

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
To what extent does counter-terrorism feature as a strategic priority and drive activity at a local level?				
All police authorities 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.				
CTU Authorities should				
- be satisfied that the annual business plan for the CTU meets national, regional and local requirements.				
What arrangements are in place to engage communities in the prevention of terrorist activity?				
All police authorities 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 rd sector organisations in activities designed to reassure communities and prevent the commission of terrorist attacks.				
CTU Authorities should				
- 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.				
What is the impact of counter terrorism activity on local communities?				
All police authorities 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.				
CTU Authorities should				
- 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.				
4. What is the extent and outcome of police counter-terrorism activity?				
All police authorities should - 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.				
CTU Authorities should				
- 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.				
Are the resources provided to the CTUs efficiently and effectively managed?				
CTU Authorities should				
- 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.				