



This GPMS classification of this newsletter is 'Not Protectively Marked'.

# Issue 4 - Spring 2020

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# **Humberside Prevent Champions Newsletter**

Hello and welcome to the Spring edition of the Prevent Champions newsletter. This newsletter is being published in unusual and concerning times for many. During the current pandemic many of us are working agile, from home or in locations we would ordinarily not work from.

Despite this our responsibility to protect people from harm continues and whether you are a social worker, housing officer or PCSO individuals are still at risk of becoming vulnerable to radicalisation, perhaps even more so in some circumstances with extended, prolonged exposure to the internet likely to increase in the coming weeks.

This edition of the newsletter has a variety of themes but focusses on areas of vulnerability linked to online extremism & lone actors all of which relate to those who may be more susceptible to grooming by online extremists in times of differing levels of isolation.

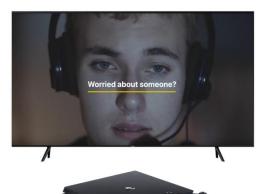
Thank you to all Prevent Champions for your continued support even in these troubling times, helping identify those who are vulnerable to radicalisation remains key and *your* role in that is vitally important.



### COVID-19 & Online Extremism

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a situation for anti-migrant and far-right networks to exploit through the spread of disinformation targeting BAME communities and other vulnerable populations online in our communities. Crisis points like COVID-19 can play into "accelerationism" on the extreme right, promoting democracy is a failure and that people should accelerate its end through mobilising towards social conflict and violence.

With this in mind parents, carers, guardians and professionals should remind themselves of the dangers of online extremism at a time when more of our young people are spending an increasing amount of time online.



**Press 'Ctrl' & click the TV screen** to access a short, but imapctive video higlighting how easy it can be for anyone to become vulnerable to extremists operating online, looking to radicalise young & impressionable individuals.

Further helpful information can also be found in the LTAI 'Online Radiclisation' document below and via the following link - <u>LTAI Prevent Toolkit</u>



## **Terrorist Content Online**

The Counter Terrorism Internet Referral Unit (CTIRU) holds a 'filter list' that contains URL links to terrorist content, which can be provided to schools and other organisations to enable them to block access to terrorist content on the 'filter list'. Although aimed at educational establishments the filter list is available widely.

Filtering is an important part of preventing vulnerable people from accessing illegal terrorist content online and the UK Safer Internet Centre (UKSIC) has worked with the Home Office to test whether they are covered by the CTIRU 'filter list', if accessed from their premises. The tool will also check if an organisation is covered by the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) URL list.

If not covered the tool will signpost the user to further information about filtering on the UKSIC website.

The tool can be accessed through the UKSIC website at <a href="http://testfiltering.com/">http://testfiltering.com/</a> and will benefit organisations by ensuring the filter lists are embedded in their filtering solutions.



# **Media Highlights**

## **Sonnenkrieg Division**

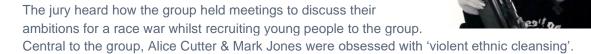
As of Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February, it is an offence to be a member or support Sonnenkrieg Division (SKD) & System Resistance Network, an alias of the already proscribed National Action. Anyone convicted could face 10 years in prison & an unlimited fine.



The group becomes the second right wing terrorism organisation to be proscribed in UK since the 1940s, following National Action's proscription in 2016. For more information click here.

#### **National Action**

Four people were convicted on the 19 March of being members of the banned extreme right wing neo-Nazi group National Action. A jury at Birmingham Crown Court took less than nine hours to find three men and a woman guilty, one other man had admitted membership of the group before the trial.



Jurors heard how Cutter (pictured above), pictured above, had entered the 'Miss Hitler' beauty pageant under the name Miss Buchenwald - a reference to the Second World War death camp. They were also told how she had exchanged hundreds of messages, many racist and anti-Semitic, and was still meeting other members months after the ban.

## **Incel Linked Conviction**



A 22-year-old man has pleaded guilty to Explosives and Terrorism Offences and was sentenced today at the Old Bailey.

