



Department
for Education

October 2019

FE/HE Prevent News: London

Your monthly Prevent update for Further Education (FE) and Higher Education (HE) providers in London.



Dear Further Education and Higher Education providers,

As many of you will be aware, there have been slight changes over at London FE/HE Prevent HQ. Chris Rowell has undertaken a new role coordinating the FE/HE Regional Prevent Delivery Network and so will no longer provide support to London's providers. I am sure you will all join me in thanking him and wishing him the best of luck in his new role. Although, saying that, he will still heavily be involved in the national FE/HE Prevent picture and so in all likelihood you may still work closely with him!

Chris has asked me to say "a huge a thank-you to everyone who welcome me to the London Prevent world and for sharing your success and challenges. Through Jake I look forward to continuing to learn from you all."

I am currently going through HR to start the process of trying to find someone to fill the large shoes left by Chris! The grade and responsibilities may be slightly different, but both Chris and I have made it clear that

it is important that the level of support to London's FE/HE sector is maintained. I will keep you informed via the digest when the role is advertised.

As ever, do drop me an email or call if I can support you and/or your institution with Prevent, particularly those providers that were previously under Chris' remit.

Finally, bit of personal news from me...I recently became a father to a little girl - Ivy Dylan Butterworth. I don't know what I'm doing, but all seems to be going well so far. If I look a bit jaded next time you see me, you know why.

Contents

Sector specific information

Prevent Independent Review: Call for Evidence

New Online Referral Form for Reporting Extremism in the Education Sector

OK hand sign added to list of hate symbols

Commission for Counter Extremism's 'Challenging Hateful Extremism' report

Generation Identity UK rebrand to Identitarian Movement

Call for feedback on Safe Campus Communities website

Journey of Recovery

Sector specific information

Further education

We had our first London FE ILP Prevent Network on 25th September and another meeting of our well-established London FE College Prevent Network on 26th September. Both meetings were well attended and we heard from Ofsted's Senior HMI for FE at both meetings. Minutes and actions to be circulated in due course.

I will be running a WRAP train-the-trainer for ILPs on the afternoon of Wednesday 4 December at the Department for Education. If you or a colleague for an ILP and would like to attend then please do let me

Higher education

The next HE Network is going to be taking place on 31 October at London City University. Details to be circulated imminently. Please do block out the AM of your calendars!

know. I will be doing a similar session for other FE colleagues - if you are willing to host the session, please let me know!

Prevent Independent Review: Call for Evidence

The [call for evidence](#) is a critical element of the review methodology set out in the Independent Review's [Ways of Working page](#) published on 30 September. It seeks to gather a wide range of written responses through their online survey tackling the questions set out in the review's [terms of reference](#) published on 16 September. As professionals involved in Prevent, it's important for you to feed in your views as part of this call for evidence.

The independent reviewer Lord Carlile says:

"The review is an important opportunity to take stock of the UK's strategy to safeguard those vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It will allow us to consider what is working and what isn't, and to identify what improvements need to be made. Nothing is off the table.

I want to hear from a wide range of people. This includes academics and those working in think tanks, community and religious organisations, those involved in schools, colleges and higher education, and people working with local government and the police. I also want to hear from members of the wider public. I invite you all to share your ideas and thoughts on your experience of Prevent and how things might change and improve."

The call for evidence will remain open until 9 December 2019 and the review will report to Parliament by August 2020.

New Online Referral Form for Reporting Extremism in the Education Sector

DfE's Due Diligence and Counter Extremism Division (DDCED) have developed a new online referral form. Alongside the DDCED counter-extremism helpline, the form provides a vehicle for members of the public to report extremism concerns in the education sector to the DfE so we can investigate and determine whether we need to take any action or support institutions. DDCED investigates extremism concerns and allegations related to adults working in or connected to the education sector. Concerns can be looked into from early years to FE and HE.

