

Agenda Item	9.
Report No	CPPB/5/26



**Highland**  
Community  
Planning  
Partnership

Com-pàirteachas  
Dealbhadh  
Coimhearsnachd

**na Gàidhealtachd**

## Highland Community Planning Partnership Board – 10 March 2026

**Title of report – Contest Board Annual Report**

**Report by – Superintendent Judy Hill**

### Report Classification (tick as appropriate):

Strategic Priority:  People  Place  Prosperity

### Cross-Cutting Theme (tick all that apply):

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|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connecting People and Places     | <input type="checkbox"/> Employment / Employability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Whole Family and Community-Based Approaches | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shared Approaches to Commissioning          | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Wealth Building  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aligning Partnership Practices   |   |

### Report Purpose (tick as appropriate):

For Noting  For Approval  For Decision

### Recommendation(s)

- i) The Board are asked to note the contents of the report and Highland activity in relation to CONTEST.

### Executive Summary

Local CONTEST Boards are tasked with supporting the delivery of the CONTEST Strategy.

The board supports delivery through the progression of work plans aligned to each of the four 'P' strands of CONTEST: Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare.

The local Board is at Highlands and Islands level and is required to report to the Scottish Government in December each year.

It should be noted that due to restructuring of the Contest Network on various levels and ongoing review aimed at providing consistency across Scotland in terms of Local

Contest Boards and structures, no Annual Contest Report was submitted to Scottish Government for the previous year.

The structure of the Highlands and Islands Contest Board with a main Board and relevant P strand subgroups is viewed as the 'gold' standard.

This report commends the contents of the board report to the CPP, redacted to the Highland only context, for noting.

<b>1.</b>	<b>Background</b>
1.1	<p>The Highlands and Islands CONTEST Board is tasked with supporting the delivery of the CONTEST Strategy. The board supports delivery through the progression of work plans aligned to each of the four 'P' strands of CONTEST: Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare.</p> <p>The Board has developed a work plan based on the Local CONTEST Delivery Objectives identified by the Strategic CONTEST Board for Scotland. These work plans are aligned to the current threat and risk picture for H&amp;I region.</p> <p>Performance reporting on progression of H&amp;I CONTEST Board work plan takes the format of an annual report, which is submitted to the Scottish CONTEST Secretariat.</p>
1.2	Under the wider Partnership structures in Highland, CONTEST has been recognised as being part of the partnership landscape, but has not previously reported to the CPP.
1.3	The main alignment for the CONTEST Board is through Local Resilience Partnership structures, but it has been recognised that there are overlaps in some areas of business with CPP work.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Membership</b>
2.1	<p>Statutory Partners from Highland are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police Scotland</li> <li>• Scottish Ambulance Service</li> <li>• Scottish Fire and Rescue Service</li> <li>• The Highland Council</li> <li>• Scottish Prison Service</li> <li>• NHS Highland</li> <li>• Local Resilience Partnership</li> <li>• UHI</li> </ul>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Annual Return</b>

3.1	The annual return has been collated for information of the CPP and has not been submitted to Scottish Government.
3.2	The attached paper is redacted to Highland only and submitted for the information only of the CPP.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Risks and Mitigations</b>
4.1	
4.2	
4.3	

