



# Walsall Prevent Digest

## January 2023

Current Threat Level in the UK: SUBSTANTIAL– An Attack is Likely

### Walsall Schools Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC) Event

A big thank you for the amazing turnout at the latest Prevent Schools SPOC event at Manor Farm Community Centre on Tuesday 15 November 2023. It was unfortunate I couldn't be there to host the event however, I am extremely grateful to Police Constable Sunny Lal, West Midlands Police, Counter Terrorism Unit (Prevent Team), for stepping in at relatively late notice to ensure the event ran smoothly.

I have since been made aware that there was insufficient time left for Richard Horton (Consultant in Prevent) to deliver his presentation, however, Richard has confirmed he will be available for the next event in May.

Also and for personal reasons Liam Teasdale (St. Giles Trust), also made me aware the evening before that he was unable to attend but unfortunately with me already starting a period of sick leave I wasn't in a position to pick up Liam's message until some weeks later.

Also, my thanks also go to Chief Superintendent Phil Dolby, Walsall Police, for opening the event, and to our guest speakers, Detective Constables Adrian Bacon and Hannah Link, (Cyber Crime, ROCU), Mr Tim Hill, (Ofsted Midlands Region) and Katie Harrison (Picture News).

On a personal note I would just like to thank you for the messages of support I have received both before and since undergoing knee replacement surgery back in November. I am pleased to say I am recovering really well and back at work carrying out my normal duties.

Niall Markham,  
Prevent Coordinator

### West Midlands Police Counter Terrorism Unit – Synergy Event



For those of you who haven't previously attended such an event, Police Constable Matt Dyson and Dave Bryan of West Midlands Police, Counter Terrorism Unit deliver unique training to further counter terror knowledge, learn more about terrorism offences and also, how to best safeguard those most vulnerable in our communities.

Synergy is an interactive table top exercise that follows a young individual who has been radicalised into Extreme Right Wing Ideology and the exercise targeted at partner agencies and organisations who have the potential to be working with some of the most vulnerable people in society. Participants are divided into groups and encouraged to work together in order to safeguard a young person who has been referred into 'Prevent'.

The training highlights the importance of identifying threat and risk and sharing those concerns to the right people.

We have previously hosted two of these events in Walsall over the previous few years and the intention is to arrange a third in the next couple of months. I will keep you posted!

Niall Markham,  
Prevent Coordinator.



**Walsall Council**



## Prevent Duty Training Service

The new Prevent Duty training service is now available at [www.gov.uk/prevent-duty-training](http://www.gov.uk/prevent-duty-training) providing courses on awareness, referrals and Channel / PMAP. To promote the new service, the Prevent Training Team at Home Office have created a pamphlet and leaflet walking through what the new courses cover and how they can be found. Do share these new resources with colleagues and networks in your business area to ensure as many people as possible are aware of the new service. To ensure all users complete the new training and to avoid any confusion, the previous training legacy sites have been decommissioned and will no longer be available.

## West Midlands Regional Cyber Crime Unit

Please find a link below to the West Midlands Regional Cyber Crime Unit's newsletter: The Cyber Crime Sentinel – Issue 124



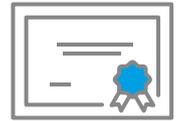
**WMRCCU Cyber Crime Sentinel Newsletter - Issue 124 ([campaign-archive.com](http://campaign-archive.com))**

## Update to the Protect Duty - Martyn's Law

On the 19 December, the Home Secretary set out the foundational policy for the Protect Duty in Parliament, from now on to be known as Martyn's Law (Martyn Hett was one of the victims of the Manchester Arena bombing and his mother, Figen Murray, has campaigned for legislation to improve security at public places). Working closely with security partners, business and victims' groups, including Figen Murray and the Martyn's Law Campaign Team, and Survivors Against Terror, the new duty will require venues to take steps to improve public safety, with measures dependent on the size of the venue and the activity taking place. You can find out more about Martyn's Law [here](#).

## Easy to Digest

**Figen Murray OBE awarded honorary degree by University of Salford**



Figen Murray OBE has been awarded an honorary degree by the University of Salford in recognition of her work to improve safety and security at venues, and her support for students studying counselling and psychotherapy courses. As well as championing Martyn's Law, legislation requiring entertainment venues to improve security against the threat of terrorism, she now educates young people on Prevent, safety in accessing venues and facilitates learning in post-traumatic growth, bereavement and loss.

**'They're desperate to be accepted': How boys as young as 14 are sucked into the world of incels**

Feature about the Channel 4 Documentary, 'The Secret World of Incels' and the issue of young teenagers being sucked into the incel culture. Maeve Park, an Incel researcher from Groundswell Project UK, advises that concerned fathers should contact Prevent if needed and pointing the individual towards therapy and other mental health services

**Experiencing Trust in Multiagency Collaboration to Prevent Violent Extremism: A Nordic Qualitative Study (2022)**

This **study** looked at the importance of trust and collaboration between organisations, within social care and the security agencies, when countering violent extremism.



## Prevent and Misogyny in the Context of Andrew Tate

Recent media reports have been circulating regarding the arrest of Andrew Tate, a highly-controversial online influencer. Tate and his brother are currently detained in Romania as part of an investigation into allegations of human trafficking and rape. Some reporting has focussed on the impact of Tate's notoriety on children and young adults, with concerns that his misogynistic worldview may be influencing the mindsets of young men and boys. We are aware that many in the Prevent network have received queries on this issue, and have developed the following guidance to provide advice as to when a referral to Prevent should be considered.

It is the case that many extremist ideologies across the spectrum feature misogynistic narratives. There has also been an increase in violent misogynistic narratives online and the development of newer male supremacist movements which have misogyny at the heart of their belief systems. However, an adherence to misogynistic ideas or misogynistic behaviours in isolation, although concerning, is not something that automatically warrants a referral to Prevent. Similarly, an individual expressing support or admiration for Tate does not, by itself, meet the threshold for a Prevent referral. A referral to Prevent may be appropriate if there are broader indications that radicalisation is occurring or an individual could be drawn into supporting terrorist groups or activities.

The mandatory Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) curriculum includes teaching about online safety to ensure children are kept safe both in school but also at home. It also covers topics around respect for others and the importance of mental wellbeing. Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) is statutory guidance that all schools and colleges must have regard to when carrying out their duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. It is very clear on the important role all school and college staff have to play in the protection of children, including online. Amongst other things, online safety should be included in a school's child protection policy.

There are a number of resources available which may support in conversations around the issue of healthy relationships, although please note that these have not been developed by HMG or officially endorsed:

- **Relationships and sex education (pshe-association.org.uk)** – this includes resources on staying safe online, recognising unhealthy and abuse behaviours, as well as healthy relationships.
- **Online Safety Resource Centre - London Grid for Learning (lgfl.net)** – includes a host of resources related to both Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE), online safety and a series of other contemporary harms.

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**For Information, Support or Guidance around Prevent, or should you have any queries, concerns or are looking to make a referral, please do not hesitate to contact me...**



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### Walsall Prevent Web page

The Walsall Prevent Webpage can be located on our Safer Walsall Partnership external website. The site is live and the Prevent page can be accessed via the below link:-

**[www.saferwalsallpartnership.com/prevent-extremism](http://www.saferwalsallpartnership.com/prevent-extremism)**

