

Lancashire County Council

External Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 16th October, 2018 at 10.30 am in Committee Room 'B' - The Diamond Jubilee Room, County Hall, Preston

Present:

County Councillor Edward Nash psc (Chair)

County Councillors

D Stansfield	Mrs L Oades
L Beavers	G Oliver
C Crompton	J Rear
D Foxcroft	C Towneley
T Martin	

County Councillor Lorraine Beavers replaced County Councillor Azhar Ali for this meeting.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from County Councillor John Shedwick.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None were disclosed.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 June 2018

Resolved: That the minutes from the meeting held on 4 June 2018 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

5. Task and Finish Group Request - Strengthening Flood Prevention and Preparedness in Lancashire

The Chair welcomed County Councillor Keith Iddon, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, who introduced the task and finish group request to the Committee on behalf of County Councillor Erica Lewis.

The purpose of this task and finish group is to bring together the expertise of all flood risk management authorities, local flood and emergency response groups, and residents to better understand how the County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority and all other flood risk management authorities can better support residents to:

- Be prepared for flooding;
- Respond to flooding;

- Recover from flooding; and
- Understand what we can do together to reduce flood risk.

In considering the purpose of the task and finish group a number of requests were made to include additional matters in its remit. These included:

- Reviewing Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS);
- Alley gates and gully cleaning;
- Contingency funds from developers; and
- Road closures.

A request was also made to double the membership from seven members to 14.

Resolved: That;

1. The request to establish a task and finish group on Strengthening Flood Prevention and Preparedness in Lancashire be agreed; and
2. The task and finish group request be submitted to the Internal Scrutiny Committee for approval at its next scheduled meeting on 16 November 2018.

4. Prevent

The Chair welcomed Pam Smith, Equality and Cohesion Manager CT/Prevent; Chris Coyle, Senior Manager Children's Social Care; and Detective Chief Inspector Scott Waddington, to the meeting.

The report presented updated the Committee on Prevent delivery across Lancashire including the Channel process. In June 2018 the Government launched their revised and strengthened CONTEST strategy. CONTEST was the UK's long term counter terrorism strategy. The updated strategy continued to include the 4 P's: Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare. The aim of Prevent was to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism, safeguarding individuals and communities. A copy of the presentation is set out in the minutes.

It was reported that prevent awareness training and workshops raising awareness of prevent (WRAP) were delivered by the council at no cost. The Committee was informed that when the Prevent Duty became law in 2015 the government allocated £10k to each Tier 3 local authorities to help mainstream prevent and this was used to upgrade the Prevent for Schools P4S (preventforschools.org) website. A question was asked in relation to a previous allocation of funding to deliver prevent work. This had been used to roll out of a bespoke training programme for women to build their confidence as community leaders and raising awareness about prevent in communities. This programme was deemed an example of good practice by the Home Office. It was confirmed that currently the council did not have a budget for project work. Officers emphasised that training on the prevent agenda continued to be delivered to officers and members free of charge. The Committee was also informed that the

Home Office also allocated funding around a tier process for those areas deemed to be at highest risk.

It was reported that over 1.5m frontline staff had been trained in spotting the signs of radicalisation. Bite size briefings on the prevent duty/channel process and personal security and online safety were also delivered to councillors.

On the role of councillors, it was confirmed that councillors were well placed to listen to and understand constituents' concerns, and as community leaders could share not only their understanding of sources of community tension with the local authority, but to spread good news through their communities. Members were handed a copy of the role of a councillor document. A copy of this is set out in the minutes. In summary the role of councillors would be to:

- Safeguard communities as community leader;
- Listen and understand constituents concerns;
- Challenge narratives of radicalisers and extremists;
- Understand how to signpost concerns
(concern@lancashire.pnn.police.uk);
- Promote positive messages about community activities and relationships.

The Prevent Duty was placed on officers and councillors at County and District council level.

A query was raised in respect of social media activity and whether referrals of incidents to the Channel Panel of this nature was the appropriate place. It was reported that there was a moral and personal responsibility to refer. Prevent was about safeguarding if members felt an incident was inappropriate then advice was to report it (notice, check and share). A measured approach was in place to assess referrals. The Committee was informed that the Channel Panel (pan Lancashire) was viewed by the Home Office as an exemplar on the process with a robust governance structure in place.

After concerns had been referred to the Channel Panel, a question was asked on how much referrers were kept informed of progress as councillors were in a good position to advise and assist with community cohesion. It was reported that referrers were informed of progress. However, in some cases there would be exceptions to this.

