

Cookies

We use some essential cookies to make our website work. We'd like to set additional cookies so we can remember your preferences and understand how you use our site.

You can manage your preferences and cookie settings at any time by clicking on "Customise Cookies" below. For more information on how we use cookies, please see our [Cookies notice](#).

Accept cookies

Reject cookies

Customise cookies

Your cookie preferences have been saved. You can update your cookie settings at any time on the [cookies page](#).

Your cookie preferences have been saved. You can update your cookie settings at any time on the [cookies page](#).

Close



HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT

CONSTABULARY

Teenager sentenced for planning terrorist attack – Isle of Wight

Published: 12:20 15/04/2024

Issued on behalf of Counter Terrorism Policing South East.

Today (Monday 15 April), a teenager from the Isle of Wight has been sentenced for planning a terrorist attack and other offences.



COURT RESULT

The 16-year-old boy was sentenced at Kingston Crown Court to seven years' imprisonment after being found guilty by a jury at the same court in February this year.

After a trial, he was found guilty of one count of preparation of terrorist acts under Section 5 of the Terrorism Act 2000, three counts of dissemination of terrorist publications under Section 2 of the Terrorism Act 2006 and one count of having an article with a blade or point in a public place, contrary to Section 139 of the Criminal Justice Act 1998.

The boy, now aged 16, from Cowes on the Isle of Wight cannot be named or identified for legal reasons.

He was arrested in July 2022 following an investigation by Counter Terrorism Policing South East (CTPSE) after he was found to be planning to attack people he believed had insulted Islam.

When arrested the boy was found with a knife and notes that contained information relating to his plan.

He also shared terrorist publications with others online, the ideology of which was influenced by Daesh.

He was charged initially in July 2022 then charged with additional crimes in November 2022.

Detective Chief Superintendent Olly Wright, Head of CTPSE, said: "We know that terrorist groups use their toxic rhetoric to try exploit vulnerable people.

"This case was particularly concerning because a teenager had gone so far as taking active steps to prepare for an attack; thanks to a swift response we were able to stop him, and he has now been sentenced to imprisonment as a result of his actions.

"Where we can, we really do prefer to intervene early and divert young people away from extremism long before it gets to this point.

"So, if you are worried that someone you know is being drawn down a path of extremism, please do act by telling someone. There is support and advice available through [ACT Early](#) and [Action Counters Terrorism](#)."

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary's Area Commander for the Isle of Wight, Superintendent Rob Mitchell said: "This is a really tragic case of a young boy who found himself exploited by Daesh propaganda.

"The most vulnerable people in our communities across Hampshire and on the Isle of Wight are at the greatest risk of being drawn towards terrorist activity, and potentially causing harm to themselves and others.

"We have excellent working relationships and information sharing agreements with our partners that allow us to quickly identify those at risk and protect people from harm.

"Cases of this nature are, thankfully, relatively rare, but I do understand this investigation will have had a significant impact on the people of Cowes and the Isle of Wight.

"No-one is exempt from the risk of extremism and terrorism, but together [Action Counters Terrorism](#) and if you have any concerns that someone you know has been, or is being, radicalised, you can [Act Early](#) to get them the help they need and deserve".