation
8. Examine the dangers of radicalisation development in prison
9. Explore the role of prisons in safeguarding the prevention of radicalisation
10. Examine the important role of community engagement, community policing and local partnerships to prevent radicalisation

5. Learning outcomes

At the completion and conclusion of the *Counter Radicalisation Strategies* topic presentation, students will be able to:-

- Explain the theoretical models of contemporary counter terrorism approaches
- Demonstrate the important role of an effective counter radicalisation strategy to counter terrorism and violent extremism
- Explain the key rules to follow to create a comprehensive counter terrorism strategic approach
- Describe the strategies to counter radicalisation in operation today across the world and why such strategies are important to their operational roles and responsibility
- Identify the strategic priorities of effective counter radicalisation strategies
- Explain the important role of communities in preventing radicalisation at the most local level and what needs to be done to improve contact with the community
- Describe how schools play an important role in safeguarding the prevention of radicalisation and what more need to be done to engage schools in the prevention of radicalisation
- Explain the role of higher education institutes in tackling the prevention of radicalisation
- Describe the dangers of radicalisation development in prison
- Explain the role of prisons in safeguarding the prevention of radicalisation and what more must be done to improve the prevention of radicalisation in prisons
- Explain the important role of community engagement in tackling the prevention of radicalisation
- Describe how community policing and local partnerships can support the prevention of radicalisation and violent extremism at the most local level



6. Reading list

The following list of reports, papers, websites and articles are recommended reading on the wider topic of *Counter Radicalisation Strategies* which complement the topic presentation and will add value to the students learning experience and includes:-

1. European Union, ***Counter Terrorism Agenda 2020*** (9/12/2020) Available online at: https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/document/download/9b54c533-139a-4662-99cf-b5f72220bb18_en?filename=09122020_communication_commission_european_parliament_the_council_eu_agenda_counter_terrorism_po-2020-9031_com-2020_795_en.pdf
2. Dr Muhammad Iqbal Roy, ***The Global Counter Terrorism Strategies*** Journal of Politics and International Studies (Vol. 5, No. 1, January–June 2019, pp.25–40) Available online at: <https://jpis.pu.edu.pk/45/article/view/46/46>
3. His Majesty's Government, United Kingdom, ***Counter-Terrorism (CONTEST) Strategy 2023*** (1/7/2023) Available online at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/650b1b8d52e73c000d54dc82/CONTEST_2023_English_updated.pdf
4. Educate Against Hate, ***Safeguard students form radicalisation*** (1/12/24) Available online at: <https://www.educateagainsthate.com>
5. His Majesty's Government, United Kingdom, ***ACT Early – Prevent Radicalisation & Extremism by Acting Early*** Available online: <https://actearly.uk>
6. Laura Taylor & Anita Soni, ***Preventing radicalisation: A systematic review of literature considering the lived experiences of the UK's Prevent strategy in educational settings*** (28/7/2017) Pastoral Care in Education, An International Journal of Personal, Social and Emotional Development - Available online at: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Laura-Taylor-46/publication/318758001_Preventing_radicalisation_a_systematic_review_of_literature_considering_the_lived_experiences_of_the_UK's_Prevent_strategy_in_educational_settings/links/5ae2f012458515c60f683334/Preventing-radicalisation-a-systematic-review-of-literature-considering-the-lived-experiences-of-the-UKs-Prevent-strategy-in-educational-settings.pdf
7. National Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) ***Radicalisation*** (5/7/2024) <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/radicalisation>
8. Amber Hart, ***Risks, radicalisation and rehabilitation: Imprisonment of incarcerated terrorists*** Journal of Policing, Intelligence & Counter Terrorism, (Volume 15, 2020 – Issue 3) Available online at: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/18335330.2020.1817527?needAccess=true>
9. National College of Policing (UK) ***Neighbourhood policing – Evidence-based information, guidance, and advice*** (2024) Available online at: <https://www.college.police.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-policing>
10. N8 Policing Research Partnership, ***Community Engagement: Evidence Review*** (2018) Available online at: https://www.n8research.org.uk/media/CommunityEngagement_EvidenceReview.pdf



7. Presentation notes

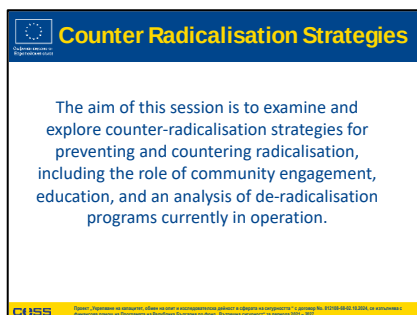
These presentation notes are intended to support and guide the trainer through the ‘*Counter-Radicalisation Strategies*’ topic syllabus ensuring all learning objectives and learning outcomes are achieved. These presentation notes should be read in conjunction with the topic text in section 7 of this report detailed below. The presentation notes provides the key messages which should be covered and communicated to students during the session. The duration of this topic presentation, included question and answers sessions throughout the presentation, is approximately 90 minutes.

SLIDE 1 – Welcome & Introduction



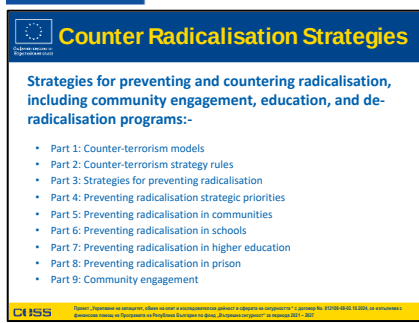
Introduction, welcome, title of the session - *Counter-Radicalisation Strategies: strategies for preventing and countering radicalisation, including community engagement, education, and de-radicalisation programs*

SLIDE 2 – Aim of the session



The aim of this session is to examine and explore counter-radicalisation strategies for preventing and countering radicalisation, including the role of community engagement, education, and an analysis of de-radicalisation programs currently in operation

SLIDE 3 – Session syllabus

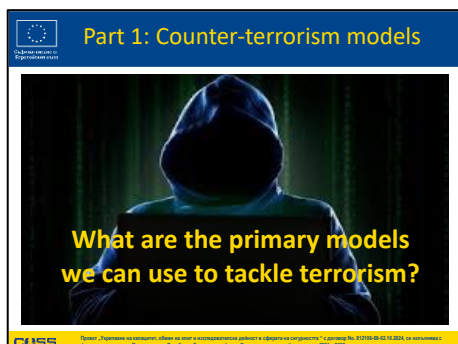


- Part 1: Counter-terrorism models
- Part 2: Counter-terrorism strategy rules
- Part 3: Strategies for preventing radicalisation
- Part 4: Preventing radicalisation strategic priorities
- Part 5: Preventing radicalisation in communities
- Part 6: Preventing radicalisation in schools
- Part 7: Preventing radicalisation in higher education
- Part 8: Preventing radicalisation in prison
- Part 9: Community engagement

The prevention of terrorist attacks remains the primary objective of counter-terrorism strategies operating throughout the world today, but they must also prepare emergency services to respond to the consequences of terrorism. In addition, counter-terrorism strategies need to be able to protect the public, having robust criminal justice systems in place to arrest and prosecute terrorists. Devising such a strategy is complex as a free and democratic society offers terrorists the same freedoms in which to operate and a counter-terrorism strategy must preserve the very freedoms that the terrorists wish to exploit. This is a very difficult balance to achieve as human rights, and civil liberties must be maintained for all.

An effective counter-terrorism strategy must also be able to be interpreted and applied into a programme of action by multiple organisations, departments and agencies of government. Contemporary counter-terrorism machinery now cuts across government departments, law enforcement agencies and intelligence agencies, all have an important role to play. For police and intelligence agency officers of all ranks and responsibilities, a better understanding of the role of the strategies and approaches to counter-radicalisation leading to extremist violence and to terrorism will serve to contextualise their contribution to national strategies and reinforce the collaborative approach required to tackle terrorism today at the most local level

SLIDE 4 – Introduction question





What are the primary models we can use to tackle terrorism?

SLIDE 5 – Part 1 – Counter terrorism models



Governments across the world today approach the design of their counter-terrorism strategies by considering three broad responses which includes the use of the military, criminal justice and the community.

Military Model - A military counter-terrorism strategic model is used by governments to tackle terrorists who pose a significant threat to national security. Terrorist groups who possess and utilize conventional weapons and aspire to possess chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear capabilities require a robust response which the military can offer. A military system for countering terrorism may also be required when domestic law enforcement agencies can no longer contain a specific terrorist threat. Armed forces have an increased capability of managing severe threats. Governments allow their military to plan and implement counter-terrorism strategies in such circumstances. The use of the military to counter terrorism very often meets the demand of the public and media for swift and tough action to be taken against terrorists and their sponsors BUT governments are aware of the challenges when deploying military measures to counter-terrorism which may have severe and long-term consequences if not carefully considered and implemented. A military response may increase the likelihood of further innocent casualties, which could lead to sympathy and support for the terrorist group and the potential of an escalation of violence. Deciding to use the military to combat a terrorist threat is a significant step for any government to take. This may however be necessary to protect innocent civilians and preserve national security.

Criminal Justice model - The use of a criminal justice system to counter-terrorism ensures that the process of dealing with terrorist suspects is legitimate. A criminal justice approach has several key advantages; none more so than the element of trust in a system which ensures that an individual's human rights are maintained when compared to the use of military measures to combat terrorism. A criminal justice system depends upon effective domestic law enforcement agencies and their ability to conduct complex terrorist investigations. Countering a global terrorist threat via a criminal justice system also depends upon efficient bi-lateral and multi-national co-operation. The most significant challenge in establishing and maintaining an effective criminal justice system to counter-terrorism is ensuring that robust legislation is in place that has the scope to keep pace with new and emerging terrorist threats but remains a necessary, appropriate and proportionate response.

Community model - The contemporary phase of new era global terrorism has shown that



communities can expose terrorism and violent extremism. The political and socioeconomic issues that give rise to anti-social behavior and low-level criminality are also those which give rise to serious and organized crime and to terrorism, and they begin at the most local level. Terrorists live within our communities and terrorists operate within our communities. The community model harnesses the collective attributes of communities seeking to create long term trusted relationships between charities, groups, residents, schools, clubs and associations, all of which have a role in challenging unacceptable behaviors and extremist views which may, overtime, evolve into violent views leading to acts of violence and to terrorist activity. The community model serves to support the community in its own efforts to create a strong, fair and tolerant society for itself. The community model emphasizes that communities as well as governments have a direct responsibility for increasing confidence and cohesion in their own community. Most importantly the community model provides all in authority with an opportunity to identify where pockets of extremism are emerging and where potential terrorist activity is taking place.

