

Bury Prevent Newsletter

November 2023



Contents

Welcome	2
Myths	2
Hello from Roy Thickett and Bury Council	2
What is cyber security?	3
General online safety	3
Privacy on social media	4
New Online Safety Act 2023	4
National Picture	5
Threat level	5
New Prevent Duty Toolkit for Local Authorities	5
Did you know?	6
Incel session by SAFE	6
Upcoming Training	6
Prevent Duty Training	6
Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) Training.....	6
Upcoming webinars by SAFE (Safety Advice for Everybody) through Community Security Trust.....	7
Useful Resources	7
In the next issue (Dec 2023).....	7

Welcome

Welcome to November's newsletter providing information and guidance in relation to Prevent in Bury.

The focus on Prevent is to safeguard against hateful extremism.

Prevent is one part of the government's overall counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST. The aim of Prevent is to:

- tackle the ideological causes of terrorism.
- intervene early to support people susceptible to radicalisation.
- enable those who have already engaged in terrorism to disengage and support behaviour change.

Myths

Prevent is targeted and very much focused on specific religions and communities.

No, Prevent is not targeted at specific religions or communities. Grooming and radicalisation can happen to anyone when they are at their most vulnerable or in need of support. There are lots of reasons that can leave people open to exploitation.

Hello from Roy Thickett and Bury Council

Hello and welcome from Roy Thickett and Bury Council. We hope you are having a great week, and everyone enjoyed a safe enjoyable Bonfire Night.

In November's newsletter we are pleased to promote and raise awareness of White Ribbon Day against gender based violence. This incorporates 16 days of action against domestic violence which runs from November 25

Bury Council with several community partners such as Manchester United Streetreds, England Netball, Bury College and Greater Manchester Police has planned several awareness sessions with young people and young women with free fun activities to promote cohesion and strengthen communities.

Bury Council is committed to addressing women's safety and men's behaviour towards women. Culture change doesn't happen overnight, but we can end men's violence against women and girls in our lifetimes.

This year we are encouraging individuals and organisations to make consistent choices and actions to #ChangeTheStory for women and girls, so that they may live their lives free from the fear of violence.

For more info, please contact Jane Almond J.Almond@bury.gov.uk

What is cyber security?



In November's Newsletter we are going to look at online cyber security.

Cyber security is how individuals and organisations reduce the risk of being affected by cyber-crime.

Cyber security's core function is to protect the devices we all use (smartphones, laptops, tablets and computers) and the services we access online – both at home and work – from theft or damage. It's also about preventing unauthorised access to the vast amounts of personal information we store on these devices, and online.

Cyber security is important because smartphones, computers and the internet are now such a fundamental part of modern life, that it's difficult to imagine how we'd function without them. From online banking and shopping, to email and social media, it's more important than ever to take steps that can prevent cyber criminals getting hold of our accounts, data, and devices.

General online safety

The below tips are general good practice for being online and could be used by anyone to keep safe. It is likely that any information placed on the internet or social media will be considered a public disclosure in legal proceedings. People should consider the security of both organisational and personal accounts.

Passwords

To avoid the threat of hacking, we suggest you have a different password for every online account, especially social media accounts. Password vaults, which are apps that securely store your various passwords, are helpful for this.

Two-factor authentication

Using two-factor authentication, where you need to use more than one device to log into an account, makes your accounts less vulnerable to hacking.

For example, you could receive a text message or email to confirm it's actually you logging into the account. If you receive these messages but have not tried to log in, someone else might be trying to access your account.

Check for hacks

The website 'Have I been pwned?' <https://haveibeenpwned.com> helps you to check whether your email address and passwords have been breached online. You should change all passwords associated with the email account if it has been breached.

Privacy on social media

People engage with social media in different ways, and some people are comfortable having information shared publicly that others will be more cautious about.

However, consider the following if you are concerned about online security:

1. Limit location information - people can figure out patterns of where you live, work or spend time from location tagging settings on social media – which can be switched off – or from recognisable features in the background of photos. If you are posting whilst at a location or live streaming, anyone able to view that post will know where you are. Consider avoiding public posts which make the locations of the office and people's homes clear, and only posting tagged locations after you have left.
2. Privacy settings for posts and tagged photos – make sure that what you post on your own profile is only visible to the audience you want. For example, you can choose for content to be seen by anyone, friends of friends or only your friends. Tagging people in photos or allowing yourself to be tagged on profiles, groups and pages means that people can access posts about you through other people's profiles, which may be less secure than yours. Privacy settings change from time to time on platforms, so it can be helpful to regularly check for changes to your profile or profiles.
3. Limit who can access your profile – your privacy settings do not guarantee that anything you post online will remain private. For example a Facebook 'friend' may pass your comments on. Consider whether you might benefit from having separate accounts for your personal social media use with more restrictive privacy settings if you must be more public for work purposes.
4. Audit friends and followers – it can be helpful for organisations and individuals who are at higher risk of trolling and online abuse to regularly check through follower lists. If a follower, subscriber, or friend seems suspicious or does not align with your or your organisation's values, consider blocking or removing them.

Further information can be obtained from <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/top-tips-for-staying-secure-online>

New Online Safety Act 2023

First proposed in 2017, the Online Safety Bill has now been passed into law as the Online Safety Act 2023. Its proponents claim it will protect children from harmful material by forcing websites and apps to remove illegal content and give adults better powers to screen out content we just don't want to see. This is a ground-breaking piece of legislation that will radically change the landscape for children online.

