

Working with others

The university has recently been approached by the new Prevent regional coordinator for their area. The coordinator is keen to establish a new regional working group and want the university to participate. The regional coordinator has suggested that the group could involve the various stakeholders that have responsibilities within Prevent and would be a good way to share information and work together to address issues of mutual interest. There hasn't previously been a regional group focused on this area and

Factors to consider

- The newly appointed regional coordinators are there to provide guidance, advice and support in all areas relating to Prevent. They may be able to assist in establishing links with local police, organising training and managing events
- Who is best to attend the steering group?
- How often is this group going to meet, and is there any local partnerships already established that would see crossover from this?
- How is the information going to be fed back, and who to at your institution?

University reflections

"We are using Prevent not only to check our intelligence information, but also to have a constructive dialogue by including a number of parties from our diverse institution, partly to reassure, but mainly to restate our values as an open and inclusive institution". Respondent, Universities UK members survey, 2010

"There are designated contacts within the University and regular meetings at all levels. The frequency ranges from fortnightly with the police at operational level to annual with senior officers. Information sharing protocols and use of designated contacts have been discussed at these meetings". Respondent, Universities UK members survey, 2010

"We have various engagement in the region, and have built up a strong relationship with police. This includes regular liaison with both university security departments, including briefings and training. We've also had training and presentations given to senior tutors, accommodation staff and activities for relevant students such as teachers training, social services and criminology". Head of Security

"We were members of a Prevent steering group. This met once a month and involved the local council community safety department, community cohesion, childrens services and adults services, the police, NHS, and the prisons and probation service. It helped give us an idea of where things were and also plan for anything like big demonstrations that have potential to flare up". Director of Operations and Student Support

"Director of Student Affairs is a member of the local PREVENT steering group. PREVENT team members regularly visit campus and develop working relationships with appropriate colleagues". Respondent – Universities UK members survey, 2010

"We had a meeting, at his initiative, recently with the Council's Prevent coordinator. We have agreed to keep in touch. The city is considered very low risk: if this were not the case or if this changes, we would engage further". Respondent – Universities UK members survey, 2010

"Other organisations with which universities reported contact included the National Extremism Tactical Coordination Unit (which provides daily email digests on animal rights issues), the UK Border Agency, the military, local faith groups, local community groups, and local authority resilience and community cohesion groups. Relations with

these groups are characterised by regular meetings, which generally appear to work well. Typically university security managers are the first point of contact in relation to crime prevention and community relations". UUK 'freedom of speech on campus and rights and responsibilities in UK universities' 2011