An effective counter-terrorism strategy should now be underpinned by a community approach as national security continues to depend upon neighborhood security. Empowering communities, listening to their grievances, concerns and supporting their activities and aspirations will all serve to build confident communities that are robust, resilient and ready to reject not just anti-social behavior or low-level criminality but also terrorism and violent extremism. The community model is based upon the trust and confidence between all its partners working together side by side and being united in the rejection of extremist rhetoric. Developing an effective community model requires time, dedication and commitment from all in authority but especially the police and local authorities who are very often the public face of this counter terrorism model, bringing communities together and supporting their collective activities. An effective counter terrorism strategy to tackle all forms of contemporary terrorism will effectively fuse the community, criminal justice and military models together. This fusion provides authorities with a flexible range of options that can be appropriately deployed as a justified, proportionate, necessary and legitimate response to tackle terrorist threats.

SLIDE 6 – Part 2: Counter Terrorism Strategy Rules

Part 2: Counter-terrorism Strategy Rules

12 Counter Terrorism Strategy Rules:

1. Address the underlying conflict issues
2. Prevent alienated individuals and radical groups
3. Encourage defection and conversion of free and imprisoned terrorists
4. Deny terrorists access to arms & explosives
5. Reduce low-risk/high-gain opportunities for terrorists to strike
6. Keep in mind that terrorists seek publicity
7. Prepare for crisis and consequence management
8. Establish an all-sources early detection and early warning system
9. Strengthen coordination of efforts against terrorism
10. Show solidarity with, and offer support to, victims of terrorism
11. Maintain the moral high ground in the struggle with terrorists
12. Counter the ideologies, indoctrination and propaganda

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PART 2 - Counter-terrorism strategy rules - As part of a major study which synthesised more than two decades of scholarly research in the field of terrorism studies, Professor Alex P Schmidt , Director of the Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI), identifies twelve rules for preventing and combating terrorism. The twelve rules, illustrated here, were drawn from the responses of 100 experts in 20 countries who shared their experiences of counter-terrorism and the lessons they had learnt from the counter-measures they had deployed. The twelve



rules now provide policy makers with a framework to construct effective counter terrorism strategies and support the interpretation and application of such strategies by police officers and their partners.

1. Try to **address the underlying conflict** issues exploited by the terrorists and work towards a peaceful solution while not making substantive concessions to the terrorists themselves.
2. **Prevent alienated individuals and radical groups** from becoming terrorist extremists by confronting them with a mix of 'carrot' and 'stick' tactics and searching for effective counter-motivation models.
3. Stimulate and **encourage defection and conversion of free and imprisoned terrorists** and find ways to reduce the tacit or open support of aggrieved constituencies for terrorist organizations.
4. **Deny terrorists access to arms, explosives, false identification documents**, safe communication, and safe travel and sanctuaries; disrupt and incapacitate their preparations and operations through infiltration, communications intercepts and espionage, and by limiting their criminal and other fund-raising capabilities.
5. **Reduce low-risk/high-gain opportunities for terrorists to strike** by enhancing communications security, energy security and transportation security, by hardening critical infrastructures and potential sites where mass casualties can occur, and by applying principles of situational crime prevention to the countering of terrorism
6. **Keep in mind that terrorists seek publicity** and exploit the media and the internet to gain recognition, propagate their cause, glorify their attacks, win recruits, solicit donations, gather intelligence, disseminate terrorist know-how and communicate with their target audiences.
7. **Prepare for crisis and consequence management** for both 'regular' and 'catastrophic' acts of terrorism in coordinated simulation exercises and educate first responders and the public on how best to cope.
8. **Establish an all-sources early detection and early warning intelligence system** against terrorism and other violent crimes on the interface between organized crime and political conflict.
9. **Strengthen coordination of efforts against terrorism** both within and between states; enhance international police and intelligence cooperation and offer technical assistance to those countries that lack the know-how and means to upgrade their counter-terrorism instruments.
10. **Show solidarity with, and offer support to, victims of terrorism at home and overseas.**
11. **Maintain the moral high ground in the struggle with terrorists** by defending and strengthening the rule of law, good governance, democracy and social justice and by matching your deeds with your words.
12. Finally: **counter the ideologies, indoctrination and propaganda** of secular and non-secular terrorists and try to get the upper hand in the war of ideas – the battle for the hearts and minds of those the terrorists claim to speak and fight for.



SLIDE 7 – Part 3: Strategies for Preventing Radicalisation



PART 3 - Strategies for preventing radicalization - The 'preventing radicalisation' strand of a counter terrorism strategy is concerned with tackling the radicalization of individuals. It aims to do this by addressing structural problems in the host nation and overseas that may contribute to the process of radicalization development, such as inequalities and discrimination. To prevent terrorism and its underlying causes requires a long-term approach. The strategy intends to deter those who facilitate terrorism and deter those who encourage others to become terrorists. This requires a change in the environment where extremists and those radicalizing others operate. The prevent radicalisation strand also aims to engage in the battle of ideas, to win hearts and minds by challenging the ideologies that extremists believe can justify the use of violence. Preventing terrorism and extremism is the proactive element of the strategy. You will face a challenge from terrorism and violent extremism where a very small minority seek to harm innocent people in the name of an ideology which causes division, hatred, and violence.

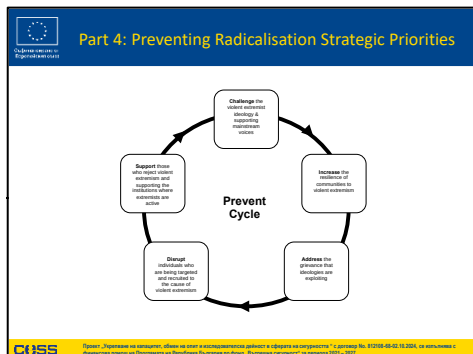
The role of the government is to take tough security measures needed to keep people safe, but a security response alone is not enough, a response led and driven by local communities is vital. The very essence of a Preventing radicalisation strategy seeks to engage partners to work together to challenge and expose the ideology that sanctions and encourages indiscriminate violence. There is a pressing need to stop people, especially young people, getting drawn into illegal activities associated with violent extremism. A Preventing radicalisation strategy identifies the need to expose and isolate the apologists for violence and protect the places where they operate. It states that local authorities, the police, and their partners in schools, other educational institutions and elsewhere, have a critical role in preventing violent extremism as they understand the local context and are in a unique position to talk to local communities, hear their concerns and enable people to stand shoulder to shoulder, confident in their rejection and condemnation of violence.

Concepts such as community engagement, multi-agency working and public assurance - now widely accepted and practiced in local policing - were to migrate into the policing of violent ideology. All police officers, and not just those specialist counter-terrorism officers, therefore had to share in the tasks. Counter terrorism policing has become a matter for all in the police, for all their strategic partners and for all the public. Preventing radicalisation should be seen as a crime prevention initiative. For example, if a group of young children are being targeted by drug dealers outside a school premises, the school would work at introducing drug awareness initiatives, arrange for police to patrol the area and work with other agencies, as well as parents, to divert the young people away from that activity. In very much the same way, if agencies are concerned that individuals are displaying extremist tendencies towards



any form of violent personal, religious or politically motivated ideology, front line practitioners should be able to consult with other agencies in pre-existing forums to make honest and informed decisions.

SLIDE 8 – Part 4: Preventing Radicalisation Strategic Priorities



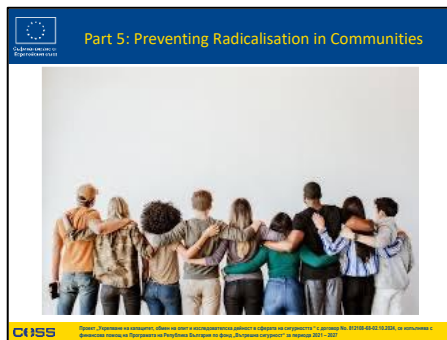
PART 4 - Preventing radicalisation strategic priorities, the overall framework of preventing radicalisation strategies must specifically focuses upon three key elements of ideology, individuals and institutions (more commonly referred to as the 3i's) and shall.

- respond to the **ideological challenge** of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it.
- **prevent people from being drawn into terrorism** and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support; and
- work with **sectors and institutions** where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address.

Preventing radicalisation must highlight that everyone has a right to live in a safe and welcoming neighborhood where they feel they belong. At the same time, it identifies that no neighborhood can truly succeed unless local people define their future by working together to tackle the challenges they face. The government firmly believes that when people have a say in the design and delivery of public services, those services better meet their needs. Places where local people have the opportunities, skills and confidence to come together and address the problems they face are more likely to resolve them. Preventing terrorism at its source requires a cycle of sustained effort illustrated in the figure shown in the slide – *Preventing radicalisation strategy cycle*.

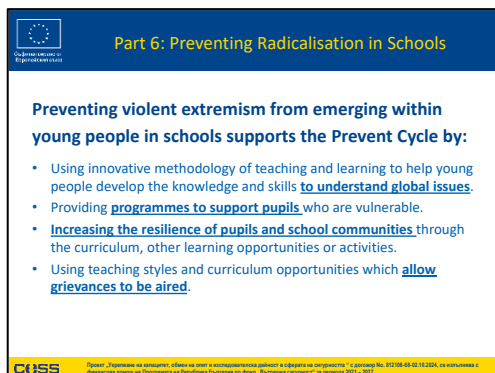


SLIDE 9 – Part 5: Preventing Radicalisation in Communities



PART 5 - Preventing radicalisation in communities - Counter-terrorism research over recent years has focused upon answering questions concerning the challenge of radicalization, defined as the process by which people adopt an interpretation of religious, political or ideological belief that may lead to them legitimizing the use of violence. It is important for all in authority, and not just those working in counter-terrorism departments, to be aware of the findings of this research as it contributes to the government's understanding of the precursors, processes, and operational characteristics of radicalization. Among the nodes of radicalization, academics and research institutes have identified what they view as the vulnerable institutions. This could be any institution that has the potential of housing vulnerable individuals who can be influenced by radical ideology. These institutions can be religious premises, educational establishments and prisons. Previous case studies have also identified these kinds of institutions as being a fertile area for radicalisation. It is these very areas where the focus of preventing radicalisation activity has been targeted over recent years.