In discussing potential recommendations the Committee felt that all county councillors be urged to undertake Prevent Duty training and for the Member Development Working Group to consider how best to approach and deliver this.

In addition it was also felt that the Cabinet Member for Community and Cultural Services consider the allocation of a small amount of funding to be made available for Prevent Duty project work to help raise awareness across

Lancashire in particular for other groups and communities given the examples of what had already been undertaken and highlighted at the meeting.

Resolved: That;

1. All County Councillors be urged to undertake Prevent Duty training; and
2. The Cabinet Member for Community and Cultural Services consider the allocation of a small budget to fund Prevent Duty project work.

6. Chair's update

The Chair informed the committee that he was awaiting a response from the Secretary of State about water companies not being statutory consultees on planning applications.

Following two informal sessions with members of the Committee, the Police and Crime Commissioner had taken the decision not to proceed with any changes to the fire governance arrangements in Lancashire, at this time.

An invite would be issued to Transport for the North to present at a future meeting of the Committee. Network Rail and Northern Rail would also be invited to attend this meeting.

Members were informed that a Bite Size Briefing on Universal Credit would take place on Tuesday 30th October 2018. County Councillor Gillian Oliver agreed to act as rapporteur and to report back to the Committee in January 2019.

The House of Commons had launched a new Brexit Digest for people to receive updates on the process of Brexit through the House of Commons.

Resolved: That the Chair's update be noted.

7. External Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2018/19

The report presented set out the External Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme for the municipal year 2018/19.

In terms of the topic on the impact of Brexit on advanced manufacturing a request for the impact on agriculture as well was raised. It was decided to leave this until after the Brexit decision in March 2019.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

8. Urgent Business

There were no items of Urgent Business.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the External Scrutiny Committee would take place on Tuesday 22 January 2019 at 10.30am in Cabinet Room B (The Diamond Jubilee Room) at the County Hall, Preston.

L Sales
Director of Corporate Services

County Hall
Preston

Prevent Duty/Channel

Mike Kirby- Director of Commissioning
Pam Smith - CT/Prevent ,Equality & Cohesion Team
Chris Coyle - Senior Manager, Children's Social Care
Det Chief Insp Scott Waddington – CTPNW

WHAT IS CONTEST?

UK's long-term counter terrorism strategy -



Protect, Prepare, Pursue, **Prevent**
(4 P's)

Threat levels

There are 5 levels (used in the UK) to record the assessment of threat across a wide range of sectors:-

Critical – an attack is expected imminently

Severe – an attack is highly likely

Substantial – an attack is a strong possibility

Moderate – an attack is possible but not likely

Low – an attack is unlikely

5

The five terrorist attacks in 2017, resulted in 36 fatalities.

74

74 international related terrorist organisations are proscribed in the UK

25

Disruption of 25 Islamist terrorist plots since the murder of Lee Rigby in June 2013

Since 2011

the threat has changed

150

150 attempted journeys to the Syria/Iraq conflict area were disrupted in 2015

12

Disruption of 12 Islamist terrorist since the Westminster attack

4

4 Extreme Right-Wing plots disrupted since the Westminster Attack

1,500,000+

1,500,000+ frontline staff, including local authority, NHS staff and teachers trained in spotting signs of radicalisation

412

there were 412 arrests for terrorism-related offenses in the year ending 31 December 2017



Remember it's all types of extremism

- Extreme animal rights
- Extreme far right
- Daesh/ISIL/AQ/Islamist Extremism
- Environmental terrorism
- Northern Ireland related
- Single issue
- Lone actors

CONTEST Strategy 2018 - Prevent objectives



Tackle the causes of radicalisation and respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism.

Safeguard and support those most at risk of radicalisation through early intervention, identifying them and offering support.