**Impact Assessment**

**Author(s):** Superintendent Judy Hill

**Date:** 03/03/2026

**Appendices:** 1- Annual Contest Return – Redacted to Highland.

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PREVENT			
Local CONTEST Delivery Objectives	Local CONTEST Delivery Outcomes		Annual Delivery Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Assurance of Prevent delivery in Scotland;</b> improved understanding and assurance of Prevent across <b>statutory sectors</b> in Scotland, enabling partners to identify and address gaps in delivery.</li> <li>• <b>Maintenance of effective provision of Prevent Multi-Agency Panels (PMAP) and processes across Scotland;</b> moving on from the rollout and embedding phase of the 2021 PMAP statutory guidance into confident multi-agency involvement and understanding across partners.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Assurance;</b> statutory sectors engage with the assurance process for Prevent in Scotland and take responsibility for completing returns which will inform an annual report on Prevent delivery in Scotland produced by Scottish Government and overseen by the Prevent Sub Group.</li> <li>• <b>Prevent Multi-Agency Panels (PMAP);</b> statutory sectors ensure that awareness of the PMAP process is maintained across key partners and multi-agency partners engage confidently in the PMAP process when appropriate.</li> </ul>		<p><b>Police Scotland</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home Office Prevent Awareness Sessions have been provided to partner agencies by Counter Terrorism Liaison Officer including Further Education, NHS, Local Authorities and Police Scotland officers.</li> <li>• Prevent Delivery Unit have given inputs to third sector organisations and continue to support PMAP delivery across the region. Prevent Awareness sessions delivered to third sector and statutory organisations.</li> <li>• The Prevent Assessment Framework roll out briefing was coordinated by DI Maqsood for Scotland. All Prevent Staff have completed refresher training for Prevent Awareness. All prevent Staff have been trained and accredited to use the Prevent Assessment Framework. Bespoke PMAP training was delivered to the PDU by the Home Office.</li> <li>• Continued attendance at the Prevent Subgroup.</li> <li>• Continued attendance at live PMAPs.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Refreshed statutory Prevent Duty and Prevent Multi Agency Panel (PMAP) Guidance for Scotland;</b> in line with the refreshed guidance for England and Wales but tailored to, and reflective of the delivery landscape for Prevent across devolved statutory sectors in Scotland.</li> <li>• <b>Supporting training and awareness of Prevent and Prevent-related content across Scotland,</b> with sectors taking ownership of this activity (including Prevent related issues such as ideology and emerging trends within their networks where appropriate) and supporting non-statutory partners to increase their understanding of the strategy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Refreshed statutory guidance;</b> Sectors across Scotland engage with refreshed statutory guidance for Prevent and Prevent Multi-Agency Panels and reflect any required updates within their delivery of the strategy.</li> <li>• <b>Training and awareness;</b> Statutory sectors give priority to demonstrating a commitment to training and awareness on Prevent within their own networks, using the Home Office e-learning material and work together, through the local contest group, with partners from non-statutory sectors to increase their understanding and awareness of the Prevent strategy, where appropriate and feasible.</li> </ul>		<p><b>Local Authority</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highland local authority area experienced a rise in referrals and enquiries following Southport attack and Murder of David Ames. The bulk of referrals include people fixated on mass fatalities with unclear ideology and who are neurodiverse. Encouraging information sharing and safeguarding approach with clear evidence of involvement with Prevent &amp; PMAP had identified services for people which wouldn't have been available otherwise.</li> <li>• Local Authority PMAP Chairs participate in the North local authority SPOC group.</li> <li>• Highland local authority completed the assurance self-assessment. Prevent workshops are being created for all local authorities with the aim of developing in the next reporting period.</li> <li>• Prevent continues to be represented at the Local Resilience Partnership Working Group through the CONTEST chair / Vice Chair.</li> <li>• Two courses have now been developed: <u>Protect Against Terrorism (PAT)</u> and <u>Prevent Referral (PR)</u> - It is probable that the PAT Course will become the mandatory (refresher every two years) and the PR Course, whilst not mandatory, would be available and advantageous for staff whose role may determine closer involvement with Prevent Referrals.</li> </ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Staff attended the Prevent - Introduction to Local Authority risk assessments provided by the Home Office.</li><li>• Attendance at Scottish Prevent Leads (national) – Home Office updates and consolidation meeting and Home Office Prevent Threshold Focus Group.</li><li>• Attended Prevent Strategy update presentation.</li></ul> <p><b><u>HMP Porterfield</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• HMP Inverness staff continue to be directed to complete the on-line SPS PREVENT training package, this introductory training provides awareness of radicalisation and an understanding of what you can do in your duty within a custodial setting to ensure that people are safeguarded from the risks of radicalisation.</li></ul> <p><b><u>NHS Highland</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prevent training is compulsory for all staff within the NHS Highlands. Training is delivered by Turas online and is refreshed every three years. NHS Highland SPOC attends each Prevent Multi-Agency Panel meetings providing health updates to assist in the decision-making process for each individual case.</li><li>• Prevent policy remains in place and available to all staff via the intranet.</li></ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clear process of inviting the correct person to the Local Authority PMAPS and it's working efficiently.</li><li>• Prevent Webinars have been scheduled with the PDU Team North for February, May, August and November 2026. These will be advertised to all NHS Highland staff.</li></ul> <p><b><u>University of the Highland and Islands</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prevent guidance and briefing materials issued to all members of UHI senior management, to UHI Prevent group and UHI Safeguarding group with cascade to relevant staff at six monthly intervals.</li><li>• SPOC attendance at monthly bridge call. SPOC attendance at HEPWG and Highlands and Islands group meetings with relevant information circulated to partnership colleagues as per a business-as-usual approach.</li><li>• UHI staff have attended online sessions delivered by SG / PSOS. Information includes signposting to Home Office training and Protect UK Website.</li><li>• Relevant information of referrals process and referral forms shared internally with UHI Prevent Group and Safeguarding leads.</li><li>• All training opportunities are highlighted discussed and promoted via internal practitioner</li></ul>
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			<p>group network a central SharePoint page for Prevent leads.</p>
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<b>PURSUE</b>			
<b>Local CONTEST Delivery Objectives</b>	<b>Local CONTEST Delivery Outcomes</b>		<b>Annual Delivery Update</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of Quarterly and Annual Counter Terrorism threat and risk assessment for Scotland broken down by the relevant policing region: East, North and West.</li> <li>• Provide guidance to support understanding of the current mechanisms for reporting terrorist concerns to Police Scotland.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased understanding of current threat and risk picture to Scotland for the local policing region, to enable consideration for delivery activity required to mitigate.</li> <li>• Increased understanding of mechanisms for reporting terrorist concerns to Police Scotland.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partners attend the CONTEST, Multi Agency meeting each quarter, which is well attended. At these an up-to-date threat overview is delivered to members in attendance and shared via the minutes post meeting.</li> <li>• Multi agency Contest Boards members and their respective organisations are aware of the mechanisms for reporting concerns in Scotland. This may include the Anti-Terror Hotline (0800 789 321), Police Scotland Control Centre's (101/999), local Counter Terrorism Security Advisors (CTSA) with whom they work and the local Counter Terrorism Liaison Officer (LCTLO).</li> <li>• Partners Intelligence Portal (PIP) is regularly promoted to partners via briefings. There has been a positive uptake over this reporting period.</li> <li>• Quarterly CT Threat Overview shared with local crime management.</li> <li>• National CT intelligence requirements briefed to officers locally.</li> <li>• Local Divisional Intelligence Unit expedite CT relevant (REFRACT) intelligence logs to CT</li> <li>• Intelligence/Fixed Intelligence Management Unit</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CT Intelligence provide daily updates to N Div CONTEST manager and Counter Terrorism Liaison Officer</li> <li>• Continued CT Intelligence training to N Division Supervisors</li> <li>• Partners are reminded at each quarterly meeting on the reporting of terrorism to Police.</li> </ul>
<p><b>PROTECT</b></p>		
<p>Local CONTEST Delivery Objectives</p>	<p>Local CONTEST Delivery Outcomes</p>	<p>Annual Delivery Update</p>
<p>1. Promote and share guidance on protective security measures, counter terrorism protection training and preparedness for Publicly Accessible Locations. Including the Protect UK Website and free online training packages.</p>	<p>1. Increased awareness of protective security measures, and preparedness for Publicly Accessible Locations.</p> <p>2. Increase awareness of the free online Counter Terrorism training packages for inclusion within employee Induction Packages: Action Counters</p>	<p>All partner agencies that attend CONTEST related meetings such as CONTEST Board, Bridge Call and all other CT mutli agency / third sector meetings are made aware of the PROTECT UK.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act awareness sessions provided to partner agencies including various education settings, local authority and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector partners.</li> <li>• SCaN training sessions to various partner agencies including further education and MOD colleagues.</li> </ul>

