



**CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL**  
**RHONDDA CYNON TAF**  
**COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COMMITTEE SUMMONS**

C.Hanagan  
Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication  
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council  
The Pavilions  
Cambrian Park  
Clydach Vale CF40 2XX

Meeting Contact: Jessica Daniel - Democratic Services Officer (07385 401877)

**YOU ARE SUMMONED** to a hybrid meeting of **COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (CRIME AND DISORDER)** to be held on **MONDAY, 24TH APRIL, 2023** at **5.00 PM**.

Non Committee Members and Members of the public may request the facility to address the Committee at their meetings on the business listed although facilitation of this request is at the discretion of the Chair. It is kindly asked that such notification is made to Democratic Services by Thursday, 20 April 2023 on the contact details listed above, including stipulating whether the address will be in Welsh or English.

It is the intention to live stream this meeting, details of which can be accessed [here](#)

**AGENDA**

**Page  
No's**

**1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

To receive disclosures of personal interest from Members in accordance with the Code of Conduct

Note:

1. Members are requested to identify the item number and subject matter that their interest relates to and signify the nature of the personal interest: and
2. Where Members withdraw from a meeting as a consequence of the disclosure of a prejudicial interest they must notify the Chairman when they leave.

## **REPORTS OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES AND COMMUNICATIONS**

### **2. CONSULTATION LINKS**

Information is provided in respect of relevant [consultations](#) for consideration by the Committee.

## **OFFICER'S REPORTS**

### **3. COUNTERTERRORISM & COUNCIL PREPAREDNESS**

For Members to scrutinise the Council's arrangements to prepare for and protect residents and communities from terrorism threats in RCT.

**5 - 26**

### **4. COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP REVIEW**

For Members to scrutinise the recommendations emerging from the review of Community Safety Partnership arrangements in the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Region and their implications for RCT.

**27 - 36**

### **5. CHAIR'S REVIEW AND CLOSE**

To reflect on the meeting and actions to be taken forward.

### **6. URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any items, which the Chairman, by reason of special circumstances, is of the opinion should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

## **Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication**

### **Circulation:-**

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee (Crime and Disorder)

(County Borough Councillor J Bonetto and County Borough Councillor G E Williams respectively)

### **County Borough Councillors:**

Councillor S Bradwick, Councillor R Davis, Councillor A J Ellis, Councillor D Evans, Councillor A Fox, Councillor H Gronow, Councillor N H Morgan, Councillor D Owen-Jones, Councillor D Parkin, Councillor A Roberts, Councillor G Stacey and Councillor T Williams



**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022-23**

**COMMUNITY AND CHILDRENS  
SERVICES - CRIME & DISORDER  
COMMITTEE**

**24<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC  
HEALTH, PROTECTION & COMMUNITY  
SERVICES**

**Agenda Item No.**

**3**

Counter Terrorism overview and  
scrutiny of Council preparedness in  
context of new duties

**Author:** Gary Black, Community Safety and Strategic Partnerships Manager

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To update Elected Members on the Council's implementation of Counter Terrorism duties, and the Council's preparedness in the context of new duties.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Scrutinise the content of the report and express their views on the Council's implementation of current Counter Terrorism duties, and our preparedness for new duties.
- 2.2 Scrutinise the Prevent Duty action plan and progress to date.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Counter Terrorism and Security Act contains powers to help the UK respond to the threat of terrorism. The Act received Royal Assent on the 12th of February 2015.
- 3.2 The Act places a duty on Local Authorities to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. The Act also placed Channel (the Government's voluntary programme for people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism) on a statutory basis. Channel is the responsibility of each Local Authority.

3.3 The Contest Strategy underpins the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. Contest is split into four work streams, that are known as the 4 P's – **Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare.**

**Prevent** – aims to prevent people from becoming terrorists and / or supporting terrorist activities.

**Pursue** – the aim is to stop terrorist attacks happening.

**Protect** – the aim is to keep the public safe by strengthening our protection against a terrorist attack.

**Prepare** – the aim is to save lives, reduce harm and aid recovery quickly in the event of a terrorist attack.

3.4 While much of the Counter Terrorism policy agenda is non-devolved, there is an impact on devolved policy areas and functions, particularly in relation to Local Authorities and Community Safety Partnerships.

3.5 In April 2021, the new Contest Cymru Strategy was launched. This work was a collaboration between the Welsh Government and Counter Terrorism Policing Wales. The strategy has been developed to improve the delivery of Contest in Wales, and the approach is built upon uniting the public sector, private sector, statutory partners, and national colleagues across Wales to deliver on the four areas of Contest.

3.6 The Contest Cymru Governance map is attached as Appendix (i).

#### **4. CURRENT THREAT**

4.1 The terrorism threat level indicates the likelihood of a terrorist attack in the UK. There are 5 levels of threat:

- Low – an attack is highly unlikely.
- Moderate – an attack is possible but not likely.
- Substantial – an attack is likely.
- Severe – an attack is highly likely.
- Critical – an attack is highly likely in the near future.

4.2 The level is set by the Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre and the Security Service (MI5).

4.3 The threat level to the UK is currently **substantial.**

4.4 The current threat facing Rhondda Cynon Taf is indicative of the threat facing the rest of the UK.

4.5 Islamist Terrorism remains the larger problem and equates to approximately three quarters of the MI5 terrorist caseload. Much of the volume is self-radicalised terrorists

seeking to conduct low-sophistication attacks. However, low sophistication does not mean low impact as we have seen in recent attacks.

- 4.6 Detecting self-initiated terrorists, who often don't reveal their plans to anyone, and can move quickly and sometimes spontaneously from intent to violence, is an inherently difficult challenge. A challenge which is compounded by the complex mix of extremist ideology with personal grievance and individual vulnerability such as mental ill-health.
- 4.7 The same issues are strongly present in the other major threat, Extreme Right-Wing Terrorism. The Extreme Right-Wing landscape has continued to evolve away from structured, real world groups such as National Action, to more of an online threat. This means individuals are easily able to access right-wing extremist spaces, network with each other and move towards a radical mindset. There are growing numbers of right-wing extremist influencers, operating globally, who fuel grievances and amplify conspiracy theories.

