

## HEaTED Regional Network Event – Event Report

**Region:** North West

**Date:** 17/10/14

**Venue:** Liverpool University

**Theme:** The current terrorist threat & its management

### Programme:

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|--------------------|--|
| <b>9.30-9.40</b>   | <b>Welcome - Dr Arthur Nicholas, HEaTED North West Regional Network Coordinator.</b>   |
| <b>9.40-10.20</b>  | <b>HEaTED Update - Dr Rachel Crossley Head of Programme: HEaTED.</b>   |
| <b>10.20-11.00</b> | <b>Counter Terrorism Awareness Workshop - Facts &amp; Myths - Counter Terrorism Security Advisor (CTSA), GMP Counter Terrorism Branch.</b>   |
| <b>11.00-11.15</b> | <b>Tea &amp; Coffee</b>  |
| <b>11.15-12.30</b> | <b>Counter Terrorism Awareness Workshop - Facts &amp; Myths - Counter Terrorism Security Advisor (CTSA), GMP Counter Terrorism Branch.</b>   |
| <b>12.30-1.15</b>  | <b>Complimentary lunch, networking opportunities</b>   |
| <b>1.15-1.55</b>   | <b>Visit to Victoria Gallery &amp; Museum (5 minute walk from Life Sciences Building)</b>  |
| <b>2.00 – 2.45</b> | <b>Interactive panel discussion – How can professional services support widening participation, outreach and the research impact agenda?</b>   |
| <b>2.45-3.00</b>   | <b>Tea &amp; Coffee</b>  |
| <b>3.00-4.00</b>   | <b>Summary and Action Points:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Overview/summary/conclusions/action points/action planning.</b></li> <li>• <b>Planning date/venue/theme for next meeting.</b></li> <li>• <b>Evaluation form completion.</b></li> </ul> |
| <b>4.00</b>        | <b>Departure</b>   |

### Key discussion points from each agenda item:

Warm welcome from Arthur Nicholas who also gave thanks to Kate Jones and Liverpool University for hosting today's HEaTED North West Regional Network Event. The event will update delegates on all that is happening with HEaTED both nationally and locally; most importantly, it will provide an opportunity for networking and cover our key agenda items of Counter Terrorism Awareness and Technical support in widening participation, outreach activities.

### HEaTED Update - Dr Rachel Crossley Head of Programme: HEaTED.

Rachel's presentation covered progress made by HEaTED to date, key statistics and areas of future work, including:

- 75 Member Institutions with over 3000 individual members registered via the HEaTED website.
- 1900+ members also registered for [HEaTED Online Community Groups](#).
- HEaTED membership has been expanded to FE colleges; please let your contacts in the Region know.
- A full series of [Regional Network Events](#) is planned across the UK in Spring/Summer 2015.

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info@heated.ac.uk | www.heated.ac.uk

- New courses developed by HEaTED

**ACTION:** ALL – book to attend training courses or contact HEaTED if you wish to host an on-demand course.

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**ACTION:** If you would like further information on CATTs please contact Rachel Crossley, [r.crossley@slcs.ac.uk](mailto:r.crossley@slcs.ac.uk)

**ACTION:** Use the [Online Community Group](#) to make comments and feedback on what you have heard today.

### **Counter Terrorism Awareness Workshop - Facts & Myths - Counter Terrorism Security Advisor (CTSA), GMP Counter Terrorism Branch.**

Unfortunately, due to its security sensitive content, this presentation cannot be posted on the Regional Online Group. However, the CTSA presenter provided contact details at the event and offered to discuss any aspect of the presentation with interested individuals.

#### **Introduction**

The interactive workshop provided an overview of the current terrorist threat, how to recognise suspicious behaviour, utilise protective security and the role technical staff can play in tackling the threat.

#### **The Current Threat**

The session started with an overview of the current terrorist threat; the sobering reiteration by the Counter Terrorism Security Advisor (CTSA) of the current, second highest, severe threat level of terrorist attack in the UK. The highest, critical threat level existed at the time of the 7 July 2005 London bombings (7:7 attacks). Crowded locations, and sites which hold hazardous substances are likely to feature in the attack plans of terrorist organisations in the future. Our Universities match both of these criteria.

Counter Terrorism Security Advisors (CTSAs) support The Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI) which protects national security by providing advice (see: <http://www.cpni.gov.uk/>) to the organisations that make up the UK's national infrastructure covering physical, personnel and cyber security. CTSAs are also working closely with their University contacts to identify and encourage the implementation of policies, awareness, procedures and appropriate protective security measures to reduce the unauthorised access to hazardous materials and so reduce the overall threat. The Technical staff community have a vital role to play in all of these issues.

Video presentations and question and answer sessions were used to raise awareness of current terrorist tactics and prompt discussion around the various types of tactics and recent incidents.

#### **Project Revise (<http://www.nactso.gov.uk/hazardous-materials>)**

The REVISE session presented delegates with a structured multi-media package, facilitated by the CTSA, highlighting the potential threat of unauthorised access into laboratories or restricted areas which handle chemicals, radioactive materials or biohazards. The presentation promoted awareness and identified procedures and appropriate protective security measures to reduce the unauthorised access to hazardous materials and so reduce the overall threat. The delegates were prompted to proactively report any "suspicious" inquiry about the secure storage of such hazardous materials and understand the importance of unauthorised access to hazardous materials. The key areas covered were:

- Access Control
- Challenge Culture
- Stock Control/Audit

### **Awareness of Hostile Reconnaissance**

An understanding of hostile reconnaissance in the wider working environment outside of the university or research center laboratories was given followed by discussion on the reporting of any “suspicious” activity. The opportunity, for senior Technical managers, to attend a forthcoming “Project Argus Education” event, delivered by CTSA, was discussed.

