

Appendix 2

Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Prevent Update 31/10/2024.

Detective Sergeant Scott Jameson & Detective Constable Steve Smith
from Counter Terrorism Policing North East



Andy BAILEY – Partnerships Team Leader & Prevent Support Officer, DCC



Better for everyone

What is Terrorism?

The **Terrorism Act 2000** defines **Terrorism** as –

The use or threat of action, i.e.

- *Serious violence against a person and /or*
- *Serious damage to property that endangers a person's life or creates a serious risk to the health or safety of the public or a section of the public or*
- *Seriously interferes with, or seriously disrupts, an electronic system*
- **Designed to influence the Government or to intimidate the public**
- **For the purpose of advancing a political, religious, racial or ideological cause**



How Do We Counter Terrorism?

The UK Counter Terrorism Strategy is known as **CONTEST**. This document has been refreshed on **15th October 2024**, but maintains the principles of the 4P's and focuses on preventing terrorism activity in the UK and protecting our interests overseas.

[Counter-terrorism strategy \(CONTEST\) 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/counter-terrorism-strategy-2023)

The aim of **CONTEST** is *'to reduce the risk to the UK and its interests overseas from terrorism so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence'*.

CONTEST is made up of 'four Ps' –

- **Prevent**: Safeguarding people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
- **Pursue**: Stopping terrorist attacks
- **Protect**: Strengthening our protection against terrorist attacks
- **Prepare**: Mitigating the impact of terrorist attacks



The Prevent Strategy

Aims to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism, or, simply put, the need to “**Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism**”.

PREVENT has three Strategic Objectives –

- 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.
- Work with **sectors and institutions** where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to address.

Delivery of Prevent is grounded in **early intervention** and **safeguarding**



Partnership Working to Counter Terrorism

Section 26 of the **Counter Terrorism & Security Act 2015** – Known as the **‘Prevent Duty’**.

Places a general duty on **specified authorities** to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

These specified authorities are those judged to have a role in **protecting persons who are susceptible to being drawn into terrorism. This can include all levels of vulnerability.**

Local Authorities / Police / Schools (& Registered Childcare Providers) / Further Education / Higher Education / Health Sector / Prisons & Probation



Partnership Working - Channel

Channel forms a key part of Prevent.

Adopts a **multi-agency approach** to identify and support individuals who are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.

Members of the panel must include the **Local Authority** and **CT Policing**.

Depending on the nature of the case, the Panel may also include a variety of other partners –

• NHS • Social Workers • Schools / Colleges / Universities • Youth Offending Services • Safeguarding • Home Office Immigration • Border Force • Housing • Prisons • Probation, etc.

Two Channel Panels in the Durham Constabulary area – County Durham and Darlington

In Durham, the Channel Panel is chaired by the **Head of Adult Care**. The Durham Panel is well established, the running of the panel and its functions have been assessed by our Home Office/Homeland Security Group partners and show good working practices.



Partnership Working – The Durham Contest Board



County Durham and Darlington
Fire and Rescue Service



Altogether Better Policing



Durham Tees Valley
Community Rehabilitation Company



The Durham Contest Board – Objectives

- Develop and deliver the Strategic Delivery Plan
- Maintain oversight of the Extremism agenda
- Assist partners to implement the Prevent Duty
- Support the Channel program
- Engage with CT Policing to receive, review and respond to intelligence and information
- Improve understanding of the CT agenda amongst key staff and deliver workforce development
- Engage in commissioning process of the Counter Terrorism Local Profile
- Initiate activity to address the key points contained within the CTLP



UK Terrorism Threat Level

Current national threat level

- The threat to the UK (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) from terrorism is **SUBSTANTIAL**. The last change was in February 2022, when it was reduced from Severe to Substantial

15th October 2024

SUBSTANTIAL

Threat levels are designed to give a broad indication of the likelihood of a terrorist attack.

- LOW means an attack is highly unlikely
- MODERATE means an attack is possible, but not likely
- **SUBSTANTIAL means an attack is likely**
- SEVERE means an attack is highly likely
- CRITICAL means an attack is highly likely in the near future

*source - [Threat Levels | MI5 - The Security Service](#)



Better for everyone

- Counter Terrorism Policing is a collaboration of UK police forces. We have units based regionally across the UK and a headquarters in London. Our principal partners are the UK Intelligence Community.
- CTP are currently working on more than **800** investigations, the majority of which are in partnership with MI5.
- Since March 2017, Counter Terrorism Policing and UK Intelligence Services have disrupted **39** late-stage attacks.
- In 2023 there were **219** CT related arrests. This was an increase of 52 (31%) compared to the previous year and the highest number of arrests in a single year since 2019.
 - o 10% of those arrested were female (21 of the 219)
 - o 19% of those arrested were aged under 18



- **2023** saw the highest number of terrorism arrests of young people since records began (11 September 2001).
- Of the **219** arrests for terrorism related offences last year **19%** (42) of these were young people aged 17 and under.
- Every year we receive around **10,000** calls and online reports and a fifth of those provide intelligence that is particularly useful to our officers and investigators.
- We are seeing increasing demand linked to our other missions within CTP, most notably in Countering State Threats and War Crimes. Presently; around **20%** of our casework is focused on our other missions.
- Demand on the War Crimes Team has increased by **50%** since 2020 and their casework touches almost all continents across the globe.