- The Online Safety Act brings in what is being seen as a 'new era' for internet safety, as legislation allows children and adults more control over the content they see online, and for stronger action to be taken against online harm.

- Social media companies will now be more accountable for illegal and harmful content seen on their platforms and will have to provide parents and children with clear and accessible ways to report problems online.
- Companies will also be required to prevent children from accessing harmful content by enforcing strict measures including age limitations.
- Ofcom will immediately begin work on tackling illegal content and protecting children's safety.

National Picture

Threat level

The threat to the UK from terrorism is currently substantial.

This indicates that an attack is likely. It is the middle of the 5 levels of threat which terrorism is assessed against, with the level set by the Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre and the Security Service.

New Prevent Duty Toolkit for Local Authorities

Under section 29 of the counter terrorism and security act of 2015, Local Authorities (LAs) are required to have due regard to preventing people from being drawn into terrorism.

[A new toolkit](#) supports the delivery of Prevent by LAs, providing examples of good and best practice. It does not supersede statutory guidance but does highlight benchmarks for typical expectations of local authorities delivering Prevent.

A new section has been added to the Prevent guidance on using the National Referral Form and the 'Notice, Check, Share' process. Professionals may wish to adopt this process if they have concerns about radicalisation.

- Notice – any concerning behaviour, including signs of radicalisation as included in the guidance
- Check – the organisational response and speak to the safeguarding lead of your concerns. This means that you will have all the relevant information before sharing.
- Share – the concern and make a referral to the police using the national referral form.

Implications for Bury

Bury Council should review all the above recommendations and consider implementation of those which are not already in place. Contact hilja.jeffery@bury.gov.uk for further in-depth of information on any of the recommendations, including best practice.

Guidance: get help for radicalisation

Since 2017, we have seen an average of nine attempted terror attacks per year.

The government's CONTEST policy paper sets out a strategy to not only stop attacks, but also to prevent radicalisation and extremism happening in the first place.

The government's main priority is to make use of the full potential of their Counter-Terrorism Operations Centre (CTOC) to bring together the right teams and technology to disrupt and prevent terrorists, also bringing in expertise from other, non-law enforcement sectors such as education and social services, as well as international partners and allies.

The strategy is divided into four sections covering the areas of our world-leading counter-terrorism programme. These are:

- Prevent – to stop people from becoming terrorists to supporting terrorism.
- Pursue – to stop terrorist attacks in this country or UK interests overseas.
- Protect – to strengthen our position against a terrorist attack.
- Prepare – to minimise the impact of an attack and reduce the likelihood of further attacks.

There are also efforts that go beyond CONTEST to make transformational improvements to response. For example, the government supports the public and private sector to become partners in prevention by increasing public messaging to ensure that they are informed about the routes to report, keeping safe, and responding to incidents.

They will strengthen our border lines against terrorism and invest in relationships with the technology sector to explore opportunities and threats arising from technology, suppressing criminal exploitation of the internet.

Did you know?

Incels are heterosexual men who blame women and society for their lack of romantic success. The incel ideology is rooted in the belief that women have too much power in the sexual or romantic sphere and ruin incels' lives by rejecting them.

Incel session by SAFE

On November 29, 2023, Security Advice for Everyone (SAFE) is delivering a workshop at Bury Town Hall, Elizabethan Suite about Incels – the new face of misogyny. This workshop will look and inform how the incel culture has moved into the mainstream.

It takes place on Wednesday 29 November at 2pm. For further information contact enquiries@safe.cst.org.uk

Upcoming Training

If you have any Prevent related questions or would like training – whether that's attending a team meeting or running a special session please just get in touch.

You can contact Roy by email to prevent@bury.gov.uk or call 07581020228.

Prevent Duty Training

[Prevent duty training: Learn how to support people susceptible to radicalisation | Prevent duty training \(support-people-vulnerable-to-radicalisation.service.gov.uk\)](https://support-people-vulnerable-to-radicalisation.service.gov.uk)

Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) Training

This training is to raise awareness of PREVENT and CHANNEL as a strategy to reduce the number of people becoming or supporting violent extremism through recognising, supporting, and protecting people who might be susceptible to radicalisation through multi-agency support. This session is open to all and includes:

- How young people and adults are radicalised.
- The signs of radicalisation.

- Local and national tensions
- How Prevent supports safeguarding vulnerable individuals against extremism and radicalisation
- What to do if you think a person is being radicalised.

Upcoming Online WRAP sessions are:

Face to face workshops are encouraged by The Home Office and these can be booked to suit via the address below.

To book a place, please contact prevent@bury.gov.uk.

Upcoming webinars by SAFE (Safety Advice for Everybody) through Community Security Trust

For further information and to book onto sessions: [SAFE Events Hub \(zoom.us\)](#)

- November 29 Incels – The New face of Misogamy

Useful Resources

- [Prevent and Channel factsheet - 2023 - Home Office in the media \(blog.gov.uk\)](#) – Overview of the Prevent agenda and Channel process
- [What are the signs of radicalisation? | ACT Early](#) - find out more about the signs that someone may be vulnerable to radicalisation.
- [Protecting charities from abuse for extremist purposes - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) – guide on how trustees, staff and volunteers can protect their charity from abuse by those encouraging extremism.
- [Radicalisation and child protection | NSPCC Learning](#) – online resource from the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
- Education Colleagues – your Designated Safeguarding Leads have received a Prevent Education Handbook

For further information please visit www.bury.gov.uk/prevent or email prevent@bury.gov.uk

In the next issue (Dec 2023)

Review of 2023

Bury
Council