SLIDE 10 – Part 6: Preventing Radicalisation in Schools



PART 6 - Preventing radicalisation in schools - Schools have an important role to play in preventing violent extremism. All in authority must now recognize that terrorists operating in the countries are intentionally and systematically targeting young people, and individuals as young as 15 and 16 have already been implicated in terrorist-related activity. When compared against other types of crime, terrorist offences are relatively few, yet analysis of perpetrators indicates that the average age at the time of their arrest is 25. More notably, most of the individuals concerned have been educated in schools and several have exhibited degrees of vulnerability while of school age prior to being radicalized as teenagers. The purpose of preventing radicalisation in schools is simply to offer opportunities to create safe

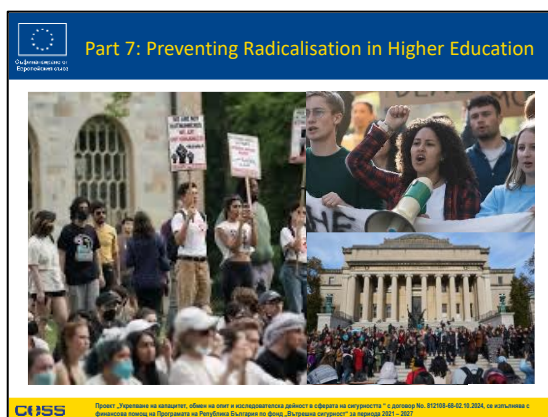


spaces to address and challenge perceptions that may fuel associated grievance. This kind of approach will enable young people to build on critical analysis skills to challenge influence from violent extremism in the future. Preventing violent extremism from emerging within young people in schools supports the Prevent Cycle by:

- Using innovative methodology of teaching and learning to help young people develop the knowledge and skills to understand global issues.
- Providing programmes to support pupils who are vulnerable.
- Increasing the resilience of pupils and school communities through the curriculum, other learning opportunities or activities.
- Using teaching styles and curriculum opportunities which allow grievances to be aired.

Accepting that education plays a key role in forming adult values is the first and most important step in countering this threat. It cannot and must not be ignored, yet preventative measures in schools requires a sensitive, delicate and morally justified response—but it does require a response. It is widely acknowledged across government, in particular departments responsible for schools, education, children and families, that preventing violent extremism in schools is a challenging issue which needs to be a shared endeavour across local partners and communities, with activities tailored to meet local needs. Young people are our future and as society protects and educates them to identify a variety of risks such as alcohol, tobacco and drugs, it is also important to support the welfare of pupils who may be particularly vulnerable to recruitment and radicalization. Preventing radicalisation in schools serves to highlight the complexity of the threat of today's terrorism and the reach required of counter measures to protect the public now and in the future.

SLIDE 11 – Part 7: Preventing Radicalisation in Higher Education



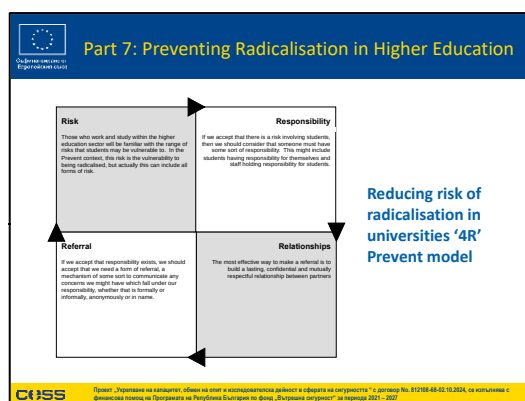
PART 7 - Prevent in higher education - Universities hold a unique cultural and legal position in many nations across the world. Not only do they offer opportunities for academic excellence, but they are also upheld across the globe for providing a complete learning experience through a mix of social and academic experiences. There are times, however, when universities need support from other agencies to safeguard the well-being of their students. Studies also show that more than 30% of people convicted of all Qaida associated terrorist offences in the UK between 1999 and 2009 are known to have attended university. While the body of evidence gathered so far may strongly suggest that the radicalisation of young adults while studying at university presents a risk, this does not in any way mean that HEIs are at fault for the development of radicalisation. With a large and diverse student



population attending university, some extremist organizations target specific institutions with the objective of radicalizing and recruiting students. As a direct result of this emerging threat preventing radicalisation strategies must identify that HEIs have a role to play in reducing the risk from terrorism by working in partnership to challenge terrorist ideologies, support those who are vulnerable to being radicalized and work with those institutions where radicalization takes place. Preventing radicalisation is not wholly accepted by universities or students; despite the strategies aim to support those who are vulnerable from becoming terrorists.

The National Union of Students finds the language and approach of preventing radicalisation problematic, whilst academics are concerned at the potential erosion of freedom of speech. It is important that the police should not expect students or staff to readily accept preventing radicalisation. In fact, if police who engaged with HEIs embrace challenge and debate whilst being aware of the sensitivities that students and academics might possess, preventing radicalisation has a much greater chance of success. Police officers must recognize that universities play a key role in promoting rigorous debate, free speech and freedom of enquiry within the law, which means that they need to be able to tolerate a wide range of political, social, economic and scientific views, regardless of how unpopular, controversial or provocative these views are. It is important that academics continue to encourage and expect students under their tutorship to be radical thinkers and to question existing concepts to push current boundaries beyond the state of the art. When a student develops extremist perspectives and takes steps to consider violence and hatred to progress their views or encouraged others to do so then they are moving beyond the threshold of what is acceptable. In such circumstances universities have a duty of care to their students and wider society and are required to identify and support such students who are expressing vulnerability to extremist ideology that may lead to violence. Universities also need to recognize that the police service, through the prevention of radicalisation are there to help and support them and the welfare of their students.

SLIDE 12 – Part 7: Preventing Radicalisation in Higher Education



It is important for the effective delivery of preventing radicalisation that police officers engaging with HEIs acknowledge that universities must uphold academic freedom and provide an environment for research and open debate but in this context all in authority

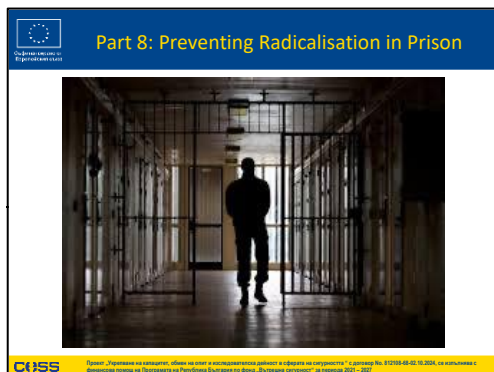


within HEIs must acknowledge the following.

- HEIs possess some form of risk for their students and staff.
- HEIs staff, students and the police have a responsibility to help minimize and mitigate against the risks to individual and public safety.
- HEIs and multi-agency partnership work is crucial to safeguard vulnerability.
- HEIs and police collaborative partnership and relationship building form the foundation of future work to identify, mitigating, minimize and manage risk to individuals, public safety and reputation of HEIs.

These themes assist in creating a simple '4R' model for reducing risk at universities shown in the figure in the slide. Police officers and police staff who work with HEIs may find the model useful in discussing how preventing radicalisation fits with students and staff. The positive outcome of the model is that risk is reduced by building strong professional relationships. The use of the 4R model as a basic tool to build partnerships between the police service and HEIs is an effective framework to explain how safeguarding and raising awareness of vulnerability can be understood by those who work within universities. It provides a basis on which to build a positive and productive working relationship. In practice, building long-term strategic partnerships means that police and HEIs colleagues must get to know one another, share information appropriately and work together to solve challenges. From preventing radicalisation perspectives, this relationship is not about gathering intelligence. It is about talking about risks and working together to manage, mitigate and minimize the risks to public safety.

SLIDE 13 – Part 8: Preventing Radicalisation in Prison



PART 8: Preventing radicalization in prison - The radicalisation of inmates in prison has become an issue of high priority to public policymakers across the world. Radicalization in prison is not a new phenomenon, it is something that has occurred throughout our penal history. There are many lessons to be learned from previous experiences that remain valid in countering the contemporary threats from domestic and international genre of terrorists. However, there are unique challenges that arise from the extreme Islamist genre of today's terrorism and none more so than the immediacy of the threat, the way in which self-starting groups and individuals are recruited and its total disregard of human rights in its embrace violent extremism. Over recent years individuals have emerged from our communities as 'home-grown' terrorists. The prison environment is now regarded as a 'community' itself and



the government is keen to prevent those individuals within the prison community emerging as 'prison-grown' terrorists upon their release. However, prisons are unlike other communities in that they maintain a barrier to social intercourse with the outside and their deliberate and stated purpose is to punish their inmates on behalf of the wider society. Therefore, radicalization within prison is unique when compared to other locations where radicalization is taking place. Many nations across the world have learned already that prison is a location which is vulnerable to extremists who propagate their ideas and draw individuals down a path of willingness to condone or even participate in violence to political ends. Extremists can exploit the psychological and emotional shock that individuals experience on entering the prison system, as well as the difficulties individuals experience in coming to terms with daily life and the confined social interaction possible within the prison environment.

SLIDE 14 – Part 9 – Community Engagement



Prevent delivery - The long-term solution to preventing terrorism is to stop people becoming terrorists or becoming involved in violent extremism. Through a prevention of radicalisation strategy, the police service and its partners have an integral role to play working with local communities to support people who are vulnerable to being drawn into criminal activity and to challenge those who support violent extremism. Preventing radicalisation should not be seen as an intelligence gathering tool, it should be seen as a tool to safeguard vulnerability today. A wide ranging prevent strategy and delivery plan should set out the national police service contribution to the providing the foundations upon which the delivery of preventing radicalisation continues to be actioned including: -

- To mainstream preventing radicalisation into day-to-day policing, through neighborhood policing, community engagement and related activity.
- To work in partnership to support vulnerable individuals and institutions.
- Ensure a joined-up approach to all police counter terrorism activity.
- Develop preventing radicalisation capability at local, regional and national level.

Preventing Radicalisation Programmes - There are numerous programmes to prevent and counter radicalisation in operation across the world today. As an excellent example, the UK's ACT NOW (All Communities Together) programme is an interactive counter terrorism exercise which is hosted by a police force or trained facilitator which invites participants to become investigators and work through a fictitious terrorist incident. Throughout the half-day event the participants receive regular media updates which requires them to make crucial



decisions which impact upon the lives of their communities. ACT NOW is designed to support engagement between people from different communities, ages, cultures and faiths. The exercise takes place in a safe and confidential community setting in which sensitive issues around terrorism can be discussed. ACT NOW recognizes that community reassurance is an important part of the role-play and during the event participants are required to deal with the media and to regularly brief communities on the incident and the policy response. Supporting those who may be vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremism is a key strand of the prevent radicalisation. All areas of the country are required to have local action plans in place to support vulnerable individuals; in some areas this support is provided by a process known as Channel.

