

“Community Policing in Ipswich” by PC Faruk Ullah, 20 February 2018

PC Faruk Ullah is part of a team of three in Suffolk (Subhdeep Singh and Neil Stain). Subhdeep works with local communities to raise awareness and pick up and specific issues. Some of his recent work has been with Syrian refugee families and Travellers. Neil focuses on hate crimes related work.

PC Faruk Ulla is seconded to the Home Office and supports the government’s PREVENT programme across the East of England. PREVENT is aimed at stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism by supporting people vulnerable to radicalisation. People can be vulnerable due to a range of circumstances, including alcohol & drug abuse, poverty, mental health, social exclusion, peer pressure, low self-esteem, links to crime and global events. Some of the behaviours and changes may include depression, withdrawn, use of internet content, new circle of friends, change of routine and changes in use of language.

There has been criticism of prevent among some Muslim communities that they are being singled out. Faruk pointed out that Prevent provides a set of tools and support is available to public bodies and members of the public. Any concerns about individuals can be reported using Vulnerable to Radicalisation (VTR) form, which can be completed on-line, or information provided to Suffolk Constabulary help line staff. Its contents are considered by multi-agency group to determine the most appropriate response by different bodies which include police, education and social services.

Suffolk Police have access to people who have been involved with radical organisations (Islamic, Right and Left-Wing extremists). These people can talk to groups and individuals and are able to explain issues based on their previous real-life experiences.

PC Faruk Ullah is available to give talks in schools, community groups and discuss any specific issues with individual members of the public and families. For Prevent issues in Suffolk, please contact PC Faruk Ullah, Faruk.ullah@suffolk.pnn.police.uk, 01473 613888 ext. 5490.