The link to the form is [here](#) and will soon be included on the relevant DfE webpages so it can be accessed by members of the public. I am sharing this with you as a frontline practitioner as you may want to use the form to log a concern directly. Please still feel free to have those consultative conversations with me or your respective regional Prevent Coordinator when required.

OK hand sign added to list of hate symbols



The OK finger-and-thumb gesture is being used by some as a "sincere expression of white supremacy" according to the US anti-hate group, the Anti-Defamation League. Although the vast majority of usage is still used to show approval or that someone is ok, it is being used by some amongst to denote far-right support or to say "white power" as the symbol can look a bit like a W and a P.

The OK symbol started out as an online joke on 4Chan (as many far right online symbols do) - taking an innocent gesture and pretending there was a hidden meaning behind it, hoping to trick the media and 'the left' into outrage. However, the joke has been so successful and widespread amongst the far-right, that many believe the OK sign is changing meaning. This was demonstrated when the man accused of the Christchurch attack flashed the sign in court.

Read more about this via this [BBC article](#).

This is being shared not for you to make safeguarding referrals of learners who do this symbol (and please do feel you can still use the symbol without being accused of being a racist), but it demonstrates the methods used by the far-right online. Namely, coded language and messages, warped humour, and underlying intolerance.

Commission for Countering Extremism's 'Challenging Hateful Extremism' report and release of third round of evidence

The Independent Commission for Countering Extremism has published its report on [Challenging Hateful Extremism](#), which provides the Commission's research-based view on contemporary extremism, including case studies and an assessment of the government's 2015 Counter-Extremism Strategy. The report makes the case for a human-rights-based approach to countering extremism through detailed recommendations for government and society.

Additionally, a third tranche of research papers have also been published:

- NatCen, [Public Perceptions of Extremism: Interim summary report](#)
 - Imam Sheikh Dr Usama Hasan, [Mainstreaming Islamism: Islamist Institutions and Civil Society Organisations](#)
 - Dr Damon L. Perry, [Mainstream Islamism in Britain: Educating the "Islamic Revival"](#)
 - Dr Michael Kenney, [What is to be done about al-Muhajiroun? Countaining the Emigrants in a Democratic Society](#)
 - Dr Jagbir Jhutti-Johal, [The changing nature of activism amongst Sikhs in the UK today](#)
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British members of Generation Identity rebrand to Identitarian Movement England

The UK branch of far-right group Generation Identity (GI) has purportedly been expelled from the wider movement after hosting white supremacist speakers.

Although the GI logos are still used in their communications, their new logo [pictured left] and Identitarian Movement (IM) name is something to be aware of in your own providers.



HE Providers: Call for feedback on Safe Campus Communities website

We would like to gather feedback about the [Safe Campus Communities website](#). In order to provide a service that fits the needs of the sector we would like to understand how its currently used. Our aim is to see what features of the site are found to be the most useful and what could be improved to make the site more appealing to our users.

The site currently comprises of:

- an [online training](#) which institution can download onto their own learning management system (using SCORM code)
- a range of [training materials on a range of topics](#) (pdf and powerpoint documents)
- [Talking Heads videos](#)
- [Role specific guidance](#)
- Web pages on a range of other topics (harassment, freedom of speech)

QUESTIONS

1. Do you use the Safe Campus Communities Site? YES / NO

If yes:

- a. Which part of the website do you use the most?
- b. Do you feel the service provides everything an institution needs to carry out their duties under Prevent?
- c. Is there anything that you feel could be included to enhance user experience?

If no:

- d. Why not?
- e. Does your institution have its own training, and if so, what does it consist of?
- f. Does your institution use a different external website or set of resources? If so, what are they?
- g. Are there any changes that could be made to the site to make you want to use the site?

Journey of Recovery

The short film [Journey of Recovery](#), commissioned by the [We Love Manchester Emergency Fund](#) with the advice and support of the [Manchester Resilience Hub](#), has been created as an educational tool to help schools, colleges and universities, as well as other young people, understand what people dealing with a traumatic experience are going through – and how best to support them.

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