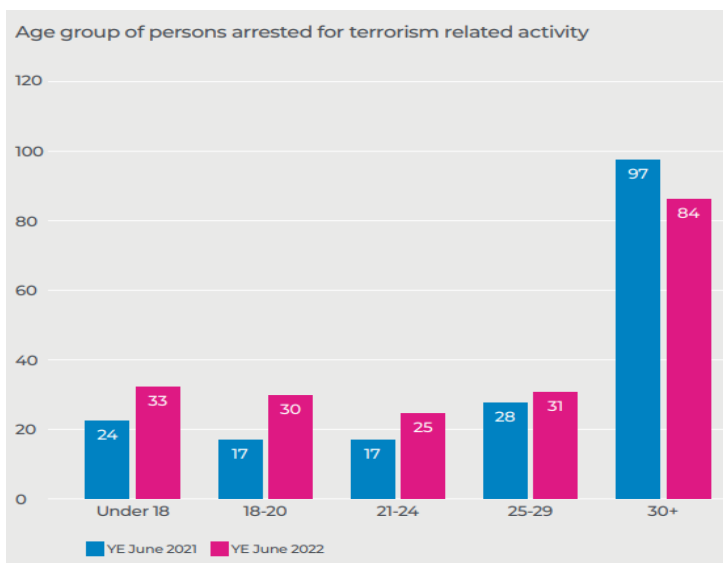


Prevent is the "Safeguarding" arm of the Governments counter terrorism strategy. Under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 a duty was placed on Lancashire County Council/ public authorities to prevent people from being drawn in to terrorist activity known as the "Prevent Duty". Its aim is to protect people and communities from harm (extremist activity) or abuse (radicalisation).

Home Office figures reveal rise in terror-related arrests

Terror-related arrests have increased by over 11% in the past year, according to recently published Home Office figures. Between June 2021-2022, 203 people were arrested for terrorism-related activity; 20 more than in the previous 12-month period. Of those arrested, 16% were under the age of 18; the highest number of children arrested in relation to terrorism offences in a year since records began. The acting Senior National Co-ordinator for Counter Terrorism Policing, Commander Richard Smith, stated that children are more frequently being exposed to terrorist content and propaganda online and being arrested for "extremely serious terrorism offences". The arrest in July 2022 of a 15-year-old boy accused of plotting a so-called Islamic State-inspired terrorist attack at the Isle of Wight Festival illustrates the increasing threat posed by radicalised minors in the UK. Vulnerable people, including children, are likely at risk of being targeted by terrorist groomers through the internet; particularly those from the far right.



The role of LCC staff with regard to Prevent is to safeguard vulnerable individuals from being drawn into terrorism. When staff are considering other safeguarding issues it is important that they consider radicalisation to ensure we are safeguarding individuals before they potentially cross that criminal line and end up in the criminal justice system.

Children increasingly being targeted by far-right groups online

This is something we have detailed in previous Prevent newsletters but this trend continues to be growing. A recent investigation by a national newspaper has revealed that children are increasingly being targeted by "far right ecosystems" online. Teachers, police officers and community leaders have been warned that longer periods of unsupervised online access may result in children increasingly encountering far right groups online. Through gaming tournaments, "virtual hangouts", and online leafleting, children and teenagers are becoming introduced to white supremacist, racist, and neo-Nazi ideologies. MI5 recently revealed that they had investigated a 13-year-old neo-Nazi terror suspect who had downloaded bombmaking instructions from his grandmother's house in Cornwall. As the director general of MI5 warned, children and teenagers are increasingly being swept up by "online extremists and echo chambers", posing an "emerging threat" to the UK.

New Prevent Duty Awareness eLearning

The government has launched a new Prevent Duty eLearning package. The course takes 30-40 minutes and staff are reminded that this elearning is mandatory for all frontline, safeguarding and computer based staff. The eLearning is accessed via [Astute](#).

New Government Prevent Advice

The government has developed a new web page providing clear and accessible information regarding Prevent, advice on how to make a referral and the support offered through Channel. [Get help for radicalisation concerns - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Action Counters Terrorism Awareness Presentation at County Hall — 1st November 10am

This two hour session will be delivered by Counter Terrorism Security Advisor and is designed to raise awareness of the threat from terrorism and actions you can take to protect yourself and our organisation from or during an attack. You can book a place below.

<https://clickdelegate.lancashire.gov.uk/conferenceDetails.asp?cid=48570>

Lancashire Stickers and Graffiti Update

Monitoring concerns and tensions in communities enables us to respond to risks and threats and as an organisation we have a process to report extreme graffiti / sticking. Please don't remove it yourself, email the location and photo evidence where possible to: Sticking@lancashire.police.uk and cc the LCC Corporate Counter Terrorism Team (contact details below).

What should you do if you have a Prevent concern?



Notice - Recognise concern

Check out - Understand/

 speak to colleague or manager/ speak to LCC Prevent Team

Share - Refer on

You make a referral by emailing the Prevent Form to concern@lancashire.police.uk and cc Pam Smith. Further information and the form are available on the [Prevent intranet webpage](#). The LCC Corporate Counter Terrorism Team are also available to discuss any concerns before you submit a referral.

Lancashire County Council CT/Prevent Training

Management Team have mandated that Prevent Awareness is mandatory for all staff and at the very least frontline and safeguarding employees must complete the Prevent Duty eLearning. Other staff will receive awareness raising as appropriate for their service needs. The Prevent Duty E-learning is accessed via [Astute](#). This must be refreshed every 2 years and staff will now receive a reminder email when their 2 years is nearly finished.

The Corporate Counter Terrorism Team delivered (Phase 1) of an awareness raising programme on the wider counter terrorism agenda and the Prevent Duty requirements across the organisation to Directors, senior managers and key services. Approx. 1,300 senior colleagues. Going forward (Phase 2) we will be supporting the corporate cohort of TTT's, identified from the key services, to continue to raise and refresh awareness around the Prevent Duty for our practitioners/teams. **Any team that wants to book a session or know who your directorate Prevent Awareness Raisers are please contact- Thomas.Sweeney@lancashire.gov.uk**

The Corporate Counter Terrorism Team are always available to provide advice and guidance on any Counter Terrorism or Prevent concern and we can be contacted as per below:-

Pam Smith - Corporate Counter Terrorism Manager

Pam.Smith@lancashire.gov.uk

01772 530591 / 0776306502

Thomas Sweeney – Corporate Counter Terrorism Officer

Thomas.Sweeney@lancashire.gov.uk

01772 531388 / 07814071549

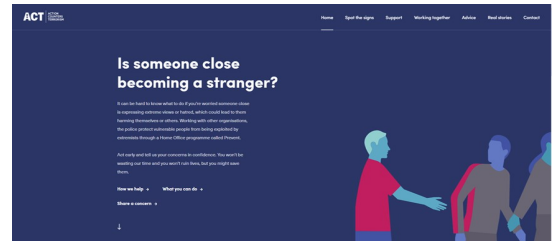
Team Mailbox— CounterTerrorismandPrevent@lancashire.gov.uk

Recent Sticking /Graffiti



[ACT Early Website](#)

The Act Early website is a new tool designed by Counter Terrors Police to help increase Prevent referrals from family and friends and communities into the police by increasing awareness, trust and understanding of the police's safeguarding role.



iREPORTit App

The iREPORTit App has been created to provide a simple way for anyone to report any extreme material or websites.

This will then be assessed by the Police and the website/material will be removed from the internet where it breaches the UK's terrorism legislation.

The App is available on both iPhone and Android.