## **5. PREVENT DUTY**

- 5.1 Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on certain bodies ("specified authorities" listed in Schedule 6 to the Act), in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".
- 5.2 Section 36 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 sets out the duty on local authorities and partners of local panels to provide support for people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.
- 5.3 The Prevent strategy, published by the Government in 2011, is part of the overall counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST. The aim of the Prevent strategy is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. In the Act this has simply been expressed as the need to "prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".

### **Rhondda Cynon Taf Compliance With The Prevent Duty**

#### **5.4 Cwm Taf Channel Panel**

- 5.4.1 Channel Panels are a multi-agency partnership focussing on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. Channel was placed on a statutory footing in 2015.
- 5.4.2 Cwm Taf Channel Panel meets monthly and uses a multi-agency approach to identify individuals at risk, assess the nature and extent of that risk and develop the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned.
- 5.4.3 Channel provides early support for anyone who is vulnerable to being drawn into any form of terrorism or supporting terrorist organisations, regardless of age, faith, ethnicity,

or background. Individuals can receive support before their vulnerabilities are exploited by those who want them to embrace terrorism, and before they become involved in

criminal terrorist-related activity. Cases adopted onto Channel should have a vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism. Cases should not be held in Channel where no such vulnerability exists.

5.4.4 The Cwm Taf Channel Panel is successful due to the cooperation and coordinated activity of partners. The local authority coordinates activity by requesting relevant information from panel partners about a referred individual. They will use this information to make an initial assessment of the nature and extent of the vulnerability the person has. The information will then be presented to a Channel panel.

5.4.5 The governance arrangements in place for the Cwm Taf Channel Panel mean that any concerns or issues are escalated to the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Contest Board and ultimately the Contest Cymru Board.

## 5.5 Cwm Taf Morgannwg Prevent Delivery Group

5.5.1 The Cwm Taf Morgannwg Prevent Delivery Group was established to ensure a consistent approach across the region and that shared resources were utilised.

5.5.2 The purpose of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Prevent Delivery Group is to co-ordinate and encourage prevent activity, and develop and enhance relationships across Cwm Taf Morgannwg to:

- Meet our legal obligations under the Counter Terrorism Security Act 2015.
- 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.

5.5.3 The vision of the delivery group is to be class leading in our collaborative approach to tackling radicalisation and utilise methods that will unite the public sector, private sector and statutory agencies and organisations.

5.5.4 We also aim to build trust and confidence in Prevent across Cwm Taf Morgannwg and protect the most vulnerable within our communities.

## 5.6 Training

5.6.1 Home Office on-line Prevent Training is available to all staff within the Local Authority via the RCT Source. The training is mandatory and forms part of the induction process for new employees.

5.6.2 Face to face training is provided by the Local Authority Prevent Co-ordinator and is available to all departments if there is a need identified. The training is prioritised and

based around intelligence and the age range of the most at-risk groups, identified via our annual counter terrorism local profile.

5.6.3 Conferences are held throughout the year for dedicated staff. These were suspended during the pandemic but returned in November 2022 as part of Safeguarding Week. Two sessions were held in November, at the University of South Wales, and we engaged with one hundred and eighty staff. Further conferences are planned for 2023.

5.6.4 All school staff in Rhondda Cynon Taf undertake Prevent Training and an annual audit is conducted to ensure compliance. The understanding of Prevent within schools is also an integral part of the Estyn inspection process.

## 5.7 Risk Assessment

5.7.1 Counter Terrorism Local Profiles (CTLTP) are produced annually. A CTLTP is a strategic document that outlines the threat and vulnerability from terrorism related activity within a specific area.

5.7.2 Our CTLTP is produced as a Cwm Taf Morgannwg document and we utilise it for the following reasons:

- To develop a joint understanding amongst local partners of the threats, vulnerabilities and risks relating to terrorism and non-violent extremism where it creates an environment conducive to terrorism.
- Use the information contained within the CTLTP to develop Prevent programmes and action plans.
- Allow a targeted and proportionate use of shared resources.

5.7.3 The CTLTP is shared with staff who are part of appropriate strategic groups (i.e., Community Safety Partnership Board) and shared with partners who are members of multi-agency counter terrorism related groups.

## 5.8 Use of Local Authority Resources

5.8.1 In Rhondda Cynon Taf we ensure that our publicly owned venues and resources do not provide a platform for extremists and are not used to disseminate extremist views. All our venue hire policies include a section on counter terrorism measures and all appropriate staff are aware of the process to follow when individuals or organisations request to hire one of our Local Authority venues.

5.8.2 Our IT equipment has appropriate security filters installed to ensure that access to terrorist and extremist material is prohibited.

## 5.9 Regional Prevent Co-ordinators

5.9.1 Rhondda Cynon Taf is identified as a non-priority area, therefore we do not receive any dedicated funding for Prevent delivery or any aspects of our counter terrorism

responsibilities. As a result, the Home Office have recently employed Regional Prevent Co-ordinators to advise non-funded areas like ourselves.

