



# Countering Terrorism

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# Police, Crime and Victims' Plan provides a steer on this



Outcome :

Communities are safe and crime is reduced

Priority :

Tackle and prevent hate crime

Specialist capabilities :

We will enhance our responses to new and complex threats... connecting policing locally, nationally and beyond

# National CT Network

- ▶ Head of CT POLICING – Assistant Commissioner Neil BASU
- ▶ CT Policing HQ – New Scotland yard
- ▶ Regional CT units – NE covers 7 forces headed by West Yorkshire
- ▶ Durham CT Lead D.C.C Orford
- ▶ Durham SB provides link between CT policing network and force
- ▶ “Every officer and member of staff across the country are part of the CT network” Neil BASU
- ▶ Delivery of CT policing follows the National – Regional- Local engagement model.
- ▶ Central funding for CT policing – local funding for SB – currently under review – proposal to centralise all CT funding.

# Who are Special Branch?

- ▶ Special Branch is a Department within police forces which is responsible for matters of national security. A Special Branch unit acquires and develops intelligence, usually of a political or sensitive nature, and conducts investigations to protect the State from perceived threats, particularly terrorism and other extremist activity.
- ▶ Introductions of Counter Terrorism Units nationally now mean that SB's work in conjunction with a larger network of Counter Terrorism officers. The Counter Terrorism Police North East cover a 7 force NE region.
- ▶ SB work closely with Counter Terrorism policing, Mi5 and other intelligence agencies in the fight against Terrorism and Domestic Extremism.

# UK's Counter Terrorism Strategy

5

- ▶ **Contest** - The aim of CONTEST is to reduce the risk to the UK and its citizens and interests overseas from terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence.
- ▶ Contest is made up from the 4P's
- ▶ **PREVENT** - To stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
- ▶ **PURSUE** - To stop terrorist attacks
- ▶ **PROTECT** - To strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
- ▶ **PREPARE** - To mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack

# Was 2017 the worst year for UK Terrorism?

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## NEWS

### Was 2017 the worst year for UK terrorism?

**Dominic Casciani**  
Home affairs correspondent  
@BBCDomC

3 January 2018

Over the past year there has been a surge in terrorism plots, attacks and arrests in the UK, but is it the worst ever year on record?

The short answer is that it is nowhere near as bad as it was during the height of The Troubles in Northern Ireland - and it is not the worst year on record for terrorism either.

But a broader measure of counter-terrorism activity suggests that 2017 was indeed the most challenging year for the police and security services for decades.

The worst single year of The Troubles was 1972 in which 470 people died and almost 5,000 more people were injured.

The police also recorded 1,352 explosions and seized more than 100,000 rounds of ammunition.

Last year's attacks at Westminster Bridge, Manchester Arena, London Bridge and a mosque in north London killed 50 people.

The most deadly single year of this century remains 2001 because of the 92 people killed by the four suicide bombers who carried out the 7/7 attacks.

Going back further, the 1988 Lockerbie bombing - in which a Pan Am passenger jet en route from London to New York was blown up over the Scottish town - killed 270 people, including 11 victims who were on the ground.

But the director general of MI5 Andrew Parker recently said that the scope of counter-terrorism operations was the **highest he had seen** in his 34-year career.

400 arrests on suspicion of terrorism-related offences in the year to end of Sept 2017 - 50% up on the previous year.

6

If you consider police and MI5 activity as a measure of threat, then 2017 is the worst on record.

There were 78 prosecutions (up 16%). 9 out of 10 of those charged were convicted.

There are more people in jail (215) – a 25% increase.

50% of those arrested were released without charge, including the 56 arrested post London and Manchester attacks.

The latest official figure, from December, is that 9 Islamist plots had been foiled since March 2017 - and 22 since 2013, when the Islamic State group emerged in Syria.

# Local Issues

Sunderland thug claimed stabbing Asian was revenge for ISIS beheadings




Paul Burtin is accused of attacking a man in a shop in Sunderland



Sept 2018





Where did the youngest person to be convicted of a terrorist offence in the united kingdom live ?

