



APPENDIX TWO

Neath Port Talbot Channel Panel

Background

Section 29 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on local authorities to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

The Prevent strategy, published by the government in 2011, has 3 specific objectives;

1. Respond to the ideological challenger of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it
2. Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support
3. Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to address

Channel Panel

Neath Port Talbot has set up a Channel Panel; a local multi agency forum who meet to discuss referrals of vulnerable people at risk of being drawn into terrorism.

The first Channel Panel in Neath Port Talbot was held in July 2016. There have been 6 referrals to date.

The Panel is made up of representatives from;

- Community Safety
- Education
- Neath Port Talbot College
- ABMU Health Board
- Social Services
- Safeguarding
- South Wales Police
- Wales Extremism & Counter Terrorism Unit (WECTU)
- Specialist Intervention Providers

Depending on the nature of the referral, additional agencies and representatives will be invited as and when required.

Referral Pathway

Staff are advised to report any concerns to the Channel Panel Chair, Chris Frey-Davies; Principal Officer for Safeguarding.

Chris Frey-Davies will then liaise with Elinor Wellington, PREVENT Coordinator and WECTU (Wales Extremism & Counter Terrorism Unit). WECTU assess the referral and its suitability for Channel.

If the referral is deemed appropriate for Channel, agencies will be requested to submit any known information in respect of the person. A Channel Panel is then arranged.

Outside agencies are able to refer directly to WECTU, using the recently developed online referral form.

WECTU are able to commission specialist intervention providers who can work with the individual concerned, providing appropriate advice and support, challenging the individual's ideology and steering them away from terrorist related activity.

Action Plan

Following a roundtable discussion at Channel, a person centred action plan is developed. The aim of which is to safeguard the individual, minimise risk and prevent them being drawn into terrorism.

The individual will continue to be discussed at Channel until all actions are completed, panel members are satisfied that the risk has been managed and an appropriate exit strategy has been developed, to ensure the individual continues to receive relevant support from an appropriate agency.

WRAP Training

WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent) Training is being rolled out across the authority. This training is mandatory and will be delivered to all staff.

The training provides information on the Prevent duty, gives case study examples and also explains the Channel process.

During this training, the Neath Port Talbot Channel Panel referral pathway is promoted. Staff are actively encouraged to refer any concerns.

Training Review

During 2018 a WRAP Training Review was conducted. The aim of the review was to establish whether the training is fit for purpose and whether staff feel confident of the PREVENT duty and how to refer any concerns.

The review explored the following;

- Identified who has received WRAP training
- Conducted a dip sample of trainees to assess confidence to refer to Channel Panel
- Audit of WRAP trainers
- Review & implement referral pathway to Channel Panel
- Audit of Community Safety partners WRAP training

The exercise concluded that WRAP training is fit for purpose, is well received and that staff generally feel confident to refer.

The referral pathway will continue to be promoted to staff during WRAP training sessions, but will also be promoted via the Intranet and the staff magazine 'In The Loop'.

ELINOR WELLINGTON

CORPORATE POLICY OFFICER FOR DOMESTIC ABUSE & PREVENT

COMMUNITY SAFETY

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