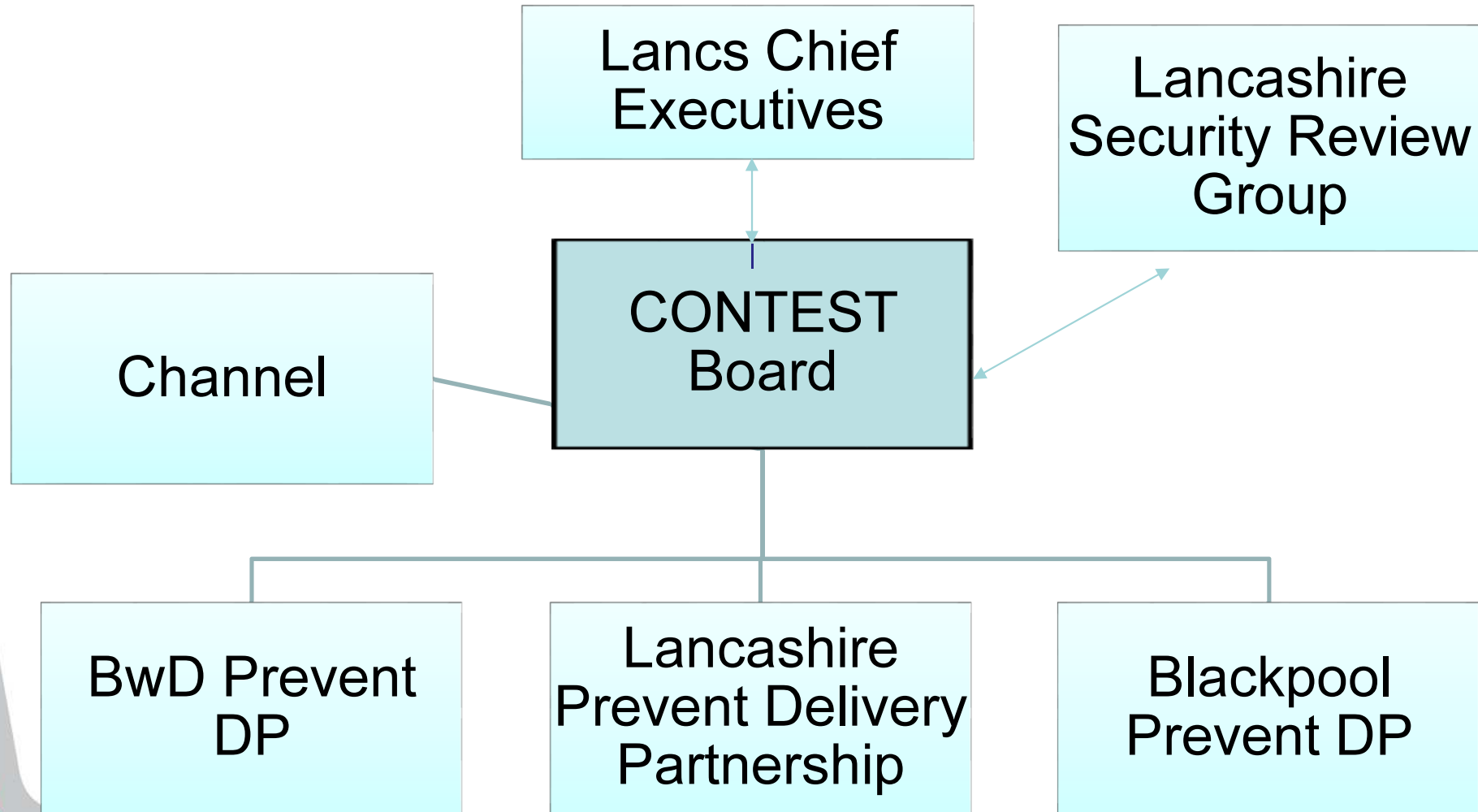
Enable those who have already engaged in terrorism to disengage and rehabilitate.

CTSA 2015 - Prevent Duty

Specified authorities are required to:

- **Assess risk** of radicalisation in their area or institution
- Develop an **action plan** to reduce this risk
- **Train staff/members** to recognise radicalisation and extremism
- Work in **partnership** with other partners
- Establish referral mechanisms and **refer people to Channel**
- Maintain records and reports to **show compliance** e.g. use of venues, awarding contract and grants and ITC policies.

