

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama	7 <sup>th</sup> September 2015
<b>Subject:</b> Counter-Terrorism and Security Act	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Remembrancer	<b>For Information</b>

### Summary

This Report advises the Board of the relevant provisions of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act, which places two new duties on governing bodies of educational institutions, including the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. First, the Board will need to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. Second, the Board will need to co-operate with panels put in place by local authorities to identify and provide support to those who are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.

### Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board receive this Report.

### Main Report

1. The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act passed quickly through Parliament earlier this year, and came into force during the summer. Most attention was focused on measures to restrict the ability of British citizens to return to the United Kingdom after going abroad to participate in terrorist activities. This Report deals with two new duties which apply to the governing bodies of educational institutions (whether in the public or private sector), including the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. The duties are intended to provide a statutory footing for two pre-existing initiatives: the '*Prevent*' strategy and the '*Channel*' programme.
2. First, the Board, as the governing body of the School, is placed under a general duty to "have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism." This is known as the '*Prevent* duty'. The Secretary of State has issued statutory guidance about how the duty is to be put into practice. The general parts of the guidance, together with specific guidance directed at higher education institutions, are appended to this Report. The Board is required have regard to this guidance. If the Secretary of State considers that an institution is failing adequately to fulfil its duty, then she may issue binding directions in order to secure its performance.
3. The Board is required under the Act to have "particular regard" to freedom of speech and academic freedom when implementing the *Prevent* duty. This

provision was inserted in response to concerns raised in Parliament about the potential effects of the duty on the freedom of speech on campuses.

4. Second, the Board (along with other “partner” bodies) is placed under a duty to co-operate “so far as appropriate and reasonably practicable” with panels set up by local authorities in order to identify and provide support to those who are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. Each local authority will have to ensure that such a panel is in place for its area, and the panel will include representatives from the local authority and the police. The first duty of the panel will be to assess the extent to which identified individuals are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. If the panel then considers that any individual should be offered support to reduce his vulnerability, it will be able to prepare a “support plan” for the individual and make arrangements for its implementation. Alternatively, the panel will be able to refer individuals to health or social care services.

## **Appendices**

- Extracts from “Revised *Prevent* duty guidance for England and Wales” and “*Prevent* Duty Guidance for higher education institutions in England and Wales”, Home Office, July 2015.

## **Background Papers**

Report of the Remembrancer on the Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill:

- Police Committee, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2015
- Policy and Resources Committee, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015
- Community and Children’s Services Committee, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015
- Safer City Partnership Strategy Group, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015

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