- The local to global reach of Counter Terrorism Policing is vital in our efforts to keep our communities safe. As well as being embedded in local police forces, we also have a network of around 40 CT Liaison Officers around the world.
- In the year ending March 2023 there were 6817 referrals to Prevent, 19% of those were related to an Extreme Right-Wing ideology and 11% were related to Islamist ideology. 37% of referrals indicated a vulnerability, but no ideology or CT risk. Out of the total number of referrals, 55% were individuals under 18.



The CTPNE Region Statistics 2023-2024.



The CTPNE Region Statistics 2023-2024.

- Introduction

This report shows the statistics of Counter Terrorism Policing Northeast (CTPNE). It includes specific figures relating to Gender, Age, and Ideology. All data is taken between **02/11/2023 – 15/10/2024**.

- The Northeast region received **1,126 referrals** between 01/11/2023 – 15/10/2024.

- Number of Referrals - Age

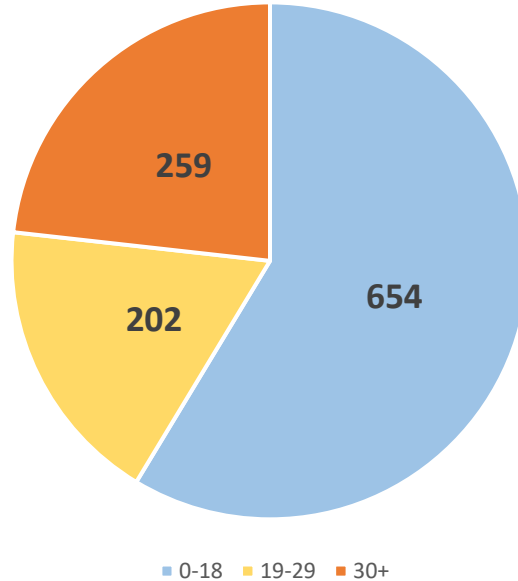
- Please note: the next chart is unaccounted for 11 referrals between 02/11/2023 – 15/10/2024, suggesting it is unknown or was not stated when the referral was made.

- **0–18-year-olds accounted for the most referrals across the North East (59% of total in the chart)**
- The lowest referral age was 19–29-year-olds, accounting for 18% of the referrals across the North East.



The CTPNE Region Statistics 2023-2024.