Channel focuses on understanding the need for early intervention opportunities and exploiting these to safeguard vulnerability within individuals. Interventions are basically a package of measures aimed at swaying the individual away from their chosen path and diverting them back into society. The goal is to try and make a connection with the individual to ensure their safety as well as the safety of society. Interventions cannot be led by police service as they may not be best placed to intervene with individuals who already have pre-existing grievances. It should be recognised that police services where violent extremism is concerned can be seen as an extension of the state and therefore may be part of the problem as opposed to being a solution. However, where police officers are in regular contact with the individual, their involvement may be necessary to ensure that they are sighted on the issues and can be part of the support framework. The intervention technique utilised depends on the agencies involved, resources available, information available and at what point, the individual is in their journey into radicalisation. Due to a lack of a definitive profile of a terrorist, intervention also needs to be assessed on a case-by-case basis and tailored and adapted to the needs of the individuals. Channel provides a mechanism for the above process by assessing the nature and the extent of the potential risk and, where necessary, providing an appropriate support package tailored to an individual's needs. Channel is made up of a multi-agency panel that decides on the most appropriate support framework to support individuals taking their circumstances into account.

The partnership focused structure is like existing, successful partnership initiatives which aim to support individuals and protect them from harm, such as drugs and involvement in knife and gun crime. Supporting those most at risk of being drawn into violent extremism is about diverting people away from potential risk at an early stage which prevents them from being drawn into criminal activity. Partnership involvement ensures that those at risk have access to a wide range of support ranging from diversionary activities through to providing access to specific services such as education, housing and employment. Channel is not about reporting or informing on individuals to prosecute them. It is about communities working together to support vulnerable people at an early stage, preventing them from being drawn in to violent extremism.

Community Engagement - Police officers and the wider police family at all levels must understand the full extent to which Community Policing can contribute towards national counter-terrorism efforts. As discussed in previous chapters, the contemporary phase of counter-terrorism has evolved important new trends alongside palpable moves towards expansion and localism. The discovery of the home-grown terrorist threat, embedded citizens



living in our communities has challenged the traditional pursuit of terrorists to ensure that counter-terrorism practices are able to draw upon the information and goodwill of communities from which aberrant extremists are recruited and radicalised. A major shift towards harnessing the capacity of the public to support the broader counter-terrorism effort has been an important development in the history of UK counter-terrorism practice. The counter-terrorism continuum, the unbroken thread of intelligence that links the neighbourhood to the nation, remains the critical spinal cord of the UK counter-terrorism architecture. The lesson of international terrorism is that issues which give rise to low level crime and the development of violent extremism leading to terrorism, begin at the most local level. Thus, national security increasingly depends upon neighbourhood security, and good intelligence to prevent terrorism at its source has come to the fore.

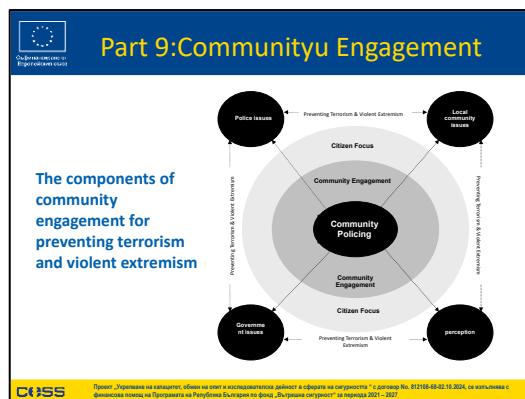
While Community Policing has been embedded in police practice for over a decade, many officers do not fully understand nor appreciate the scale and scope of Community Policing and how it has served to significantly reduce crime and the fear of crime. It is essential that all members of the police family understand more about the philosophy, delivery mechanisms and key characteristics of Community Policing that are in operation today if they are to fully support and contribute towards the prevention of terrorism and violent extremism.

At its simplest level, police interaction with the public through Community Policing reassures communities about the risk from terrorism and reminds the public to remain vigilant. But the individual and collective efforts of a professional and positive Community Policing team, who are both informed of the terrorist threats in their locality and conduct their duties through the lens of counter-terrorism, can directly prevent terrorism and protect the communities they serve. Recognising the need to invest in police officers understanding of Community Policing and more importantly, the vital links to preventing terrorism and violent extremism, this chapter captures the early development and creation of Community Policing, providing the context from which it emerged as the preferred policing system in the UK. This is followed by a clear explanation of Community Policing and its guiding principles of community engagement, collaborative problem solving, partnerships and intelligence-led ethos, all of which provides a framework to deliver effective Community Policing. Throughout the reading of this chapter all are encouraged to recall the uncomfortable truth outlined in previous chapters: terrorists are already here in the UK and are living amongst us. The task for all the police with the help of their partners and the public, is to uncover what they do not want us to know so we can stop them from attacking us and stop them recruiting and radicalising others living in our communities to do so for their extremist cause.

Community Policing must have effective engagement, communication and feedback strategies, with clear explanations of where accountability lies. 'Effective engagement, communication and feedback' all serve to reinforce a community's sense of security and safety. This is a vital element in preventing terrorism and violence extremism at a local level, serving to build resilient communities who reject extremist rhetoric and recover quickly from terrorist events. An increased sense of public safety and security help towards minimising the fear, vulnerability and insecurity which terrorists seek to instil in our citizens.



SLIDE 15 – Part 9: Community Engagement



As a concept 'community engagement' is wide-ranging which involves engaging with the community, either at an individual or at a group level, and includes residents in decisions that affect them and the areas in which they live. The engagement is a two-way process, and the police must listen to the concerns of the community. The police service know all too well that it is very often the people in communities who really need support are those that are assessed as either 'hard to reach' or 'hard to hear'. Articulate, well-resourced and fully integrated citizens have very few challenges when attempting to engage with the local police about their specific concerns compared with those in the community who are most in need of being heard.

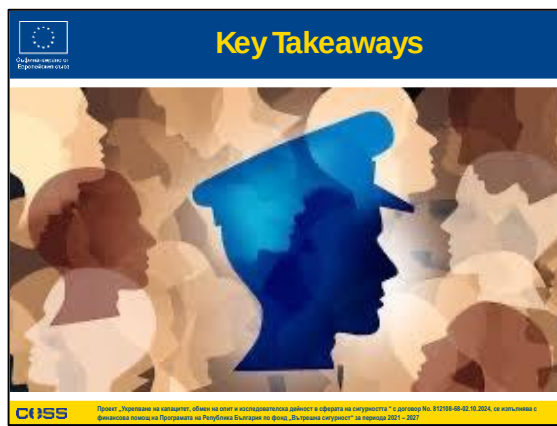
These individuals and groups are very often minority communities who may be disadvantaged, discriminated against, demonised or otherwise uninvolved and detached from society. While these are merely indicative examples, every police force area will include individual citizens or groups who do not normally engage in open dialogue with the police. For the effective delivery of policing terrorism and violent extremism, every effort must be made by local policing to reach out and engage with individuals, groups and communities who can support and inform local counter measures and interventions. Police and their partners have a responsibility to engage with communities, their concerns, and their identified priorities. To effectively engage with the community requires a citizen focused approach which bridges the gap between what the public wants and what the police can deliver. The shift towards citizen focused policing is not just an internal police management issue, nor is it merely a public relations issue; it is fundamentally about organizational culture which underpins the ethos of Community Policing. The police need to involve the community in decision-making to increase their accountability and legitimacy. The contemporary citizen is no longer a passive observer of policing but has become a 'consumer' and 'customer' of the policing product and therefore will not simply tolerate being ignored, left on the sidelines, and not consulted. Citizen focused policing means reflecting the needs and expectations of individuals and local communities. The objectives of citizen focused policing are to improve public confidence, to increase satisfaction of police service users and to increase public involvement in policing. Citizen focused policing is not a new area of business or a stand-alone project. It must be embedded through everything the police do and the way it is done including the prevention of terrorism and violent extremism through Community Policing. One of the most important concepts within Community Policing for the prevention of terrorism and violent extremism at a local community level is that it is not divorced nor separated from other policing or public sector activity. Community Policing exists in symbiosis



with community engagement and citizen focus to effectively deliver counter terrorism policing as this diagram illustrates

To reinforce the message of safety and security, the police and partners must engage in marketing, public relations and communicating messages with considerable expertise, sensitivity and sophistication. For the effective delivery of policing terrorism and violent extremism, every effort must be made to reach out and engage with individuals, groups and communities who can support and inform local counter terrorism preventative measures and interventions. Community engagement strategies concerning terrorism and violent extremism must be embedded into the very culture of day-to-day Community Policing.

SLIDE 16 – Conclusions & Key Takeaways



Violent extremists are constantly adapting as is apparent in recent terrorist attacks and seeking new tactics aided by social media in both attack planning and recruitment. Preventing radicalisation strategies enables the police service to adapt and strengthen accordingly and address the way we respond to deter people from being radicalized. Preventing radicalisation must be embraced as a crime prevention initiative. It is difficult to measure success in the journey of preventing radicalisation. But if preventing radicalisation is embedded as a crime prevention initiative within normal policing framework, we will make considerable progress to deter attacks by home-grown terrorists.

Extensive feedback from communities and police partners shows that the police service is moving in the right direction and beginning to make a difference. Preventing radicalisation has been instrumental in helping the police service improve its understanding of the communities they serve and engagement with “fail to reach” communities has improved significantly. Prevent has also allowed the police service to cement more effective partnerships with key agencies which makes the strategy build an atmosphere of trust rather than grievance and resentment.

Preventing radicalisation is without doubt a challenging and complex arena that requires a whole community approach to empower communities, challenge those who espouse violence and safeguard those who are vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremism. It will only have effect if the police service continues to build trust and confidence through renewed and consistent engagement activity. The police service responsibility to prevent radicalisation is not a short-term priority to be discontinued as the threat level recedes.

The threat from terrorism remains high and it is vital that the policing response remains dynamic in response to violent extremism from wherever it emerges. Preventing radicalisation is



something that the police service is doing with its partners and all communities as a longer-term objective. It is an objective that most importantly, promotes a shared ownership agenda and brings the police service closer to the communities they serve and protect.

SLIDE 17 – Any Questions?