- 5.9.2 We have conducted a benchmarking exercise with our nominated Regional Prevent Co-ordinator and are working through an action plan to ensure we are complying with our responsibilities under the Prevent Duty.
- 5.9.3 The Prevent Duty action plan and the improvements being undertaken are attached as Appendix (ii)

## **6. PREPAREDNESS FOR PROTECT DUTY (MARTYN'S LAW)**

### **6.1 Background of Protect Duty**

- 6.1.1 The Protect Duty – known widely as 'Martyn's Law' – comes in the wake of several terrorist attacks in public spaces across the UK – most notably, the Manchester Arena bombing. The purpose of Martyn's Law is to improve security in public spaces, protecting and enhancing the safety of both visitors and staff.
- 6.1.2 The Government is proposing to introduce Martyn's Law during 2023. This legislation will enhance the protection of the United Kingdom's publicly accessible locations (PALs) from terrorist attacks and ensure that organisations and businesses are prepared to deal with incidents.
- 6.1.3 As we've seen in recent years, there has been an increase in terrorist attacks in PALs – anywhere that people visit, congregate in, or pass through. One of the main features of these attacks is the targeting of people.
- 6.1.4 Any PAL is a potential target - it is essential that owners and operators of all such locations understand the risks faced and consider appropriate mitigations. The key initial steps to understanding this threat and risk are:
  - Understanding the terrorist threat – understanding that motivations, targets, and attack methods vary, and change over time.
  - Understanding the specific risks the threat poses to your site and/or organisation, and how and why your site or organisation might be affected – either by being targeted directly, or indirectly because of its proximity to neighbouring sites, businesses or organisations.

### **6.2 Who will Martyn's Law apply to?**

- 6.2.1 Premises will fall within the scope of the Duty where “qualifying activities” take place. This will include locations for purposes such as entertainment and leisure, retail, food and drink, museums and galleries, sports grounds, public areas of local and central Government buildings (e.g., town halls), visitor attractions, temporary events, Places of Worship, health, and education.



6.2.2 It is proposed that the Duty will apply to eligible locations which are either: a building (including collections of buildings used for the same purposes, e.g., a campus); or location/event (including a temporary event) that has a defined boundary, allowing capacity to be known. Eligible locations whose maximum occupancy meets the above specified thresholds will be then drawn into the relevant tier.

6.2.3 Therefore, premises will be drawn into the scope of the Duty if they meet the following three tests:

- That the premises is an eligible one – i.e. building or event with a defined boundary.
- That a qualifying activity takes place at the location; and
- That the maximum occupancy of the premises meets a specified threshold – either 100+ (standard tier) or 800+ (enhanced tier).

6.2.4 The Government considers that the owners and operators of large public venues and large organisations (enhanced tier) should be required to:

- Use available information and guidance provided by the Government and the police to consider terrorist threats to the public and staff at locations they own or operate.
- Assess the potential impact of these risks across their functions and estate, and through their systems and processes.
- Consider and implement ‘reasonably practicable’ protective security and organisational preparedness measures (e.g. developing a strategy that ensures you have assessed your site and its use, including suitable mitigation measures to protect staff, as well as staff training, and plans for how to react in the event of an attack).
- Develop a robust plan on how to deal with or act as a result of a terrorist attack.

6.2.5 For smaller organisations and venues (standard tier), this would involve simple low-cost (or no-cost) preparedness measures, such as ensuring that:

- Staff are trained and aware of threats, likely attack methods and how to respond.
- Staff are trained to identify the signs of hostile reconnaissance and to take appropriate action.
- The organisation’s response to different attack types is regularly updated and exercised.

6.2.6 For multi-occupancy sites a “lead accountable person” must be agreed by all parties who will then co-ordinate all security functions alongside a lead responsible person.

### 6.3 Protective Security Preparedness Group

6.3.1 In preparation for the Protect Duty, in RCT we have formed a Protective Security Preparedness Group (PSPG). This group has a key role in assessing the current risk and vulnerabilities and ensure the provision of effective mitigation in a proportionate manner. The PSPG will also ensure our corporate responsibilities under the new Protect Duty are discharged on behalf of the Local Authority. The purpose of the PSPG is to:

- To deliver an integrated security approach that is consistent with the national guidance and standards to ensure local communities are safe.
- To enhance and support protective security and preparedness at public accessible locations within Rhondda Cynon Taf.

#### 6.3.2 The roles and responsibilities of the PSPG are:

- To deliver against the Protect & Prepare Strategy for Wales and focus on the priorities within Rhondda Cynon Taf to reduce the threat of Terrorism.
- To identify and assess threats, risks and vulnerabilities to public accessible locations within Rhondda Cynon Taf and manage them in a proportionate and responsible manner.
- To support local businesses, organisers, and communities on Protective Security Issues in accordance with national guidance and best practice.
- To deliver an integrated security approach to reduce costs and improve efficiency.
- To coordinate and promote a security culture within the Rhondda Cynon Taf to ensure colleagues are considering designing in protective security arrangements at the earliest opportunities.
- To meet the legislative corporate responsibilities of the Protect Duty.
- To raise and promote awareness of preparedness across Rhondda Cynon Taf, by ensuring people understand how to respond to a terrorist incident.

6.3.3 Workshops have also been held with Senior Managers and Directors of all departments within the Local Authority, to raise awareness of the Protect Duty and the implications for the relevant departments and Authority as a whole. These workshops have assisted in us developing an enhanced security culture within our organisation.

## **7. CONTEST REFRESH**

7.1 On 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022, the Home Office announced its intention to refresh and update the UK's counter terrorism strategy, CONTEST, which covers all four elements of the UK's counterterrorism approach: Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare.

7.2 Over the coming months, the government will be seeking a diverse range of views and engaging security experts from across the UK and overseas, to ensure that CONTEST continues to robustly protect the British public from terrorism and reflects the increasingly diverse and fragmented tactics and methodologies used by terrorists.

7.3 The updated strategy is expected to be published in the Autumn of 2023 and will consider findings from a series of important reviews, including the Manchester Arena Inquiry and Independent Review of Prevent.

## **8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY**

8.1 An Equality and Impact Assessment is not required as the contents of this report are for information purposes only.

## **9. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no Welsh Language implications as the contents of this report are for information purposes only.