- LONDON
- MANCHESTER
- BIRMINGHAM
- LUTON
- LEEDS
- DURHAM

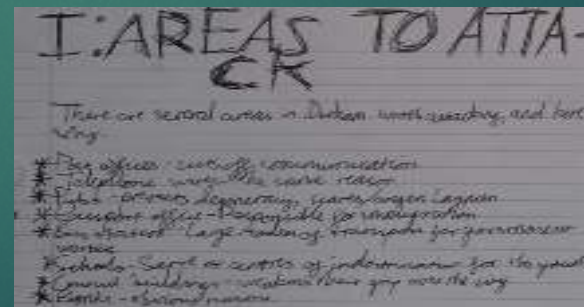
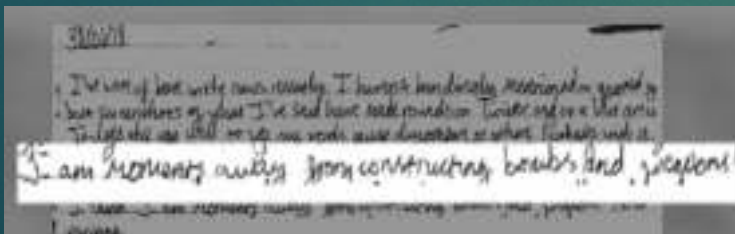


# Neo-Nazi teenager convicted of preparing to commit terrorist acts

The youngest person to be convicted of planning a terrorist attack in the UK identified potential targets in his hometown, began drafting a "guerrilla warfare" manual and tried to obtain a chemical used in terrorist bombings.

The head of the Centre for Analysis of the Radical Right, Professor Matthew Feldman told ITV News, there was a "shocking" level of extremism involved in the case. *"Having worked in this field for nearly 20 years I've never seen something so extreme."*

It really is beyond the bounds of even Neo Nazi violence into the kinds of realms of pure sadism...



# PREVENT – What is it?

10

- ▶ The Prevent duty was implemented in July 2015. Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on specified authorities to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.” The Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales (2015) states “Prevent work depends on effective partnerships
- ▶ The purpose of Prevent is to safeguard vulnerable people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism, by engaging with people who are vulnerable to radicalisation and protecting those who are being targeted by terrorist recruiters.
- ▶ Channel is the multi-agency approach to supporting people who are vulnerable to radicalisation. Following a Prevent referral, cases are carefully assessed by the police and the local authority to see if they are suitable for Channel or may require another intervention such as mental health support. If suitable, the case is discussed with all relevant partners at a Channel panel to decide if an intervention is necessary.
- ▶ The type of support available is wide-ranging, and can include help with education or career advice, dealing with mental or emotional health issues, drug/alcohol abuse, and theological or ideological mentoring from a Channel Intervention Provider (A specialist mentor). Referred individuals are informed and must give consent (or via a parent or guardian if they are children) before an intervention can take place.

# Durham Constabulary Prevent

- ▶ Silver contest Board LA / POLICE / partners – to ensure prevent duty is delivered across county Durham and Darlington.
- ▶ Bronze contest – Police specific meeting to ensure delivery of prevent across all commands / areas.
- ▶ 2 dedicated prevent officers manage caseload and provide support to partners.
- ▶ Monthly Channel panel -Chaired by senior member of L.A. -multi agency forum - increase in cases 2016 0 cases 2019 12+
- ▶ 6 monthly review of cases that have exited Channel process.
- ▶ Significant increase in Prevent referrals – education and police remain highest in number of referrals.

# BREXIT – Threats to MP's

- ▶ Following the murder of JO COX all MP's security reviewed
- ▶ BREXIT process resulted in increased numbers of threats towards elected officials – volume and severity meant that it treated as an attack on the democratic process of the U.K
- ▶ CT policing given lead for ensuring MP security is effectively managed
- ▶ Durham SB took primacy, engaged with MP's and constituency staff – reviewed physical security – provided reassurance- managed investigations – provided crime prevention advice around online activity. Collated incidents and briefed executive and PCVC.
- ▶ 2 persons convicted of criminal damage to MP's office both had previously been linked to right wing activity.
- ▶ Several persons dealt with through restorative justice approach following malicious communications offences
- ▶ Advice given to numerous members of the public around social media postings to prevent escalation and potential offences.

# PCVC oversight

- ▶ The increase in terrorist activity and the rise of the XRW has significantly altered the threat picture
- ▶ Increase in prevent referrals – overlaid with historic right wing footprint within the County has resulted in restructure of SB and improved engagement with regional Prevent leads.
- ▶ Collaboration projects with Cleveland and Northumbria SB to identify opportunities to improve service delivery and resilience.
- ▶ SB report directly to executive officers and brief PCVC around CT matters
- ▶ Local issues managed through existing force tasking processes.
- ▶ Regional contest board chaired by head of CTP-NE provides oversight for the 7 force CT leads.

# This is how the PCVC holds the force to account



Monthly meetings of Executive Board :

- By theme of Police and Crime Plan
- Overview of Police performance
- Opportunity to discuss specific threats

Special Branch brief PCVC whenever an incident, or threat of an incident, occurs



# Questions?

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