Thank you & close

7. Topic content

7.1 Introduction

The prevention of terrorist attacks remains the primary objective of counter-terrorism strategies operating throughout the world today, but they must also prepare emergency services to respond to the consequences of terrorism. In addition, counter-terrorism strategies need to be able to protect the public, having robust criminal justice systems in place to arrest and prosecute terrorists. Devising such a strategy is complex as a free and democratic society offers terrorists the same freedoms in which to operate and a counter-terrorism strategy must preserve the very freedoms that the terrorists wish to exploit. This is a very difficult balance to achieve as human rights, and civil liberties must be maintained for all.

An effective counter-terrorism strategy must also be able to be interpreted and applied into a programme of action by multiple organisations, departments and agencies of government. Contemporary counter-terrorism machinery now cuts across government departments, law enforcement agencies and intelligence agencies, all have an important role to play. For police and intelligence agency officers of all ranks and responsibilities, a better understanding of the role of the strategies and approaches to counter-radicalisation leading to extremist violence and to terrorism will serve to contextualise their contribution to national strategies and reinforce the collaborative approach required to tackle terrorism today at the most local level

7.2 Counter-Terrorism Models

Governments across the world today approach the design of their counter-terrorism strategies by considering three broad responses which includes the use of the military, criminal justice and the community.



7.2.1 Military Model

A military counter-terrorism strategic model is used by governments to tackle terrorists who pose a significant threat to national security. Terrorist groups who possess and utilize conventional weapons and aspire to possess chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear capabilities require a robust response which the military can offer. A military system for countering terrorism may also be required when domestic law enforcement agencies can no longer contain a specific terrorist threat. Armed forces have an increased capability of managing severe threats. Governments allow their military to plan and implement counter-terrorism strategies in such circumstances.

The use of the military to counter terrorism very often meets the demand of the public and media for swift and tough action to be taken against terrorists and their sponsors. The military can deliver a clear message to those who seek to further their cause through acts of violence but using the military effectively requires strong support from domestic intelligence and law enforcement agencies. Military units that engage in street-by-street urban conflicts to combat terrorist activity are required to adapt to this type of environment. Governments are aware of the challenges when deploying military measures to counter-terrorism which may have severe and long-term consequences if not carefully considered and implemented.

A military response may increase the likelihood of further innocent casualties, which could lead to sympathy and support for the terrorist group and the potential of an escalation of violence. The actions of the military may therefore undermine democracy and raise concerns about human rights—the very values being protected. Military action taken in response to terrorist activity may lose support for their measures, leaving society to question the validity of the action taken. Deciding to use the military to combat a terrorist threat is a significant step for any government to take. This may however be necessary to protect innocent civilians and preserve national security.

7. 2.2 Criminal Justice model

The use of a criminal justice system to counter-terrorism ensures that the process of dealing with terrorist suspects is legitimate. A criminal justice approach has several key advantages; none more so than the element of trust in a system which ensures that an individual's human rights are maintained when comparative to the use of military measures to combat terrorism. A criminal justice system depends upon effective domestic law enforcement agencies and their ability to conduct complex terrorist investigations. Countering a global terrorist threat via a criminal justice system also depends upon efficient bi-lateral and multi-national co-operation. The most significant challenge in establishing and maintaining an effective criminal justice system to counter-terrorism is ensuring that robust legislation is in place that has the scope to keep pace with new and emerging terrorist threats but remains a necessary, appropriate and proportionate response.

7.2.3 Community model

The contemporary phase of new era global terrorism has shown that communities can expose terrorism and violent extremism. The political and socioeconomic issues that give rise to anti-social behavior and low-level criminality are also those which give rise to serious and organized



crime and to terrorism, and they begin at the most local level. Terrorists live within our communities and terrorists operate within our communities. The community model harnesses the collective attributes of communities seeking to create long term trusted relationships between charities, groups, residents, schools, clubs and associations, all of which have a role in challenging unacceptable behaviors and extremist views which may, overtime, evolve into violent views leading to acts of violence and to terrorist activity.

The community model serves to support the community in its own efforts to create a strong, fair and tolerant society for itself. The community model emphasizes that communities as well as governments have a direct responsibility for increasing confidence and cohesion in their own community. Most importantly the community model provides all in authority with an opportunity to identify where pockets of extremism are emerging and where potential terrorist activity is taking place.

An effective counter-terrorism strategy should now be underpinned by a community approach as national security continues to depend upon neighborhood security. Empowering communities, listening to their grievances, concerns and supporting their activities and aspirations will all serve to build confident communities that are robust, resilient and ready to reject not just anti-social behavior or low-level criminality but also terrorism and violent extremism. The community model is based upon the trust and confidence between all its partners working together side by side and being united in the rejection of extremist rhetoric. Developing an effective community model requires time, dedication and commitment from all in authority but especially the police and local authorities who are very often the public face of this counter terrorism model, bringing communities together and supporting their collective activities.

An effective counter terrorism strategy to tackle all forms of contemporary terrorism will effectively fuse the community, criminal justice and military models together. This fusion provides authorities with a flexible range of options that can be appropriately deployed as a justified, proportionate, necessary and legitimate response to tackle terrorist threats.

7.3 Counter-terrorism strategy rules

As part of a major study which synthesised more than two decades of scholarly research in the field of terrorism studies, Professor Alex P Schmidt , Director of the Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI), identifies twelve rules for preventing and combating terrorism. The twelve rules, illustrated in Table 4.1, were drawn from the responses of 100 experts in 20 countries who shared their experiences of counter-terrorism and the lessons they had learnt from the counter-measures they had deployed. The twelve rules now provide policy makers with a framework to construct effective counter terrorism strategies and support the interpretation and application of such strategies by police officers and their partners.

1. Try to address the underlying conflict issues exploited by the terrorists and work towards a peaceful solution while not making substantive concessions to the terrorists themselves.



2. Prevent alienated individuals and radical groups from becoming terrorist extremists by confronting them with a mix of 'carrot' and 'stick' tactics and searching for effective counter-motivation models.
3. Stimulate and encourage defection and conversion of free and imprisoned terrorists and find ways to reduce the tacit or open support of aggrieved constituencies for terrorist organizations.
4. Deny terrorists access to arms, explosives, false identification documents, safe communication, and safe travel and sanctuaries; disrupt and incapacitate their preparations and operations through infiltration, communications intercepts and espionage, and by limiting their criminal and other fund-raising capabilities.
5. Reduce low-risk/high-gain opportunities for terrorists to strike by enhancing communications security, energy security and transportation security, by hardening critical infrastructures and potential sites where mass casualties can occur, and by applying principles of situational crime prevention to the countering of terrorism
6. Keep in mind that terrorists seek publicity and exploit the media and the internet to gain recognition, propagate their cause, glorify their attacks, win recruits, solicit donations, gather intelligence, disseminate terrorist know-how and communicate with their target audiences.
7. Prepare for crisis and consequence management for both 'regular' and 'catastrophic' acts of terrorism in coordinated simulation exercises and educate first responders and the public on how best to cope.
8. Establish an all-sources early detection and early warning intelligence system against terrorism and other violent crimes on the interface between organized crime and political conflict.
9. Strengthen coordination of efforts against terrorism both within and between states; enhance international police and intelligence cooperation and offer technical assistance to those countries that lack the know-how and means to upgrade their counter-terrorism instruments.
10. Show solidarity with, and offer support to, victims of terrorism at home and overseas.
11. Maintain the moral high ground in the struggle with terrorists by defending and strengthening the rule of law, good governance, democracy and social justice and by matching your deeds with your words.
12. Finally: counter the ideologies, indoctrination and propaganda of secular and non-secular terrorists and try to get the upper hand in the war of ideas – the battle for the hearts and minds of those the terrorists claim to speak and fight for.

7.4 Strategies for preventing radicalisation

The 'preventing radicalisation' strand of a counter terrorism strategy is concerned with tackling the radicalization of individuals. It aims to do this by addressing structural problems in the host nation and overseas that may contribute to the process of radicalization development, such as inequalities and discrimination. To prevent terrorism and its underlying causes requires a long-term approach. The strategy intends to deter those who facilitate terrorism and deter those who encourage others to become terrorists. This requires a change in the environment where extremists and those radicalizing others operate. The prevent radicalisation strand also aims to engage in the battle of ideas, to win hearts and minds by



challenging the ideologies that extremists believe can justify the use of violence.

Preventing or countering violent extremism, often referred to as the 'PVE' or 'CVE'. Preventing terrorism and extremism is the proactive element of the strategy. The government believes that the UK, like many other countries, faces a challenge from terrorism and violent extremism where a very small minority seek to harm innocent people in the name of an ideology which causes division, hatred, and violence. The role of the government is to take tough security measures needed to keep people safe, but a security response alone is not enough, a response led and driven by local communities is vital. The very essence of the Prevent strategy seeks to engage partners to work together to challenge and expose the ideology that sanctions and encourages indiscriminate violence. There is a pressing need to stop people, especially young people, getting drawn into illegal activities associated with violent extremism. The Prevent strategy identifies the need to expose and isolate the apologists for violence and protect the places where they operate. It states that local authorities, the police, and their partners in schools, other educational institutions and elsewhere, have a critical role in preventing violent extremism as they understand the local context and are in a unique position to talk to local communities, hear their concerns and enable people to stand shoulder to shoulder, confident in their rejection and condemnation of violence.

Concepts such as community engagement, multi-agency working and public assurance - now widely accepted and practiced in local policing - were to migrate into the policing of violent ideology. All police officers, and not just those specialist counter-terrorism officers, therefore had to share in the tasks. Counter terrorism policing thus became a matter for all in the police, for all their strategic partners and for all the public. Preventing radicalisation should be seen as a crime prevention initiative. For example, if a group of young children are being targeted by drug dealers outside a school premises, the school would work at introducing drug awareness initiatives, arrange for police to patrol the area and work with other agencies, as well as parents, to divert the young people away from that activity. In very much the same way, if agencies are concerned that individuals are displaying extremist tendencies towards any form of violent personal, religious or politically motivated ideology, front line practitioners should be able to consult with other agencies in pre-existing forums to make honest and informed decisions.

7.5 Preventing radicalisation strategic priorities

The overall framework of preventing radicalisation strategies must specifically focuses upon three key elements of ideology, individuals and institutions (more commonly referred to as the 3i's) and shall.

- respond to the **ideological challenge** of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it.
- **prevent people from being drawn into terrorism** and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support; and
- work with **sectors and institutions** where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address.