## **10. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT**

10.1 Ongoing consultation and involvement takes place between ourselves, Welsh Government, Counter Terrorism Policing Wales and the Home Office. Effective partnership working is essential in ensuring that all parts of the United Kingdom have effective strategies in place to mitigate all forms of terrorism.

## **11. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

11.1 There are no financial implications as the content of this report are for information purposes only.

## **12. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

12.1 Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on certain bodies (“specified authorities” listed in Schedule 6 to the Act), in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.

12.2 Section 36 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 sets out the duty on local authorities and partners of local panels to provide support for people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.

12.3 Martyn’s Law is expected to become a legislative duty in 2023.

## **13. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT**

13.1 Effective counter terrorism strategies are key in ensuring the Council achieves the priorities set out in the Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024 “Making a Difference”.

13.2 The work outlined in this report is directly aligned to the “Places” priority within the Corporate Plan – *ensuring the County Borough is one of the safest places in Wales, where people from all backgrounds get along with each other and feel safe.*

13.3 Effective counter terrorism strategies play a vital role in ensuring that Wales remains a safe, attractive and welcoming place for its residents and visitors. Therefore, I feel that the work that has been highlighted within this report contributes to the seven elements that The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is aiming to achieve:

1. A prosperous Wales.
2. A resilient Wales.
3. A more equal Wales.

4. A healthier Wales.
5. A Wales of cohesive communities.
6. A Wales of vibrant culture and Welsh language.
7. A globally responsible Wales.

## **14. CONCLUSION**

- 14.1 The threat of terrorism is a huge challenge and something all Local Authorities throughout the UK need to prioritise. The MI5 Director General, Ken McCallum recently announced the current threats facing the UK and stated that since 2017 the MI5 and the Police have together disrupted 37 late-stage attack plots.
- 14.2 In Rhondda Cynon Taf, we are doing everything possible to keep our area safe from Terrorism and all forms of extremism, as well as having processes in place to safeguard individuals from radicalising influences.
- 14.3 We are committed to ensure there is a security culture within our Local Authority which is conducive to the UK Counter Terrorism strategy, therefore contributing to make Rhondda Cynon Taf, and the United Kingdom, a safe place for all.

## **APPENDICES**

- Appendix (i) – Contest Cymru Governance Map**
- Appendix (ii) – RCT Prevent Duty Action Plan**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITY AND CHILDRENS SERVICES CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

**24<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION & COMMUNITY  
SERVICES**

**COUNTER TERRORISM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY OF COUNCIL  
PREPAREDNESS IN CONTEXT OF NEW DUTIES**

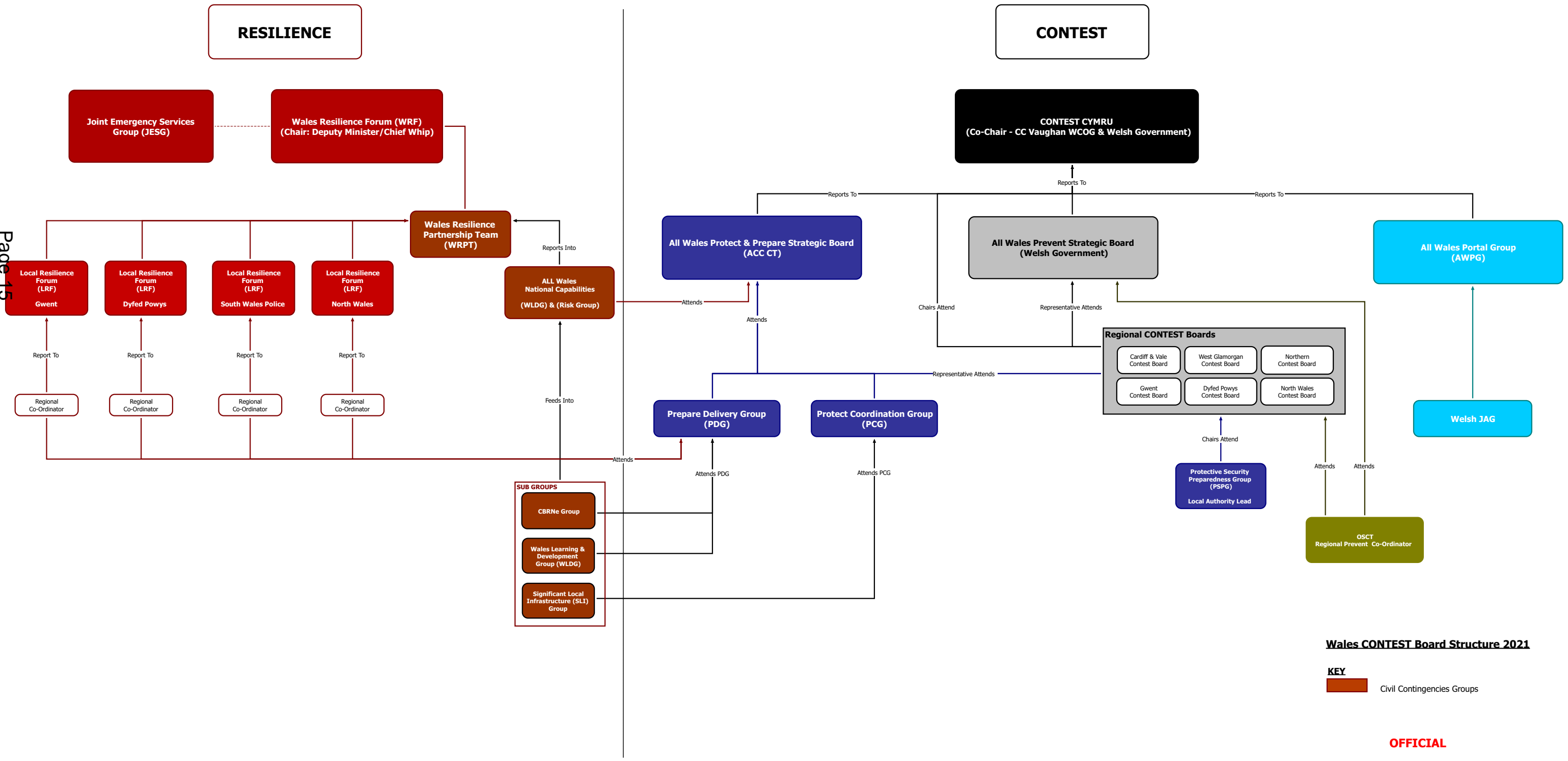
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Wales CONTEST Board Structure 2021