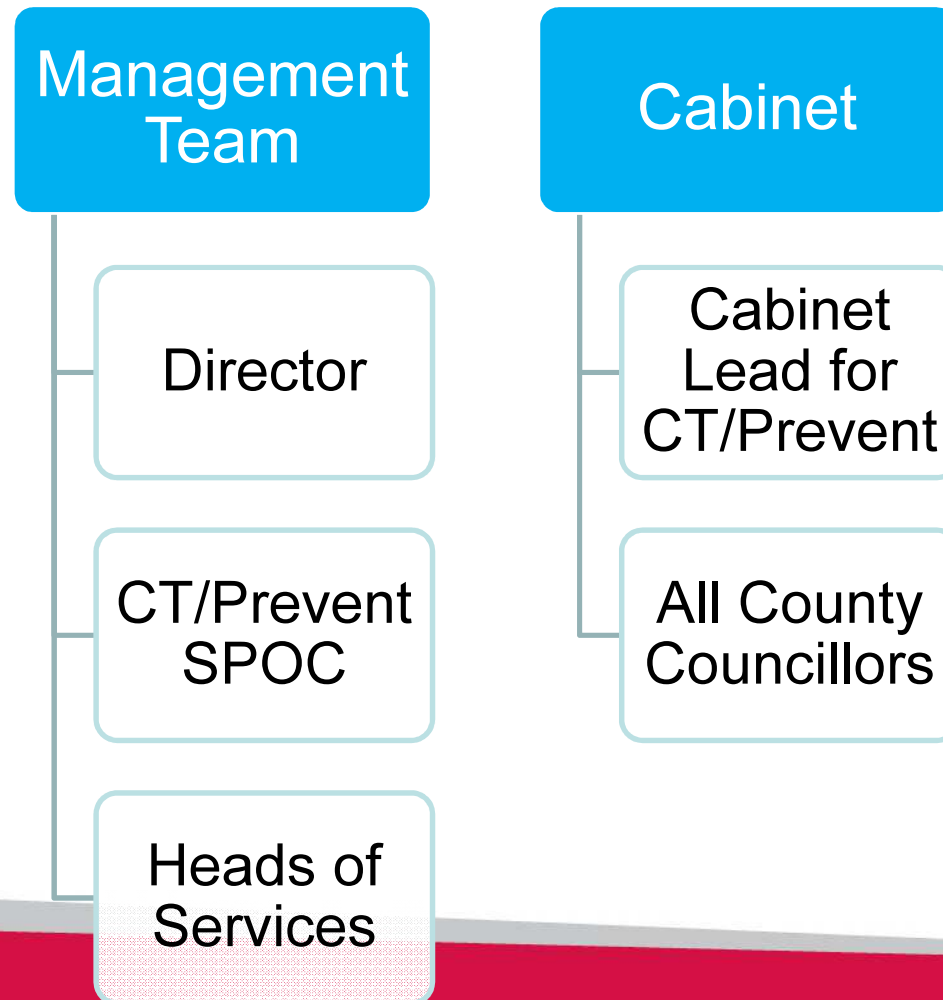
Prevent Partnership Working



Lancashire Prevent Partnership Delivery Plan 16/19

- Leadership
 - Partnership
 - Training and Raising Awareness
 - Risk Assessment
-
- [LCC Prevent Strategy and Delivery Plan 2016/18](#)

LCC CT/Prevent Governance



What to Do?

1. Notice/Recognise concern
2. Check out/Understand
3. Share/Refer on- "concern form"

Prevent is SAFEGUARDING

Lancashire Channel

Channel Panel(pan Lancashire)