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<p>2. Promote and share guidance and information aligned to Cyber and Personnel protective security measures.</p> <p>3. Promote and share guidance on technological developments that enhance current or emerging attack methodologies.</p>	<p>Terrorism (ACT) and See Check and Notify for all staff (SCAN).</p> <p>3. Increased awareness of cyber protective security measures that protects information held by Scottish stakeholders that may be useful to terrorists.</p> <p>4. Increased awareness of personnel security measures including mitigations aligned to Insider Threat.</p> <p>5. Increased awareness of technological developments that enhance current and emerging attack methodologies.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document awareness training provided.</li> <li>• Support provided with lock down ( Invac / Evac) plans in places of education.</li> <li>• Police Scotland and Local Authority have all been involved in safety briefings to elected members (of all levels).</li> <li>• CTSA run Act and SCaN CT workshops ongoing and planned at various locations across Highland – figures to be provided in next reporting period. These include delivery to Cat 1 , Cat 2 , Third Sector and Event Planning / Organisers.</li> <li>• E-learning has been enhanced with links to Home Office e-learning and the ACT awareness modules</li> <li>• Organizational SPOCS and resilience officers continue to attend the monthly bridge call and receive follow up information emails containing the latest developments in this area alongside links to relevant apps / websites / seminars.</li> <li>• Protect UK Website recently updated with latest information on Martyn’s Law (Protection from Terrorism Duty). This has been shared with CONTEST Board members for onward sharing within individual organizations.</li> </ul>
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PREPARE			
Local CONTEST Delivery Objectives	Local CONTEST Delivery Outcomes		Annual Delivery Update

