

Prevent strategy – discussed at the 2nd of September Communities Committee Meeting

The report was presented to the committee.

In Manchester, the nationwide “Prevent” strategy will be rebranded as “Rethinking Radicalisation”.

There will be a briefing and training session for councillors. This will probably happen in the New Year. The Chair commented that is often difficult to have councillors to turn up to things like this, but they should make the effort.

Councillor Ali asked for a 5-year action plan. He said that we stand alone as a local authority and should have a gold star for our efforts on Prevent. He noted that we are a radical city.

Councillor Cookson noted that the report focussed on Prevent but not other forms of extremism, such as the EDL / far right.

Cllr Murphy noted that tackling extremism did also cover the Irish Threat and Animal Rights Extremism.

Ms Butt noted that Manchester is a Tier 1 Prevent Priority area. The geographically closest Tier 1 is Birmingham. The other Priority areas are all London boroughs.

Cllr Ali said “we shouldn’t be resting on our laurels”.

Ms Butt said there will be a 3-year action plan. The report mentions only what the community sessions said are important, hence why other groups (such as EDL) were not mentioned.

The above is an abridged impression of part of the meeting.