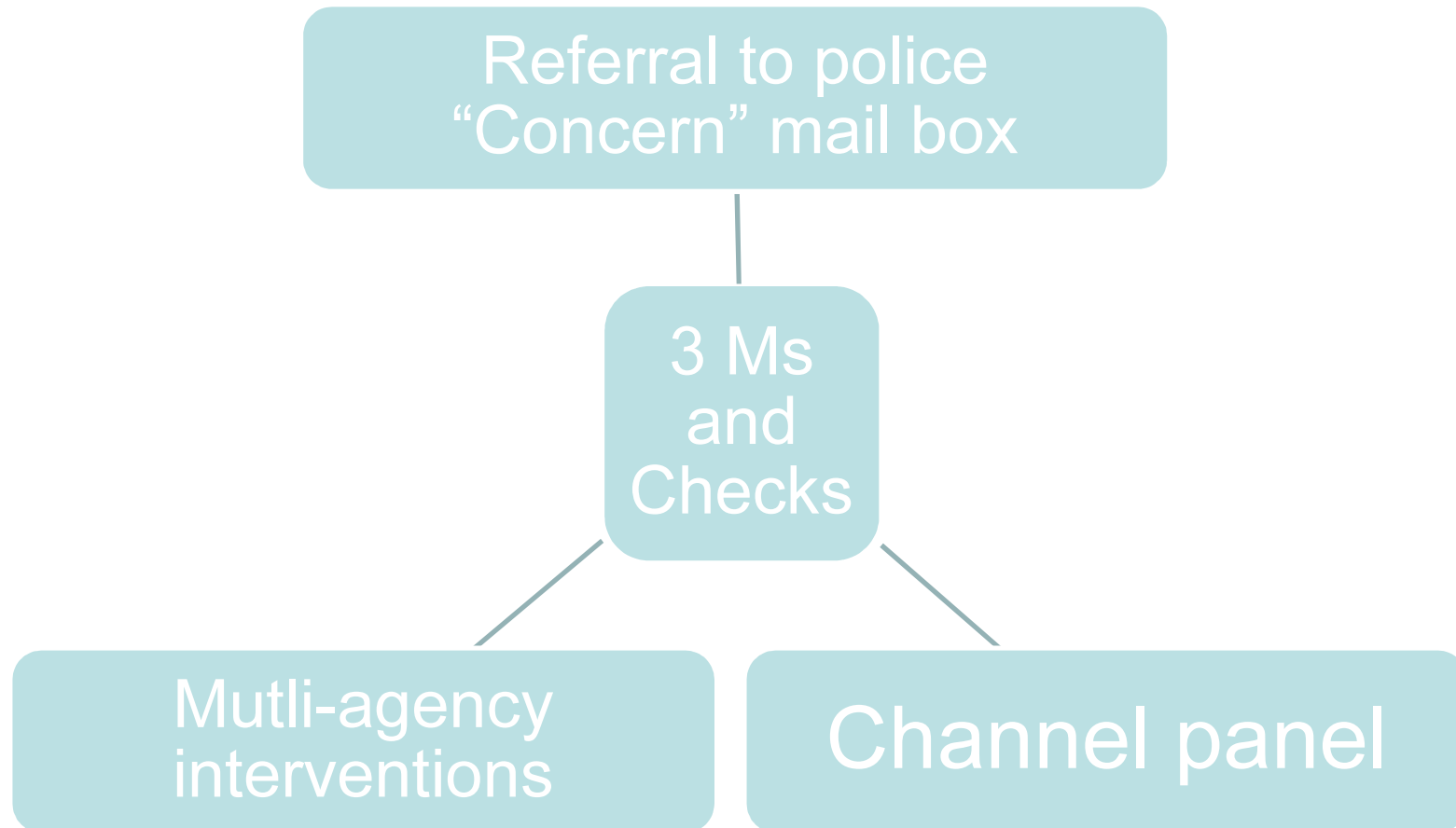
Multi-agency Channel Panel focuses on providing safeguarding support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. In Lancashire administered by Blackburn with Darwen Council.

For any Channel Programme enquiries, please contact

concern@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

Referring

concern@lancashire.pnn.police.uk



Stay Safe: just remember

RUN



Run to a place of safety. This is a far better option than to surrender or negotiate. If there's nowhere to go, then...

HIDE



It's better to hide than to confront. Remember to turn your phone to silent and turn off vibrate. Barricade yourself in if you can. Then finally and only when it is safe to do so...

TELL



Tell the police by calling 999.

<https://www.gov.uk/report-terrorism>

Short film 'Stay Safe: Firearms and Weapons' from the police tells you what you should do. [Stay Safe](#)



STOP
TERRORISTS'
& EXTREMISTS'
ONLINE
PRESENCE



E-learning

All specified organisation under the Prevent Duty promote the Home Office Prevent E-Learning tool and at LCC it is available on the staff intranet and for councillors via **C-First**

[Prevent Duty e-learning](#)

Thank you

Prevent – Role of Local Councillors

As local areas deliver processes to ensure that they are complying with the Prevent duty there are clear roles for local councillors.

Councillors can work to stop people from becoming terrorists and respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism. Aspects of extremism may seem distant to the day-to-day role of local councillors - however, successful prevention strategies will only work when underpinned by the support of councillors' knowledge and relationships in a local area.

Councillors are well placed to listen to and understand constituents' concerns, and can share their understanding of sources of community tension with the local authority. Councillors involved in local overview and scrutiny will want to be assured about the nature of risk in their local authority area and the work being done to address any identified risk.

Councillors can also use their authority and legitimacy to challenge the narratives of radicalisers and extremists and put forward positive alternatives, working with the wider community to condemn the activities of extremists who misrepresent local community views.

In summary :-

- Safeguarding communities as community leader;
- Listen and understand constituents concerns;
- Challenge narratives of radicalisers and extremists;
- Understand how to signpost concerns;
- Promote positive messages about community activities and relationships.

Any concerns or guidance contact: Pam Smith, LCC Email: pam.smith@lancashire.gov.uk Tel: 01772 530591 Mobile: 07766306502 **OR**

Email the police directly on concern@lancashire.pnn.police.uk **OR**

Call the confidential Anti-terrorism Hotline: Tel: 0800789321.

In an emergency ring 999.