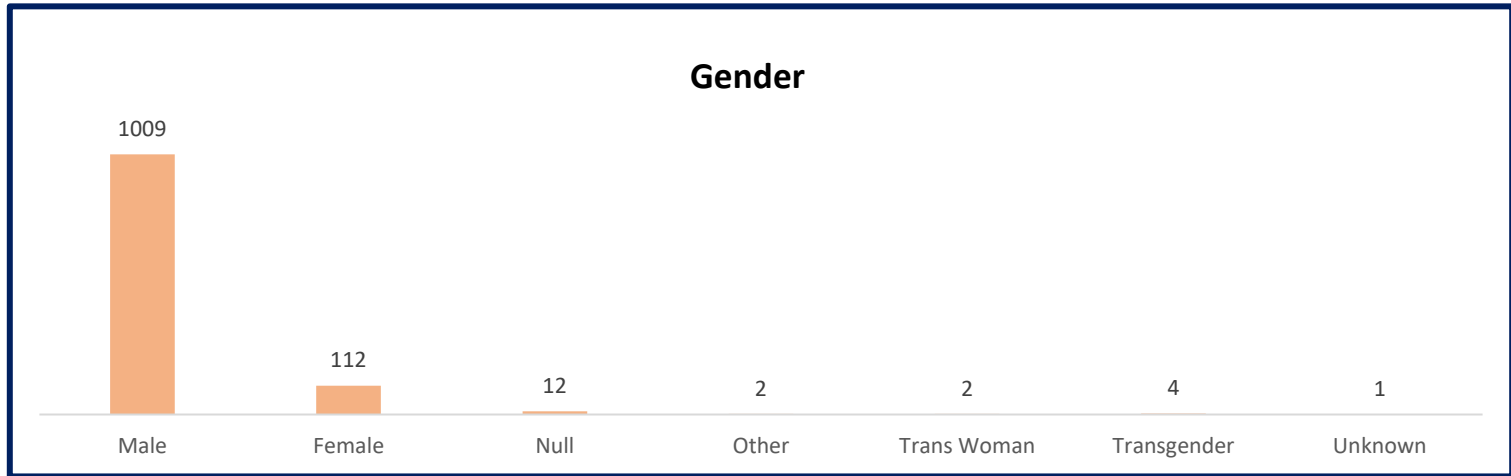
North East Age



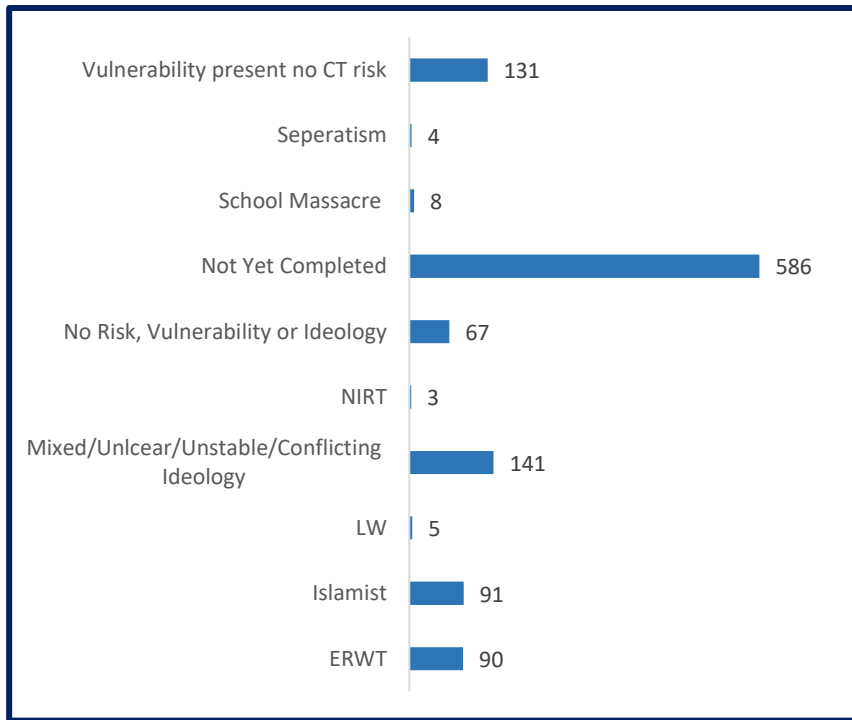
Number of Referrals - Gender

Please note: The below table displays 16 extra referrals (1142). This may be because the gender has been accounted for more than once.

- Male accounted for the most referrals out of the North East (**88%** of referrals displayed).
- Female accounted for **10%** of total North East referrals.
- The remaining referrals were known as 'Null, Other, Trans Woman, Transgender and Unknown'.



Number of Referrals - Ideology



‘Not Yet Completed’ accounted for **52%** of referrals, being the largest ideology type across the North East.

- The lowest ideology type was Northern Ireland Related Terrorism (NIRT), accounting for just 0.2% of North East Referrals.
- ‘Mixed/Unclear/Unstable/Conflicting Ideology’ also accounted for **13%** of North East referrals.



Online Radicalisation.... The risk is real..!

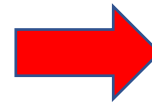




Online Risks



- Use of gaming platforms such as **Roblox** and **Discord** to distribute online terrorism related material.
- Use of current events such immigration and terrorism incidents to fuel activism.
- Increasing numbers of young people being drawn into the Extreme Right Wing ideology with the prominent factor being online communication.



Please note TATE is not a Terrorist!!



Contact Details

All referrals to be submitted to FIMUNORTH@CTPNE.police.uk

Further details can be found by following the QR code



Detective Sergeant 2088 Scott Jameson

Scott.jameson@durham.police.uk

Prevent Officer DC 1023 Steven Smith steven.smith@durham.police.uk

0191 375 2555

Prevent Officer PC 1080 Billy Crampsie billy.crampsie@durham.police.uk

0191 375 2555



Durham County Council's Role

- Channel Panel
- Co-ordinating and attending various CT meetings inc. Contest, Channel Panel, the Regional Prevent Forum and the Protect and Prepare Group
- Tracking and updating the Contest Delivery Plan
- Home Office assurance:
 - Prevent benchmarking assessment
 - Channel Assurance Statement
- SPOC for Prevent concerns
- IT Moderation Panel
- Tension monitoring
- DCC Speakers and Venue Hire Policy
- Supporting the development and implementation of new strategies, legislation and guidance related to Counter terrorism i.e. Contest 2024, Prevent and Channel Duty new guidance and Martyn's Law (Terrorism (Protection of Premises Bill)).



Durham County Council's Role

- Providing input into the Counter terrorism local profile
- Training
 - E-learning
 - Train the trainer
 - Face to face / Via Teams
 - Testing of new Home Office packages
 - Managers
 - ACT
 - Members Awareness
 - Community Events
 - Prevent update for schools
- Links with other sub groups e.g Hate Crime
- Sharing information and updating partners
- Awareness campaigns i.e. National Safeguarding Week, National Hate Crime Awareness Week, Do Summer Safely, Be Safe Be Sound
- Funding bids



Questions?



Better for everyone