KEY  
Civil Contingencies Groups

OFFICIAL

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# Rhondda Cynon Taf PREVENT Duty Delivery Plan 2022 - 2024

## 1. Introduction

This Delivery Plan provides an overview of the key actions needed to ensure compliance across the Authority in respect of the Prevent Strategy, published by the Government in 2011 and also to meet the duty for specified authorities to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism” from the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

## 2. Risk-based approach

All specified authorities will need to demonstrate an awareness and understanding of the risk of radicalisation in their area, institution or body. The level of risk will vary and so, therefore will the response, but it can also change rapidly.

There are 3 themes throughout the sector-specific guidance provided by the Government:

- Effective Leadership
  - Establish or use existing mechanisms for understanding the risk of radicalisation
  - Ensure staff understand the risk and build the capabilities to deal with it
  - Communicate and promote the importance of the duty; and
  - Ensure staff implement the duty effectively
  
- Working in Partnership
  - Demonstrate evidence of productive co-operation, in particular with local Prevent Co-ordinators, the police, and co-ordination through existing multi-agency forums, for example Community Safety Partnership groups.
  
- Capabilities
  - Staff should understand what radicalisation means and why people may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism, what ‘extremism’ means and the relationship between extremism and terrorism
  - Staff to know what measures are available to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism, how to challenge extremist ideology and how to obtain support for people who need it.
  - Provide appropriate training for staff involved in the implementation of this duty.

It is anticipated that in addition to the implementation of new policies and procedures, that the Prevent duty becomes incorporated into existing policies and procedures, so that it becomes part of the day-to-day work of the Authority.

### **3. Performance and Monitoring**

This Delivery Plan is held by the Authority's Prevent Lead Officer, who is responsible for regular review and updating. The Lead Officer role is overseen by Gary Black and Prevent is a standing topic on the the Authority's Corporate Risk Register.

RAG Status	
	Action off target or NOT Completed
	Action in development/ progressing
	Action on target
	Action Completed

The Home Office will provide central monitoring for the duty and will collate data about the implementation of Prevent from local co-ordinators in the various specified authorities.

## PREVENT Duty Delivery Plan

Key Area	PREVENT Duty Objectives	Action Taken/Already in Place to Mitigate/Address Risk	Owner	Action date	RAG
<b>A.</b>	<b>Governance and Policy</b> Appropriate policy, process and communications are agreed across partners, ensuring consistency in approach and messaging.				
<b>A.1</b>	Prevent duty responsibilities form part of the Authority's Strategic Risk Register	Prevent has been added to the Councils corporate risk register	Louise Davies	December 22	
<b>A.2</b>	Prevent is embedded in all Public facing policies	Work is in development to ensure that appropriate policies have regards to Prevent	Gary Black	September 23	
<b>B.</b>	<b>Local Risk Assessment Process</b> The organisation has a Local Risk Assessment process, reviewed against the CTLP, which assimilates local risk and informs planning and delivery locally				
<b>B.1</b>	Is there a detailed CTLP available for the Authority's use and to make contributions to?	CTLP's are produced annually	Gary Black	October 22	
<b>B.2</b>	Is there a means by which the CTLP's findings to be cascaded from CEO to ground level staff?	Process in place where CTLP recommendations and findings are presented to relevant working groups.	Gary Black	March 23	
<b>B.3</b>	Implement a Local delivery plan and / or Situational Risk Assessment which can be shared with staff and partners?	We utilise our counter terrorism local profile as our situational risk assessment. This is shared with staff via the appropriate working groups and partners via our multi agency groups.	Gary Black	March 23	
<b>B.4</b>	Develop a process by which Risks may be identified, captured and incorporated into a local delivery plan, allowing for effective Management?	This delivery plan is flexible and can change according to risk and intelligence. There is a process in place between the LA Prevent Lead and CTP Wales to highlight or notify of any new risks.	Gary Black	March 23	

<b>C.</b>	<b>Multi Agency Working</b> The authority leads a partnership of multi-agency stakeholders which ensures a collaborative approach to Prevent delivery.				
<b>C.1</b>	Is there a multi-agency Partnership Board in place to oversee Prevent Delivery?	Cwm Taf Morgannwg Prevent Delivery Group in place	Gary Black	December 22	
<b>C.2</b>	Does the Board have oversight of referral pathways, Channel Data and other statutory Prevent Delivery requirements?	All relevant data and delivery requirements are discussed at the regional meeting	Gary Black	December 22	
<b>C.3</b>	Does the Authority secure opportunities for Partnership working with neighbouring Authorities?	Currently working closely as a Cwm Taf Morgannwg region	Gary Black	December 22	
<b>C.4</b>	Are elected members proactively involved in Prevent delivery, including policy-setting and communication?	This is a new requirement and will be developed with our Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities	Gary Black	July 23	
<b>D.</b>	<b>Referral Pathways and Channel</b>				
<b>D.1</b>	Is there an agreed process in place for the referral of those identified as being at risk of radicalisation?	A process where the referral goes directly to counter terrorism policing Wales	Gary Black	December 22	
<b>D.2</b>	Is the information available on the agreed pathway accessible to those that may require it?	The agreed pathway has been provided to all relevant internal departments	Gary Black	December 22	
<b>D.3</b>	Are referred individuals offered support that is relevant to their needs?	Assessments are made on information contained within the referral and appropriate support initiated	Gary Black	December 22	
<b>D.4</b>	Is there a Channel Panel in place, Chaired by a Local Authority Officer, with representation from all relevant sectors?	Cwm Taf Channel Panel in place and meets monthly	Gary Black	December 22	
<b>D.5</b>	Are there appropriate data protection procedures in place, for sharing personal information about an individual and their vulnerabilities with Channel Panel members?	Information sharing agreements are in place	Gary Black	December 22	
<b>D.6</b>	Does the Channel Panel have procedures in place for 6 and 12 monthly reviews of decisions, which is then	Review process is in place	Gary Black	December 22	