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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop and maintain a working relationship with their Local Resilience Partnerships, for the purpose of sharing knowledge and understanding of local preparedness and recovery plans; including available training, testing and exercise events.</li> <li>2. Conduct multi agency CT exercising to share awareness of national capabilities and test local response plans.</li> <li>3. Promotion of products including “Run, Hide, Tell” and “Remove, Remove, Remove” to reduce the risk of physical harm to individuals if acts of terrorism occur.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Good understanding of local Preparedness and Recovery plans, including roles and responsibilities.</li> <li>2. Establish a process for identifying and recording relevant shared learning from both CT and Non-CT incidents, training, and exercising.</li> <li>3. Delivery of multi-agency CT exercising at a minimum of every two years to test local preparedness plans, including alignment to previous lessons learned and identified areas for improvement.</li> <li>4. Ensure local awareness of “Run, Hide, Tell” and “Remove, Remove, Remove” procedures to enhance public safety.</li> </ol>		<p>Couter Terrorism Liaison Officer for Tayside has been working with Dundee International Centre to provide a presentation about misinformation discussing the recent riots in England due to people speculating online. There have been various inputs provided to Dundee and Angus colleges but looking to roll this out to further education to try and educate about ideologies and where to find the correct information. Highland CTLO is linked into this and will look to deliver similar to Highland colleagues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On going reassurance to multi-cultural centers / places of worship / communities.</li> <li>• Exercise Shopboard delivered in Inverness to Highland partner agencies. The day was a success with learning from previous Safe Steeple evident throughout the day. Feedback from Shopboard has been collated and will be used to mold future exercises.</li> <li>• Hate Crime inputs and days of action undertaken in Highland.</li> <li>• Ongoing engagement with third partner agencies and different communities within Highland including students within education to build confident relationships and rapport with Police.</li> <li>• Highland area now seeing regular protest activity in relation to immigration matters. Police protestor liaison officers and Intelligence cells in place with appropriate managing of protest activity to ensure peaceful and lawful.</li> <li>• Any items of Learning remains a standard agenda item on the Contest Board quarterly meeting with recognized pathways to the National Contest Board Chairs Network for escalation if required.</li> <li>• ‘Run , Hide , Tell’ and ‘Remove, Remove, Remove’ continue to be promoted where appropriate.</li> </ul>
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