Preventing radicalisation must highlight that everyone has a right to live in a safe and



welcoming neighborhood where they feel they belong. At the same time, it identifies that no neighborhood can truly succeed unless local people define their future by working together to tackle the challenges they face. The government firmly believes that when people have a say in the design and delivery of public services, those services better meet their needs. Places where local people have the opportunities, skills and confidence to come together and address the problems they face are more likely to resolve them. Preventing terrorism at its source requires a cycle of sustained effort illustrated in the figure below.

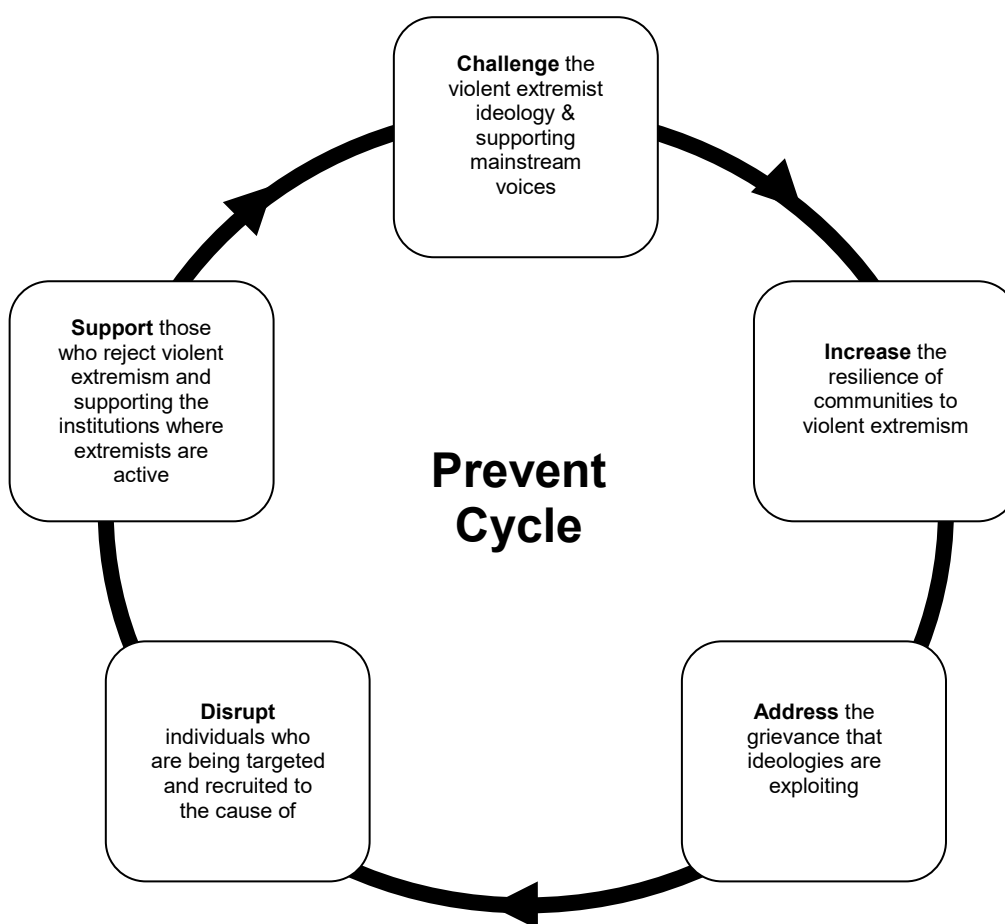


Figure 1 – Preventing radicalisation cycle

7.6 Preventing radicalisation in communities

Counter-terrorism research over recent years has focused upon answering questions concerning the challenge of radicalization, defined as the process by which people adopt an interpretation of religious, political or ideological belief that may lead to them legitimizing the use of violence. It is important for all in authority, and not just those working in counter-terrorism departments, to be aware of the findings of this research as it contributes to the government's understanding of the precursors, processes, and operational characteristics of radicalization. Among the nodes of radicalization, academics and research institutes have identified what they view as the vulnerable institutions. This could be any institution that has the potential of housing vulnerable individuals who can be influenced by radical ideology.



These institutions can be religious premises, educational establishments and prisons. Previous case studies have also identified these kinds of institutions as being a fertile area for radicalisation. It is these very areas where the focus of preventing radicalisation activity has been targeted over recent years.

7.7 Preventing radicalisation in schools

Schools have an important role to play in preventing violent extremism. All in authority must now recognize that terrorists operating in the UK are intentionally and systematically targeting young people, and individuals as young as 15 and 16 have already been implicated in terrorist-related activity. When compared against other types of crime, terrorist offences are relatively few, yet analysis of perpetrators indicates that the average age at the time of their arrest is 25. More notably, most of the individuals concerned have been educated in British schools and several have exhibited degrees of vulnerability while of school age prior to being radicalized as teenagers. The purpose of preventing radicalisation in schools is simply to offer opportunities to create safe spaces to address and challenge perceptions that may fuel associated grievance. This kind of approach will enable young people to build on critical analysis skills to challenge influence from violent extremism in the future. Preventing violent extremism from emerging within young people in schools supports the Prevent Cycle by:

- Using innovative methodology of teaching and learning to help young people develop the knowledge and skills to understand global issues.
- Providing programmes to support pupils who are vulnerable.
- Increasing the resilience of pupils and school communities through the curriculum, other learning opportunities or activities.
- Using teaching styles and curriculum opportunities which allow grievances to be aired.

Accepting that education plays a key role in forming adult values is the first and most important step in countering this threat. It cannot and must not be ignored, yet preventative measures in schools requires a sensitive, delicate and morally justified response—but it does require a response. It is widely acknowledged across government, in particular departments responsible for schools, education, children and families, that preventing violent extremism in schools is a challenging issue which needs to be a shared endeavour across local partners and communities, with activities tailored to meet local needs.

Young people are our future and as society protects and educates them to identify a variety of risks such as alcohol, tobacco and drugs, it is also important to support the welfare of pupils who may be particularly vulnerable to recruitment and radicalization. Preventing radicalisation in schools serves to highlight the complexity of the threat of today's terrorism and the reach required of counter measures to protect the public now and in the future.

7.8 Prevent in higher education

Universities hold a unique cultural and legal position in many nations across the world. Not only do they offer opportunities for academic excellence, but they are also upheld across the globe for providing a complete learning experience through a mix of social and academic experiences. There are times, however, when universities need support from other agencies to safeguard the well-being of their students. In 2008, the Centre for Social Cohesion



Commissioned an in-depth and groundbreaking study into attitudes towards Islam on British university campuses. Studies also show that more than 30% of people convicted of all Qaida associated terrorist offences in the UK between 1999 and 2009 are known to have attended university. A report of research findings published during 2010 by the Centre for Social Cohesion *Radical Islam on UK Campuses - A Comprehensive List of Extremist Speakers at UK Universities*, found that a significant number of students and graduates from UK universities have committed acts of terrorism or have been convicted for terrorism related offences, in the UK and abroad. The report also revealed that more than 30.71% of individuals involved in violent Islamist terrorism in the UK were educated to degree level or higher. Of these, 19 individuals studied at a UK university; 16 were graduates; three were postgraduate students and one had achieved a postgraduate qualification. A further finding of the research identified that at least four individuals involved in acts of terrorism in the UK were members of their student's union Islamic society (ISOC) and a further six were studying at a UK university at the time of their arrest. In several terrorism cases both in the UK and worldwide the individuals involved were reportedly radicalised on UK campuses.

While the body of evidence gathered by the Centre for Social Cohesion strongly suggests that the radicalisation of young adults while studying at university presents a risk, this does not in any way mean that HEIs are at fault for the development of radicalisation. With a large and diverse student population attending university, some extremist organizations target specific institutions with the objective of radicalizing and recruiting students. As a direct result of this emerging threat preventing radicalisation strategies must identify that HEIs have a role to play in reducing the risk from terrorism by working in partnership to challenge terrorist ideologies, support those who are vulnerable to being radicalized and work with those institutions where radicalization takes place. Preventing radicalisation is not wholly accepted by universities or students; despite the strategies aim to support those who are vulnerable from becoming terrorists. The National Union of Students finds the language and approach of preventing radicalisation problematic, whilst academics are concerned at the potential erosion of freedom of speech. It is important that the police should not expect students or staff to readily accept preventing radicalisation. In fact, if police who engaged with HEIs embrace challenge and debate whilst being aware of the sensitivities that students and academics might possess, preventing radicalisation has a much greater chance of success.

Police officers must recognize that universities play a key role in promoting rigorous debate, free speech and freedom of enquiry within the law, which means that they need to be able to tolerate a wide range of political, social, economic and scientific views, regardless of how unpopular, controversial or provocative these views are. It is important that academics continue to encourage and expect students under their tutorship to be radical thinkers and to question existing concepts to push current boundaries beyond the state of the art. When a student develops extremist perspectives and takes steps to consider violence and hatred to progress their views or encouraged others to do so then they are moving beyond the threshold of what is acceptable and contrary to British values and the rule of law. In such circumstances universities have a duty of care to their students and wider society and are required to identify and support such students who are expressing vulnerability to extremist ideology that may lead to violence. Universities also need to recognize that the police service, through the prevention of radicalisation are there to help and support them and the welfare



of their students.

7.9 Radicalisation risk reduction in universities

It is important for the effective delivery of preventing radicalisation that police officers engaging with HEIs acknowledge that universities must uphold academic freedom and provide an environment for research and open debate but in this context all in authority within HEIs must acknowledge the following;

- HEIs possess some form of risk for their students and staff;
- HEIs staff, students and the police have a responsibility to help minimize and mitigate against the risks to individual and public safety;
- HEIs and multi-agency partnership work is crucial to safeguard vulnerability.
- HEIs and police collaborative partnership and relationship building form the foundation of future work to identify, mitigating, minimize and manage risk to individuals, public safety and reputation of HEIs.

These themes assist in creating a simple '4R' model for reducing risk at universities shown in the figure below. Police officers and police staff who work with HEIs may find the model useful in discussing how preventing radicalisation fits with students and staff. The positive outcome of the model is that risk is reduced by building strong professional relationships.