	communicated to Panel members?				
<b>D.7</b>	Does the Panel have procedures for managing child protection / safeguarding risks, when appropriate support is not given?	The panel has appropriate representation from relevant departments and has an escalation process should it be required	Gary Black	December 22	
<b>E.</b>	<b>Prevent Problem Solving Process</b>				
<b>E.1</b>	There is a Prevent Multi Agency Action plan in place which describes statutory obligations of named partners.	This will be developed through the regional delivery group	Gary Black	September 23	
<b>E.2</b>	Actions are linked to the Local risk assessment and are owned by a broad range of partners.	As above	Gary Black	September 23	
<b>E.3</b>	Actions have relevant timeframes	As above	Gary Black	September 23	
<b>E.4</b>	Is there a formal mechanism in place for identifying and disrupting radicalising influences, including individuals, organisations and ideologies?	The formal mechanism is via counter terrorism policing Wales and the Channel process	Gary Black	September 23	
<b>F</b>	<b>Training</b>				
<b>F.1</b>	Authorities to undertake a Prevent Training needs analysis across all staff departments.	To be completed	Gary Black	September 23	
<b>F.2</b>	Authorities to implement a Prevent Training Plan which measures and accounts for different levels of training for staff according to roles and responsibilities, including specialist training as appropriate.	To be completed	Gary Black	September 23	
<b>F.3</b>	Board to provide Train the Trainer events to reinforce Authorities qualified trainers.	In discussion with Home Office to establish if this is a viable option	Gary Black	September 23	
<b>F.4</b>	Provide training and awareness raising with Elected Members to support their Community Leadership roles and responsibilities.	Prevent training to be included in elected member training events	Gary Black	September 23	
<b>F.5</b>	Ensure that Authorities have a Prevent Education Training programme to work with all education providers, to train staff on identifying those at risk of radicalisation and to build resilience in pupils?	This will form part of the action plan	Gary Black	September 23	

<b>F.6</b>	Recommend mandatory Prevent Awareness training in place for all new staff?	The training is mandatory for all new staff via the RCT source	Gary Black	March 23	
<b>F.7</b>	Provide clearly accessible information and material on Prevent accessible to all staff within the organisation?	Ongoing discussion with Home Office to ensure we are receiving appropriate and timely material.	Gary Black	September 23	
<b>G.</b>	<b>Venue Hire</b>				
<b>G.1</b>	Is there a Venue Hire policy in place which ensures that measures are taken to prevent Authority venues being used by those who might draw people into terrorism?	A counter terrorism section has been included in all departments venue hire policies	Gary Black	March 23	
<b>G.2</b>	Is there an IT Policy which prevents the access of terrorism related content or materials, by users of the Authority's networks?	Appropriate firewalls are in place	Gary Black	March 23	
<b>G.3</b>	Does the Authority have a Policy in place which alerts local venues (Authority or otherwise) to the risks associated with speakers who are known to be radicalising influencers?	This forms part of our process to disrupt radicalising influences	Gary Black	March 23	
<b>H</b>	<b>Community Engagement</b>				
<b>H.1</b>	Does the Authority engage with a range of Community and civil society groups, both faith related and secular, to encourage an open and transparent dialogue on Prevent?	Ongoing development with the Community Cohesion Group	Gary Black	September 23	
<b>H.2</b>	Does the Authority have regular meetings with Community groups to advise on Prevent issues?	Ongoing development with the Community Cohesion Group	Gary Black	September 23	
<b>H.3</b>	Does the Authority work with Civil Society Groups to deliver local projects to support those at risk of radicalisation?	Ongoing development with the Community Cohesion Group	Gary Black	September 23	
<b>J.</b>	<b>Prevent Communications</b>				
<b>J.1</b>	Does the Authority communicate prevent activity in a way which is proportionate and relevant to the context	Currently in discussion with Home Office and CTP Wales to establish the best process. Communication	Gary Black	September 23	

	of the area?	toolkit being produced by the Home Office			
<b>J.2</b>	Does the Authority have a formal communication plan, which proactively communicates the impact of Prevent to professionals and communities?	As above	Gary Black	September 23	





**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022-23**

**COMMUNITY AND CHILDRENS  
SERVICES - CRIME & DISORDER  
COMMITTEE**

**24<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC  
HEALTH, PROTECTION & COMMUNITY  
SERVICES**

**Agenda Item No.**

**4**

Scrutiny of recommendations emerging from the review of Community Safety Partnership arrangements in the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Region, and their implications for RCT

**Author:** Gary Black, Community Safety and Strategic Partnerships Manager

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To update Elected Members on the findings of the review of Community Safety Partnership arrangements in the Cwm Taf Morgannwg region, and their implications for RCT.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that members:

- 2.1 Scrutinise the content of the report and express their views on the findings of the review.
- 2.2 Scrutinise the recommendations made as a result of the review.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 There are currently two Community Safety Partnerships operating across the Cwm Taf Morgannwg region. The Cwm Taf Community Safety Partnership covers both Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr Tydfil, whilst the Bridgend Community Safety Partnership covers solely Bridgend.
- 3.2 Recent years have seen an increase in the adoption of regional footprints by Strategic Groups within the overall CSP framework, for example: The Area Planning Board for substance misuse, The Contest (counter terrorism) Board and the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Steering Group. In addition, there is now a single Regional Safeguarding Board and Regional Partnership Board

(RPB) for the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Region, and the imminent establishment of a single Public Services Board (PSB) for Cwm Taf Morgannwg.