Anwar Driouich was arrested by officers in August 2019 by Counter Terrorism Policing. An address in London, two addresses in Middlesbrough and one in Teesville were searched as part of the investigation.

The authorities were alerted to Driouich by the purchase of a number chemicals and following his arrest forensic examination of his mobile phone revealed several proscribed publications and documents detailing

how to manufacture explosives. He had also viewed thousands of violent videos including mass murder perpetrated by gun and bomb attacks.

His browsing history showed he had accessed a website named Incels.co the day before his arrest and viewed a post with the title "could be another ER coming up soon" and in an online discussion he spoke of his struggles with women



A previous issue of the newsletter provided a link to a BBC iPlayer documentary detailing '<u>The secret</u> <u>world of involuntary celibates (Incels)</u>'. The documentary remains available and further information about the Incel community is provided later in this issue via a short briefing.

## **Feature news: CTLP Priorities**

This issue of the Prevent Champions newsletter provides a timely overview of the Humberside Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) priorities at a time when the CTLP is being refreshed to reflect any changes in concerns across the Humberside area. This issue focuses on Lone Actors and Involuntary Celibates (Incels);



#### 1. Lone Actors

- 2. Online Extremism
- **3.** Far Right Extremism (XRW)
- 4. ALM (Al-Muhajiroun)
- 5. Conflict Travellers, Frustrated & Aspiring
- 6. Kurdish Islamist Extremism
- 7. Far Right / Counter Protest
- 8. XLW

## **Lone Actors**

Within Counter Terrorism Policing Ione actors remain the biggest risk in the UK. Propaganda continues to be promoted to try and inspire Ione attackers. Attacks are predominantly focused on Iow sophistication attacks. Although ideologies of any form can indicate a concern even those with no clear ideology can be vulnerable if other characteristics and skillsets remain. Any individual can go from benign to conducting an attack against any community after being radicalised extremely quickly, a trigger in an individual's life can contribute them conducting an attack with very little pre-meditation or preparation.

'Lone Actors' are not easy to identify, however the key factors from the briefing below key factors should be considered when engaged with members of the public.





# **Involuntary Celibates (Incels)**

The Incel movement is a radical ideology centred on violent misogyny. Multiple mass-casualty attacks have been carried out in the USA and Canada by Incels, totalling a greater number of attacks than Islamist extremist attacks in the USA between 2002 and 2019 and at least 27 fatalities since 2014. It must be considered as serious threat as other ideologies, such as violent racism.

Self-defined "involuntary celibates" believe that women's political empowerment and ability to select their sexual partners has severely degraded men's social status. Online rhetoric hinges on fantasies of mass rape and murder and the dehumanisation of women. The extent of support for mass violence has led to several online Incel forums being taken down.

The following briefing provides more information about the Incel community to help inform those working with vulnerable people in our communities, particularly at a time when people are spending more time online, often unsupervised.



## **CT Citizens**

Although not strictly Prevent themed an award-winning counter terrorism training course is being made available to the public for the first time and Counter Terrorism Policing want you to sign up and help protect the UK.



Devised by counter terrorism officers and security experts, the ACT Awareness eLearning package was previously only available to staff working in crowded places like shopping centres and entertainment venues.

Now Counter Terrorism Policing has decided to open the training to *anyone* who wants to become a CT Citizen, so they can learn how to spot the signs of suspicious behaviour and understand what to do in the event of a major incident.

Please have a look and encourage others in your department and organisation to sign up. Organisations can sign in a gain access for your workforce or the training can be completed as an individual. Begin your training <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>



## **HATE**

YouTuber (ask your kids!) Humza Arshad has collaborated with counter-terrorism police to stop children being drawn into gang crime and extremism. Arshad, 34, worked with officers to produce the film 'Hate', which has been shown in 16 secondary schools and sixth forms across eight London boroughs.