### **General Protective Security Advice**

Learning outcomes from this section of the presentation focused on:

- Key indicators of identifying suspicious packages
- Generic advice regarding information security
- Local Issues and partnership work

### **Forthcoming Legislation & CTSA Services**

The presentation was brought to a close with a brief look at the forthcoming legislation regarding precursor chemicals and poisons and an introduction to the National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) by an officer from NaCTSO. The presentation finished with details being provided to delegates of how to access and contact the CTSA Office for further information.

**ACTION:** ALL – Contact CTSA for further guidance, information or to arrange visits to specific Universities.

**ACTION:** ALL – Raise awareness and implement appropriate control measures as outlined in the presentation.

### **Visit to Victoria Gallery & Museum <http://vgm.liverpool.ac.uk/>**

Lunch and networking was followed by an, all too brief, visit to the superb Victoria Gallery & Museum building and its eclectic collection of curiosities from the 120-year history of the University of Liverpool. The buildings ordinary bricks and terracotta dressings led to the coining of the phrase “red brick University” for Universities originating in the 19th century. Delegates were guided through the buildings amazing exhibits ranging from the world’s most important display of false teeth “Nasty Nashers & Dreadful Denchers” to an exceptional display of art by 19th century American wildlife artist, John James Audubon. The tour guide provided a most engaging and informative narrative on the history of the building, its exhibits and most importantly acknowledged the contribution made by “highly skilled technical staff” in the construction and design of the displays themselves. The flying visit certainly wetted the appetite for a return visit at a more leisurely pace.

### **Interactive panel discussion – How can professional services support widening participation, outreach and the research impact agenda?**

The afternoon session, following the tour of the Victoria Gallery and Museum, was an interactive panel discussion hosted by the Institute of Integrative Biology at the University of Liverpool on the topic “How can professional services support widening participation, outreach and the research impact agenda?”

- The session opened with an introduction from Kate Jones, the Institute Manager of the Institute of Integrative Biology at the University of Liverpool. After giving an overview of her previous experience in supporting public engagement events, Kate went on to offer her thoughts on why engagement with the research impact agenda was important. For example, increasing the benefit and reach of research which has been undertaken which has focused on a major societal challenge. Also how public funds finance research and how future funding depends on translational research resulting in impact on society. She also outlined some of the personal benefits for professional service staff to engage in supporting widening participation/public engagement and other outreach activities. For example it can lead to the development of new skills; raise your profile and allow you to make a positive contribution to society; provide opportunities for networking and it can help you to inspire others such as the next generation of scientists.

- **Dr Heather Allison** gave an overview of the widening participation events that she has ran in the past, highlighting “Bugs: The good the bad and the ugly” targeting primary school children aged 7-11. The children spent the day examining microbes (bacteria and fungi) involved in composting and harvesting microbes from their skin (the ‘good’), making artificial snot and measuring the ability of a tissue to stop the spread of viruses (the ‘bad’) and meeting a variety of insects and arthropods from the World Museum (the ‘ugly’). STEM ambassadors also supported Heather with this event.
- **Dr Claire Evers** talked about her experience at the Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition – “Complex Life of Sugars”. A number of Glycoscience staff and students from IIB were involved in the prestigious Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition, aimed at informing the public about the latest advances in British science. They were part of a team from the Universities of Liverpool, Manchester, Imperial College, Leeds and the John Innes Institute presenting on the “Complex Life of Sugars”. Contributions from Liverpool were led by Prof Turnbull, Dr Dada Pisconti and Dr Claire Evers, and they and their lab postdocs and PhD students were actively involved in presenting their research to the public at the stand, held at the Royal Society in London. They had an interactive game which could be played on tablets and hands on experiences on the day.
- **Professor Anthony Hall** talked about his annual event “Fascination with plants day” which ties into a European awareness day. This has now been operational for a number of years, and the lessons from each year have supported the development of the next year. Ant explained how ideas from professional services staff would be incredibly useful. Academic staff can be very caught up in their area of expertise and so input particularly from, skilled, technical staff that understand the science and have the practical know how, is invaluable in identifying the best ways in articulating this to a lay audience.
- **Nicola Frost** is the Science Communication & Public Engagement Officer in the Institute of Infection and Global Health (IIGH). Nicola gave an overview of the wide ranging public engagement activities in IIGH and how her role supports these. Nicola outlined the importance of having a very clear academic lead who is engaged and driven by public engagement and impact activities, and gave some examples of how activity has grown and led to other exciting opportunities.

The session was peppered with lively debate between the panel and delegates which highlighted the value in having a high level strategy for public engagement which all staff can then relate to. There was also much discussion about different types of activities and how both technical and administrative staff have been involved. Finally, it was felt that a network of those involved or aspiring to be involved in such activities would be very worthwhile, providing people with opportunities to share ideas, best practice and resources (such as those used for evaluation or promotion of events).

**ACTION:** ALL – Consider not only the professional satisfaction but the value to personal professional development arising from involvement in widening participation and outreach activities.

### Next events

Cumbria – spring 2015.  
Edge Hill – being approached for future event

**ACTION:** Arthur Nicholas to arrange future dates with host venues and confirm with the HEaTED central team who will publicise to all registered members in the North West Region.

**ACTION:** Any Institution interested in hosting a future HEaTED North West Regional Network Event please contact Arthur on [northwest@heated.ac.uk](mailto:northwest@heated.ac.uk)

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## Appendices:

- Photographs from the event
- Protecting against Terrorism Third edition – ref CPNI 2010 <http://www.cpni.gov.uk/>