- 3.3 As a result of the above, the population assessment and wellbeing assessments undertaken by the RPB and PSB respectively cover the Cwm Taf Morgannwg region as a whole and priorities identified in respect of community safety will be relevant to all local authorities and strategic partners across the region.
- 3.4 The three local authority Chief Executives and the Chief Superintendent of South Wales Police Mid Glamorgan BCU, agreed that a review of the community safety partnership arrangements for Cwm Taf Morgannwg was required with the aim of consolidating the earlier amalgamation of strategic groups across the region.
- 3.5 The review was commissioned by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council on behalf of its partners Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council, Bridgend County Borough Council and South Wales Police. The review was undertaken by an independent, external company on behalf of the Region.
- 3.6 The original aim of the review was to consider the opportunity to establish a single community safety partnership for the Cwm Taf Morgannwg region, the governance arrangements required, and any specific infrastructure and funding requirements that will ensure the community safety partnership can operate as a strategic and effective partnership for the benefit of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg region.
- 3.7 The objectives of the review were:
  - Understand and map the existing meeting and partnership landscape for the Bridgend Community Safety Partnership and Cwm Taf Community Safety Partnership respectively. Ensure the current relationship with the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Board structures are identified.
  - Understand areas of current Community Safety Partnership joint delivery on a Cwm Taf Morgannwg basis and consider further collaborative opportunities to maximise capability and capacity of all partners.
  - Develop a single Cwm Taf Morgannwg Community Safety Partnership map considering current and emerging statutory functions, challenges, governance and accountability and business benefits. Ensure the new structure identifies the proposed relationship between the Community Safety Partnership and the Safeguarding Board structures.
  - Identify appropriate representation for meetings / subgroups to deliver accountability across the partnership.
  - As far as practicable, ensure any new Community safety Partnership proposal considers the emerging recommendations from the Home Office review of Community safety Partnership requirements.

- Identify the strategic planning and delivery arrangements for the Community Safety Partnership and how this will align to the priorities of the Public Services Board and each respective organisations corporate / strategic priorities.
- Identify any opportunities for scrutiny and oversight of the work of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Community Safety Partnership that need to be established.
- Identify the infrastructure required to facilitate an effective, strategic Community Safety Partnership, specifically considering the costs / benefits / opportunities to provide dedicated analytical capacity and business support / co-ordination capacity.
- To ensure a value for money approach in the operation of a Cwm Taf Morgannwg Community Safety Partnership.
- Ensure that any review and recommendations incorporate not just the serious violence and counter terrorism duties placed upon local authorities and policing, but also the new Welsh Government Strategic Plan in relation to preventing violence against women and girls and domestic violence and abuse.

#### **4. METHODOLGY**

4.1 The methodology for the review comprised of two stages:

1. A desktop review which considered the national context and local arrangements, including governance and support capacity, along with progress made to date by the two current Community Safety Partnerships (Cwm Taf and Bridgend). The work at this stage included:
  - Mapping existing structures in which both Community Safety Partnerships currently operate, including relationships with subgroups and wider partnerships.
  - Consider the terms of reference and membership of each Community Safety Partnership and their subgroups.
  - Look at the operation of the partnerships and how this supports strategic delivery.
  - Assess the level of support available to facilitate delivery of Community Safety Partnership business.
2. Engagement with a wide range of individuals including key members of the below groups:
  - VAWDASV Partnership Board.
  - Cwm Taf Morgannwg Contest Board.
  - Cwm Taf Morgannwg Exploitation Group.
  - Mid Glamorgan Serious Violence and Organised Crime Board.
  - Cwm Taf Offender Management Board.
  - Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Board.
  - Cwm Taf Morgannwg Area Planning Board.
  - South Wales Police.
  - South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner.
  - Cwm Taf Community Cohesion Board.

- Cwm Taf Community Safety Partnership.
- Bridgend Community Safety Partnership.

## 5. **ISSUES IDENTIFIED**

- 5.1 During the discussions with stakeholders, issues were identified that were needed to be considered for any new proposed arrangements.
- 5.2 The National issues that inevitably affect the operations of a successful Community Safety Partnership are:
- Highly significant legislative and policy changes since commencement of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
  - Further changes and duties are currently being developed that will fall under the responsibility of Community Safety Partnerships.
  - UK and Wales policy and legislation is driving the agenda for greater collaboration between agencies and at a regional level.
  - The specificity of what exactly a Community Safety Partnership is has become opaque as a result of the changes.
  - Community Safety Partnerships complexities and priorities have increased but without additional funding or resources.
- 5.3 It was widely recognised that the request for a review and the potential restructure/merger of the Community Safety Partnerships is timely given the wider changes and anticipated new duties that will fall under the remit.
- 5.4 There was found to be an overlap between groups within the structure leading to a duplication of effort and unnecessary complexity. This identified the need for better integration of relevant strategic plans, and better connectivity between locality frameworks and active agencies.
- 5.5 The commitment and engagement of current staff was valued and appreciated. However, whilst enthusiasm by officers is driving the Community Safety Partnership agenda there is insufficient capacity and resource for evidence-based planning, needs analysis, monitoring of progress and assessment of data.
- 5.6 There appears to be widespread support for integration and alignment with other regional arrangements. It was felt that greater economies of scale and critical mass, using a combined and streamlined approach to funding bids, provides potential for more resources and more value for money.
- 5.7 There has been some concern that regionalisation will dominate and diminish local arrangements, with the potential dominance of some larger partners.
- 5.8 Issues were raised in relation to the lack of capacity for effective co-ordination. It was felt a merged business unit supporting regional bodies would deliver benefits, and the

potential merger of the Regional Safeguarding Board business unit and adoption of equivalent funding formula.

