

Counter Terrorism Oversight Framework

**Benchmarking Assessment: Template for Police Authority Oversight of Police Force CT Activity**

Requirement	Current Position	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats	Action	Timescales
<b>To what extent does counter-terrorism feature as a strategic priority and drive activity at a local level?</b>				
<b>All police authorities</b> should - be assured that the force has clear strategic objectives set out for counter terrorist policing in the area and have explicit reference to counter terrorism in their strategic and annual plan.				
- maintain an awareness of the current terrorist threat at a national, regional and local level and of CONTEST, the government strategy to counter it.				
- be assured that the force and authority has (or can obtain) the necessary resources to deal with the assessed level of local risk.				
- be assured that effective systems and SOPs are in place to obtain community intelligence and direct it as appropriate to CT intelligence units.				
- be assured that an appropriate risk-based training programme is in place for police staff and that recruitment vetting standards are secure.				
- check that all strategies reflect relevant HMIC thematic and baseline inspections.				
- have mechanisms to assess the chief officer against these				

priorities.				
<b>CTU Authorities should</b>				
- be satisfied that the annual business plan for the CTU meets national, regional and local requirements.				
<b>What arrangements are in place to engage communities in the prevention of terrorist activity?</b>				
<b>All police authorities</b> should - have a community engagement strategy that addresses the need to engage stakeholders to prevent terrorist activity.				
- maintain an awareness of the radicalisation process and ongoing initiatives designed to prevent or reverse radicalisation.				
- promote and monitor the engagement of public, private and 3 <sup>rd</sup> sector organisations in activities designed to reassure communities and prevent the commission of terrorist attacks.				
<b>CTU Authorities should</b>				
- monitor the resources applied to engaging with communities and organisations on counter-terrorism preventative activities.				
- be assured that the pattern of engagement in preventative activity reflects the identified risk across the area covered by the CTU.				
<b>What is the impact of counter terrorism activity on local communities?</b>				
<b>All police authorities</b> should - have an agreed protocol with the force to define the circumstances in which members should be informed of CT activity and the communication mechanisms in place with public and stakeholders.				
- have in place a communication strategy in the event of overt counter-terrorism operations taking place within the Force area.				
- have access to information that monitors community cohesion and community tension.				

- ensure CT issues are addressed in equality impact assessments.				
<b>CTU Authorities should</b>				
- ensure that appropriate CTU policies and activities are equality and community impact assessed and regularly monitor progress against any resultant action plans.				
- hold Chief Officers to account for the application of police powers across the different strands of diversity.				
<b>4. What is the extent and outcome of police counter-terrorism activity?</b>				
<b>All police authorities should</b> - have a vetting policy that allows members and officers to be briefed to a level appropriate to their role.				
- receive regular reports from their Chief Officer about the deployment of local and national resources within the Force area on counter-terrorism activities and operations.				
- monitor progress of the force against the objectives and targets set out in the local policing plan.				
- monitor the impact of significant counter terrorism operations within the Force area on the deployment and expenditure of local resources.				
- ensure mechanisms exist to provide the authority with a comprehensive briefing following significant CT operations within the force area.				
<b>CTU Authorities should</b>				
- monitor progress against the objectives and targets set out in the CTU business plan.				
- operate arrangements to report the outcome of monitoring activity to appropriate police authorities and other national bodies.				
- operate arrangements to consult with appropriate police authorities				

and other partners about counter-terrorism as part of the annual planning cycle.				
- have in place arrangements to support police authorities that are subject of significant counter terrorism operations.				
<b>Are the resources provided to the CTUs efficiently and effectively managed?</b>				
<b>CTU Authorities should</b>				
- be assured that the finance and resources allocated to the CTU is properly managed and delivers value for money.				
- monitor the staffing of the CTU to ensure equality of opportunity and the achievement of an appropriate blend of fully sworn, partially sworn and non-sworn staff.				
- periodically review the allocation of resources across CTUs.				