Arshad is best known for his 'Diary of a Badman' series on YouTube, narrates the film, which tells the story of two men driven to violence, and the futility of it. The film addresses themes such as racism, extremism, Islamophobia and radicalisation.

The film is open source and available by holding Ctrl & clicking on the tablet above. It can be used by Prevent Champions and partner agencies to help inform training and safeguarding sessions and incorporated by into schemes of work by schools, colleges and other providers.

## **Helpful resources**

- Prevent e-learning
- Prevent Referrals e-learning
- Let's Talk About It

**Code:** Severe is a FREE podcast series narrated by Mark Strong, revealing previously untold stories of terrorist attacks from the UK Counter Terrorism Police. Each story is told by detectives, counter terrorism officers, witnesses and the terrorists themselves. Brought to you by NCTPHQ via the platforms below.



- <u>iTunes</u>
- Soundcloud
- Acast





Another interesting podcast is the *'Tech Against Terrorism'* podcast which takes a deep dive into terrorist abuse of the internet whether it's radicalising people through posts on the web or uploading manifestos and attack videos to social media. The Tech Against Terrorism team is committed to supporting the tech industry in their fight against terrorist exploitation of the internet. The podcast includes various experts in the field to find out how these insidious messages are being spread - and what's being done to stop them.

iTunes

### **Humberside Police Prevent Website**

www.humberside.police.uk/prevent

#### Member of the public - Making a Prevent Referral

Making a Prevent referral

### **Counter Terrorism Policing**

The CTP website is a collaboration of UK police forces working with the UK intelligence community to help protect the public and our national security by preventing, deterring and investigating terrorist activity. The website provides updates around all areas of the Counter Terrorism strategy (Contest), news items and interviews with staff working in Counter Terrorism. Click here to find out more.

### **Considerations Over the Next Quarter**

**Briefing & Awareness** - The current situation regarding COVID-19 has created a concern that some of the more vulnerable members of our society may become susceptible to online radicalisation, in particular;

- An increased opportunity to become radicalised by others by accessing an environment where radicalisation can occur and often accelerated without physical contact with others
- In increased likelihood that individuals operate more frequently in 'echo chambers' online a place where their ideas are supported and echoed by other like-minded individuals

The resources provided in this newsletter aims to guard against that. Ensuring key staff are aware of the issues raised may help to spot a concern when engaging with those who may be vulnerable so consider team briefings, virtual or otherwise to remind staff of the dangers of online extremism.

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**Referral Pathways** - Even in these uncertain times individuals remain vulnerable to radicalisation. It is assessed that due to a decrease in interaction with members of the public across all partner agencies activity that would normally be reported by is less likely to be recognised so please consider Prevent when assessing any identified risk and make a referral by your recognised routes where appropriate.

**Referrals from our Communities** - Now, more than ever, the public facing referral link available via the Humberside Police website should be promoted via your organisational websites, newsletters, flyers, leaflets to ensure members of the public have access to making a Prevent referral. It may be a family member or friend that notices a concern which requires the assessment of the Prevent Team.

**Newsletter** - This is your newsletter. Even in these uncertain times let us hear your good work, stories and achievements as Prevent Champions or from wider within your organisation, it may be that you've come up with an innovative way to promote the message of Prevent during the current restrictions.

Previously North Lindsey College's work with the Prevent Team around Online Extremism and students featured in this issue, you could feature in the next edition!

#### Follow us on Twitter



Despite the restrictions caused by the COVID-19 situation the team continue to deal with a significant amount of risk however our ability to review and assess new Prevent referrals is NOT currently affected at this time.

Anyone who identifies an individual they consider to be 'vulnerable to being drawn in to terrorism' should continue to make a Prevent referral as per your agreed Prevent referral pathways.

If you have comments on how we can improve, or submissions for consideration in future newsletters particularly examples of best practice or positive news, events or briefings please send them to; <a href="mailto:Prevent@humberside.pnn.police.uk">Prevent@humberside.pnn.police.uk</a>.

### Stay Safe & Thank you for your continued support