## **6. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM REVIEW**

6.1 The Review identified nine specific recommendations:

- I. Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil and Bridgend County Borough Councils should, together with their mutual responsible authorities, seek to establish a regional Cwm Taf Morgannwg Community Safety Partnership Board, focusing on the delivery of strategic priorities agreed between responsible agencies and with appropriate delegated responsibility.
- II. In formulating the arrangements for the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Community Safety Partnership, responsible agencies need to ensure, in collaboration with their legal departments and in collaboration with Welsh Government officials, that under the proposed arrangements the duties placed upon them by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, subsequently amended, continue to be fully met in line with the Act and its regulations.
- III. An agreed rational structure which effectively dovetails with the new Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board and the Safeguarding Board should be established for the new Cwm Taf Morgannwg Community Safety Partnership Board.
- IV. Given the broad range of responsibilities placed upon Community Safety Partnerships the thematic subgroups that have emerged at a regional level should be reviewed, and where appropriate, incorporated within the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Community Safety Partnership.
- V. Mechanisms need to be established by the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Community Safety Partnership Board, working with all responsible authorities, to engage with communities paying heed to citizens' voices.
- VI. A business unit should be developed to serve the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Community Safety Partnership Board to fulfil, as a minimum, the functions set out in this report.
- VII. Whether or not the business unit is stand alone for the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Community Safety Partnership Board or integrated with that of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Board, a funding formula should be developed to resource support arrangements.
- VIII. In addition to the establishment of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Community Safety Partnership Board appropriate local arrangements should be in place to scrutinise

regional activity and oversee delivery of activity extraneous to, but supportive of, the identified regional priorities.

IX. If the preceding recommendations are approved, a detailed plan for implementing the new arrangements should be developed, which would provide for:

- Further engagement with stakeholders.
- Co-production of governance and support arrangements.
- Agreeing terms of reference for and membership of groups within the regional arrangements.

6.2 The Review Report and its recommendations have been considered by the Cwm Taf Community Safety Partnership Board and the Bridgend Community Safety Partnership Board. Each Board has accepted the Report and its recommendations. The Review Recommendations are now subject to consideration by each individual local authority, as part of their statutory duties under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

## **7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY**

7.1 An Equality and Impact Assessment is not required as the contents of this report are for information purposes only.

## **8. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 There are no Welsh Language implications as the contents of this report are for information purposes only.

## **9. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT**

9.1 During the course of the review, there was extensive engagement with a wide range of stakeholders involved in the community safety landscape. Stakeholders were invited to provide their perspectives on the advantages and disadvantages of current arrangements, what is working well and not so well, aspects that they felt required improvement and the perceived opportunities and threats of the proposed merger.

9.2 Engagement took a number of forms including one to one interviews, meetings with small groups and attendance at meetings of relevant boards and other fora.

9.3 The process was overseen by a steering group consisting of representatives of all statutory members of a Community Safety Partnership.

## **10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

10.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. Any financial implications arising from a decision to implement the recommendations of the review will be subject to separate consideration by all Community Safety Partners.

## **11. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

11.1 Community Safety Partnerships are a statutory function under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. There is a provision for Partnerships to be formed, with a strategic focus, on a regional basis. This relies on ensuring there remains a capability to deal with community safety issues on a local basis.

## **12. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT**

12.1 Community safety and the public's positive perception of safety are key in ensuring the Council achieves the priorities set out in the Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024 "Making a Difference".

12.2 The work of the Community Safety Partnership Board is directly aligned to the "Places" priority within the Corporate Plan – *ensuring the County Borough is one of the safest places in Wales, where people from all backgrounds get along with each other and feel safe.*

12.3 As community safety, and the feeling of safety, is such an important element for communities to thrive in many ways, it is felt that the review and implementation of the recommendations will contribute to all of the seven elements that The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is aiming to achieve:

1. A prosperous Wales.
2. A resilient Wales.
3. A more equal Wales.
4. A healthier Wales.
5. A Wales of cohesive communities.
6. A Wales of vibrant culture and Welsh language.
7. A globally responsible Wales.

## **13. CONCLUSION**

13.1 Highly significant and specifically relevant legislative and policy changes have been introduced in the 25 years since the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 introduced the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships which have subsequently become Community Safety Partnerships. The consequence of these changes has been the expansion of the number of authorities involved in the Community Safety Partnership agenda and an increase in the duties placed upon these authorities.

13.2 As a result of these changes the importance of community safety has been amplified and the complexity of the necessary partnerships, and priorities, has significantly increased. However, the resource available and targeted at community safety has not kept pace with these increasing demands.

- 13.3 The review of Community Safety Partnership arrangements in Cwm Taf Morgannwg is timely and the review team found a strong weight of support for the merger of both Community Safety Partnerships. Several strategic partnerships already operate on a Cwm Taf Morgannwg basis, including the Public Services Board, the Safeguarding Board and the Area Planning Board.
- 13.4 The potential benefits of merging the Community Safety Partnerships includes the pooling of resources. This may be both financial resources and the workforce capacity and capability existing within the three Local Authorities, which will assist the more effective and integrated delivery of community safety functions.
- 13.5 Finally, it's important that any review of structures must deliver not only a suitable integrated regional structure but one which ensures that arrangements for local accountability are comprehensive and precise. Therefore, the development of a regional strategic partnership should not impact adversely on those agencies successfully operating locally on community safety matters.



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITY AND CHILDRENS SERVICES CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

**24<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION & COMMUNITY  
SERVICES**

**SCRUTINY OF RECOMMENDATIONS EMERGING FROM THE REVIEW OF COMMUNITY  
SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS IN THE CWM TAF MORGANNWG REGION  
AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR RCT**

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