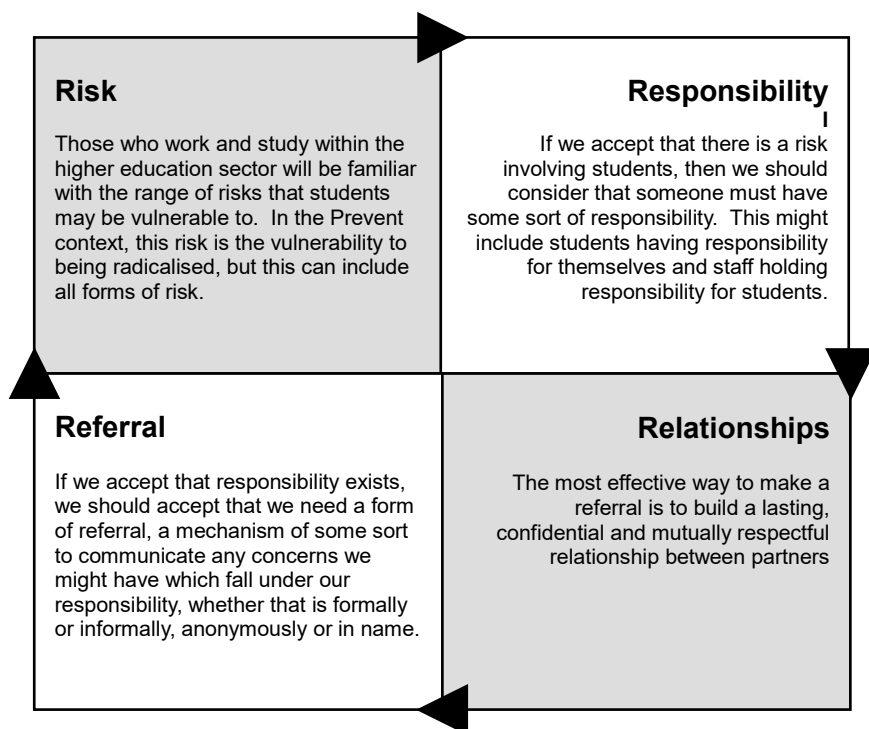


Figure 2 - Reducing risk of radicalization in universities 4R Prevent model

The use of the 4R model as a basic tool to build partnerships between the police service and HEIs is an effective framework to explain how safeguarding and raising awareness of vulnerability can be understood by those who work within universities. It provides a basis on which to build a positive and productive working relationship. In practice, building long-term



strategic partnerships means that police and HEIs colleagues must get to know one another, share information appropriately and work together to solve challenges. From preventing radicalisation perspectives, this relationship is not about gathering intelligence. It is about talking about risks and working together to manage, mitigate and minimize the risks to public safety.

7.10 Preventing radicalisation in prison

The radicalisation of inmates in prison has become an issue of high priority to public policymakers across the world. Radicalization in prison is not a new phenomenon, it is something that has occurred throughout our penal history. There are many lessons to be learned from previous experiences that remain valid in countering the contemporary threats from domestic and international genre of terrorists. However, there are unique challenges that arise from the extreme Islamist genre of today's terrorism and none more so than the immediacy of the threat, the way in which self-starting groups and individuals are recruited and its total disregard of human rights in its embrace violent extremism.

Over recent years individuals have emerged from our communities as 'home-grown' terrorists. The prison environment is now regarded as a 'community' itself and the government is keen to prevent those individuals within the prison community emerging as 'prison-grown' terrorists upon their release. However, prisons are unlike other communities in that they maintain a barrier to social intercourse with the outside and their deliberate and stated purpose is to punish their inmates on behalf of the wider society. Therefore, radicalization within prison is unique when compared to other locations where radicalization is taking place.

Many nations across the world have learned already that prison is a location which is vulnerable to extremists who propagate their ideas and draw individuals down a path of willingness to condone or even participate in violence to political ends. Extremists can exploit the psychological and emotional shock that individuals experience on entering the prison system, as well as the difficulties individuals experience in coming to terms with daily life and the confined social interaction possible within the prison environment.

7.11 Delivering counter-radicalisation strategies

The long-term solution to preventing terrorism is to stop people becoming terrorists or becoming involved in violent extremism. Through a prevention of radicalisation strategy, the police service and its partners have an integral role to play working with local communities to support people who are vulnerable to being drawn into criminal activity and to challenge those who support violent extremism. Preventing radicalisation should not be seen as an intelligence gathering tool, it should be seen as a tool to safeguard vulnerability today. A wide ranging prevent strategy and delivery plan should set out the national police service contribution to the providing the foundations upon which the delivery of preventing radicalisation continues to be actioned including: -

- To mainstream preventing radicalisation into day-to-day policing, through neighborhood policing, community engagement and related activity.



- To work in partnership to support vulnerable individuals and institutions.
- Ensure a joined-up approach to all police counter terrorism activity.
- Develop preventing radicalisation capability at local, regional and national level.

7.12. Preventing Radicalisation Programmes

There are numerous programmes to prevent and counter radicalisation in operation across the world today. As an excellent example, the UK's ACT NOW (**All Communities Together**) programmed is an interactive counter terrorism exercise which is hosted by a police force or trained facilitator which invites participants to become investigators and work through a fictitious terrorist incident. Throughout the half-day event the participants receive regular media updates which requires them to make crucial decisions which impact upon the lives of their communities. ACT NOW is designed to support engagement between people from different communities, ages, cultures and faiths. The exercise takes place in a safe and confidential community setting in which sensitive issues around terrorism can be discussed. ACT NOW recognizes that community reassurance is an important part of the role-play and during the event participants are required to deal with the media and to regularly brief communities on the incident and the policy response. Supporting those who may be vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremism is a key strand of the prevent radicalisation. All areas of the country are required to have local action plans in place to support vulnerable individuals; in some areas this support is provided by a process known as Channel.

Channel focuses on understanding the need for early intervention opportunities and exploiting these to safeguard vulnerability within individuals. Interventions are basically a package of measures aimed at swaying the individual away from their chosen path and diverting them back into society. The goal is to try and make a connection with the individual to ensure their safety as well as the safety of society. Interventions cannot be led by police service as they may not be best placed to intervene with individuals who already have pre-existing grievances. It should be recognised that police services where violent extremism is concerned can be seen as an extension of the state and therefore may be part of the problem as opposed to being a solution. However, where police officers are in regular contact with the individual, their involvement may be necessary to ensure that they are sighted on the issues and can be part of the support framework. The intervention technique utilised depends on the agencies involved, resources available, information available and at what point, the individual is in their journey into radicalisation. Due to a lack of a definitive profile of a terrorist, intervention also needs to be assessed on a case-by-case basis and tailored and adapted to the needs of the individuals.

Channel provides a mechanism for the above process by assessing the nature and the extent of the potential risk and, where necessary, providing an appropriate support package tailored to an individual's needs. Channel is made up of a multi-agency panel that decides on the most appropriate support framework to support individuals taking their circumstances into account. The partnership focused structure is like existing, successful partnership initiatives which aim to support individuals and protect them from harm, such as drugs and involvement in knife and gun crime. Supporting those most at risk of being drawn into violent extremism is about diverting people away from potential risk at an early stage which prevents them from being drawn into criminal activity. Partnership involvement ensures that those at risk have



access to a wide range of support ranging from diversionary activities through to providing access to specific services such as education, housing and employment. Channel is not about reporting or informing on individuals to prosecute them. It is about communities working together to support vulnerable people at an early stage, preventing them from being drawn in to violent extremism.

7.13 Community engagement

Police officers and the wider police family at all levels must understand the full extent to which Community Policing can contribute towards national counter-terrorism efforts. As discussed in previous chapters, the contemporary phase of counter-terrorism has evolved important new trends alongside palpable moves towards expansion and localism. The discovery of the home-grown terrorist threat, embedded citizens living in our communities has challenged the traditional pursuit of terrorists to ensure that counter-terrorism practices are able to draw upon the information and goodwill of communities from which aberrant extremists are recruited and radicalised. A major shift towards harnessing the capacity of the public to support the broader counter-terrorism effort has been an important development in the history of UK counter-terrorism practice. The counter-terrorism continuum, the unbroken thread of intelligence that links the neighbourhood to the nation, remains the critical spinal cord of the UK counter-terrorism architecture. The lesson of international terrorism is that issues which give rise to low level crime and the development of violent extremism leading to terrorism, begin at the most local level. Thus, national security increasingly depends upon neighbourhood security, and good intelligence to prevent terrorism at its source has come to the fore.

While Community Policing has been embedded in police practice for over a decade, many officers do not fully understand nor appreciate the scale and scope of Community Policing and how it has served to significantly reduce crime and the fear of crime. It is essential that all members of the police family understand more about the philosophy, delivery mechanisms and key characteristics of Community Policing that are in operation today if they are to fully support and contribute towards the prevention of terrorism and violent extremism. At its simplest level, police interaction with the public through Community Policing reassures communities about the risk from terrorism and reminds the public to remain vigilant. But the individual and collective efforts of a professional and positive Community Policing team, who are both informed of the terrorist threats in their locality and conduct their duties through the lens of counter-terrorism, can directly prevent terrorism and protect the communities they serve.

Recognising the need to invest in police officers understanding of Community Policing and more importantly, the vital links to preventing terrorism and violent extremism, this chapter captures the early development and creation of Community Policing, providing the context from which it emerged as the preferred policing system in the UK. This is followed by a clear explanation of Community Policing and its guiding principles of community engagement, collaborative problem solving, partnerships and intelligence-led ethos, all of which provides a framework to deliver effective Community Policing. Throughout the reading of this chapter all are encouraged to recall the uncomfortable truth outlined in previous chapters: terrorists are already here in the UK and are living amongst us. The task for all the police with the help of their partners and the public, is to uncover what they do not want us to know so we can



stop them from attacking us and stop them recruiting and radicalising others living in our communities to do so for their extremist cause.

Community Policing must have effective engagement, communication and feedback strategies, with clear explanations of where accountability lies. 'Effective engagement, communication and feedback' all serve to reinforce a community's sense of security and safety. This is a vital element in preventing terrorism and violence extremism at a local level, serving to build resilient communities who reject extremist rhetoric and recover quickly from terrorist events. An increased sense of public safety and security help towards minimising the fear, vulnerability and insecurity which terrorists seek to instil in our citizens.

As a concept 'community engagement' is wide-ranging which involves engaging with the community, either at an individual or at a group level, and includes residents in decisions that affect them and the areas in which they live. The engagement is a two-way process, and the police must listen to the concerns of the community. The police service know all too well that it is very often the people in communities who really need support are those that are assessed as either 'hard to reach' or 'hard to hear'. Articulate, well-resourced and fully integrated citizens have very few challenges when attempting to engage with the local police about their specific concerns compared with those in the community who are most in need of being heard. These individuals and groups are very often minority communities who may be disadvantaged, discriminated against, demonised or otherwise uninvolved and detached from society. While these are merely indicative examples, every police force area will include individual citizens or groups who do not normally engage in open dialogue with the police. For the effective delivery of policing terrorism and violent extremism, every effort must be made by local policing to reach out and engage with individuals, groups and communities who can support and inform local counter measures and interventions.

