

Prevent

**ACT
NOW**

Stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting violent extremism



ACT NOW is an interactive counter terrorism exercise developed by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) *Prevent* Delivery Unit. It provides communities with an insight into how police officers make decisions in the event of a terrorism incident.

ACT NOW is hosted by a police force or trained facilitator and invites participants to become investigators and work through a fictitious terrorist incident in the town of Sandford.

Throughout the half day event the participants receive regular updates via DVD which requires them to make crucial decisions which will impact on the lives of their communities.

Community reassurance is an important part of the role play and during the course of the event participants are required to deal with the media and to regularly brief communities on the incident and the police response.

ACT NOW is designed to support engagement between people from different communities, ages, cultures and faiths.

The exercise takes place in a safe and confidential community setting in which the extremely sensitive issues around terrorism can be discussed.

By engaging local communities in the debate about extremism ACT NOW helps to dispel myths in a policing of extremism context. It puts under the spotlight the procedures and thought processes that the police go through to arrive at vital decisions.

ACT NOW is designed to be taken out into the heart of our communities, to develop open dialogue using facilitators in local settings.

It is currently being used in about across England, Wales and Scotland by about 40 police forces as a community engagement exercise.

It has an important role to play in supporting wider community engagement and helping the police, its partners and local people tackle the challenge from violent extremism.

For more information on ACT NOW email
Prevent@acpo.pnn.police.uk or call 0207 084 8776.

Police officers and staff can also gain more information via
<http://www.pcnt.pnn.police.uk>