Police and their partners have a responsibility to engage with communities, their concerns, and their identified priorities. To effectively engage with the community requires a citizen focused approach which bridges the gap between what the public wants and what the police can deliver. The shift towards citizen focused policing is not just an internal police management issue, nor is it merely a public relations issue; it is fundamentally about organizational culture which underpins the ethos of Community Policing. The police need to involve the community in decision-making to increase their accountability and legitimacy. The contemporary citizen is no longer a passive observer of policing but has become a 'consumer' and 'customer' of the policing product and therefore will not simply tolerate being ignored, left on the sidelines, and not consulted. Citizen focused policing means reflecting the needs and expectations of individuals and local communities. The objectives of citizen focused policing are to improve public confidence, to increase satisfaction of police service users and to increase public involvement in policing. Citizen focused policing is not a new area of business or a stand-alone project. It must be embedded through everything the police do and the way it is done including the prevention of terrorism and violent extremism through Community Policing.

One of the most important concepts within Community Policing for the prevention of terrorism and violent extremism at a local community level is that it is not divorced nor separated from other policing or public sector activity. Community Policing exists in symbiosis



with community engagement and citizen focus to effectively deliver counter terrorism policing as the figure below illustrates.

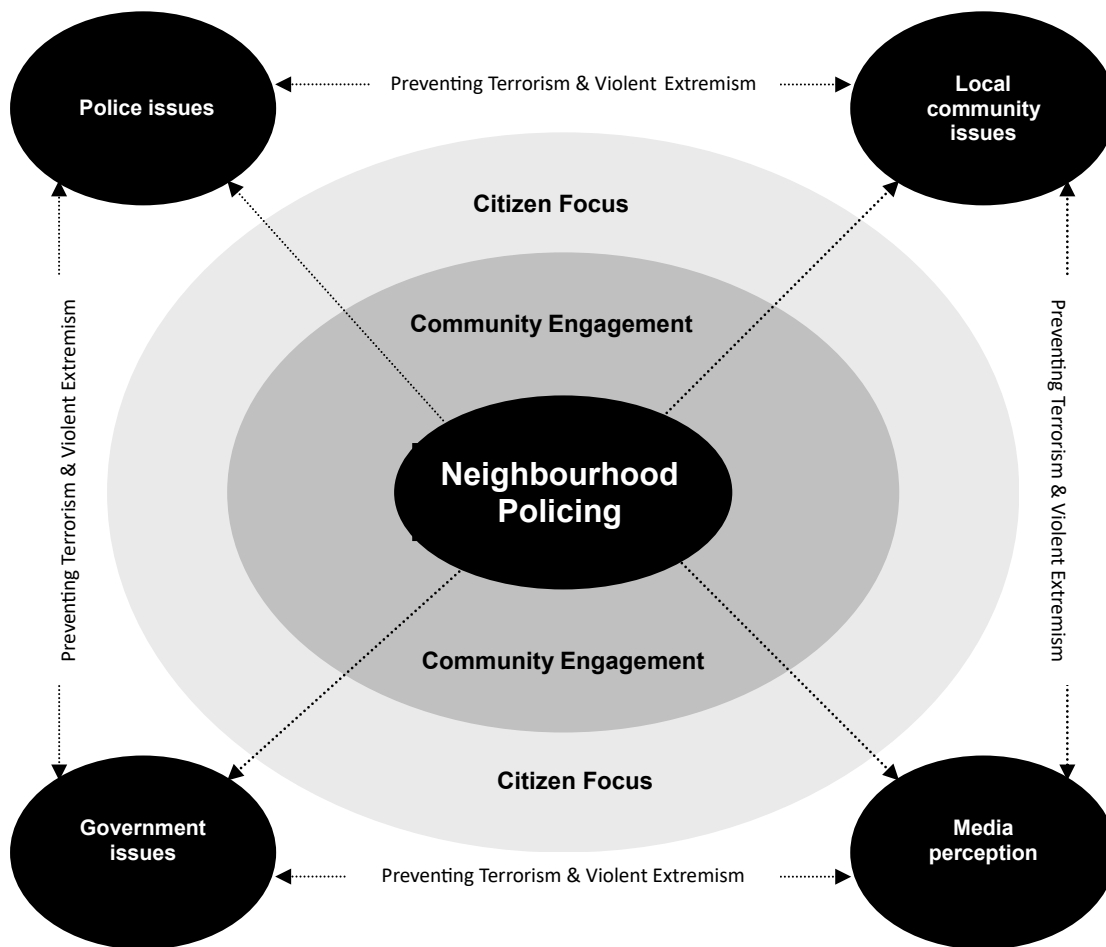


Figure 3: The components of community engagement for preventing terrorism and violent extremism

To reinforce the message of safety and security, the police and partners must engage in marketing, public relations and communicating messages with considerable expertise, sensitivity and sophistication. For the effective delivery of policing terrorism and violent extremism, every effort must be made to reach out and engage with individuals, groups and communities who can support and inform local counter terrorism preventative measures and interventions. Community engagement strategies concerning terrorism and violent extremism must be embedded into the very culture of day-to-day Community Policing.

7.14 Defining 'neighbourhood' and 'community'

The sense of community, of belonging to a defined geographical location or self-identified social, religious or ethnic group, and the importance of security, order, and well-being within that community, is fundamental to human well-being. Increased population, increased industrialization and urbanization, increased access to travel and communications have all influenced the development of communities, including new intangible communities within



the virtual world of the internet, members of which may never have met each other. During the early development of Neighbourhood Policing, 'neighbourhood' and 'community' were terms used almost interchangeably but for purposes of clarity, and for operational interpretation and delivery, they are defined as follows;

- **Neighbourhood** - *the people resident within a distinct geographical location with recognized physical boundaries*
- **Community** – *a group of people united by a shared common interest, cause, faith or purpose*

Understanding the difference between 'neighbourhood' and 'community' is important for the effective delivery of policing. A 'neighbourhood' to an inner-city resident is very different from someone living in a rural area. For those residing in an inner-city location, their neighbourhood may include several streets, a specific estate or group of estates. For residents residing in a rural location, they may consider their neighbourhood to be their whole village, group of villages, or parish. A 'community', by contrast is much less defined. There may be many individual communities living within a single neighbourhood who share a common interest, purpose or faith.

7.15 Neighbourhood Policing Principles

The concept of Neighbourhood Policing has proved to be popular and widely used, characterised as the 'new orthodoxy' and 'preferred policing style' amongst senior police officials and leaders all around the world. But for all its positive outcomes for the police and the public, Neighbourhood Policing has long been recognised as an ambiguous term, and one that has become used in such general ways (referring to almost anything that could feasibly have a bearing on police-public relations) as to be largely meaningless. Recognising this vulnerability, the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) in the UK articulated 'Ten Principles of Neighbourhood Policing' during 2006 to clearly state what Neighbouring Policing entailed, as well as to achieve consistency across England and Wales in professionalising the businesses of Neighbourhood Policing. These principles, which continue to provide a framework for Neighbourhood Policing policy, practice and procedure today, are shown in the table below.

10 Neighbourhood Policing Principles	
Principle 1	Neighbourhood Policing is an <i>organisational strategy</i> that allows the police, its partners and the public to work closely together to solve problems of crime and disorder, and improve neighbourhood conditions and feelings and security.
Principle 2	Neighbourhood Policing is a mainstream policing activity and integrated with other policing services.
Principle 3	Neighbourhood policing requires evidence-based deployment of Neighbourhood Policing Teams against identified needs.
Principle 4	Neighbourhood Policing establishes dedicated, identifiable, accessible, knowledgeable and responsive neighbourhood policing teams which provide all citizens with a named point of access.
Principle 5	Neighbourhood Policing reflects local conditions and is flexible, responsive and adaptable.



Principle 6	Neighbourhood Policing allows the police service to work directly with the local community to identify the problems that are most important to them, thereby giving people direct influence over local policing priorities.
Principle 7	Neighbourhood Policing establishes a regime for engaging other agencies and the public in problem-solving mechanisms
Principle 8	Neighbourhood Policing uses the National Intelligence Model as the basis for deployment.
Principle 9	Neighbourhood Policing requires effective engagement, communication and feedback strategies, and a clear explanation of where accountability lies.
Principle 10	Neighbourhood Policing should be subject to rigorous performance management, including clear performance monitoring against a local plan and commitments made to neighbourhoods.

The creation of the Ten Principles for Neighbourhood Policing has served to provide the police service with a framework within which to establish and deliver Neighbourhood Policing. Defining the principles by which a neighbourhood is governed means that inspection and assessment of any Neighbourhood Policing activity can be made against a national standard within general parameters set by the principles. It also provides a base upon which good practice in local policing can be identified and shared nationally to all other forces, ensuring that communities across the country can directly benefit from the experiences and lessons learned from each other.

7.16 Conclusions

Violent extremists are constantly adapting as is apparent in recent terrorist attacks and seeking new tactics aided by social media in both attack planning and recruitment. Preventing radicalisation strategies enables the police service to adapt and strengthen accordingly and address the way we respond to deter people from being radicalized. Preventing radicalisation must be embraced as a crime prevention initiative. It is difficult to measure success in the journey of preventing radicalisation. But if preventing radicalisation is embedded as a crime prevention initiative within normal policing framework, we will make considerable progress to deter attacks by home-grown terrorists. Extensive feedback from communities and police partners shows that the police service is moving in the right direction and beginning to make a difference. Preventing radicalisation has been instrumental in helping the police service improve its understanding of the communities they serve and engagement with “fail to reach” communities has improved significantly. Prevent has also allowed the police service to cement more effective partnerships with key agencies which makes the strategy build an atmosphere of trust rather than grievance and resentment.

Preventing radicalisation is without doubt a challenging and complex arena that requires a whole community approach to empower communities, challenge those who espouse violence and safeguard those who are vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremism. It will only have effect if the police service continues to build trust and confidence through renewed and consistent engagement activity. The police service responsibility to prevent radicalisation is not a short-term priority to be discontinued as the threat level recedes. The threat from terrorism remains high and it is vital that the policing response remains dynamic in response to violent extremism from wherever it emerges. Preventing radicalisation *is* something that the police



service is doing with its partners and all communities as a longer-term objective. It is an objective that most importantly, promotes a shared ownership agenda and brings the police service closer to the communities they serve and protect.

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