

**Members' Training and Development Panel**  
**17<sup>th</sup> November, 2010**

**Project Argus**

Project ARGUS is a National Counter Terrorism Security Office initiative, exploring ways to aid in preventing, handling and recovering from a terrorist attack. It achieves this by taking delegates through a simulated terrorist attack which identifies the measures to take for preventing, handling and recovering from such an incident. This simulation provides a unique opportunity to both learn from and contribute to valuable lessons helping to protect individuals, their places of work and ultimately their communities.

Facilitated by officers of South Yorkshire Police's Counter Terrorist Unit, the event explores individual's options; what is likely to happen in the event of a terrorist attack and what their priorities should be.

Project Argus highlights the importance of being prepared and having the necessary plans in place to help safeguard staff, customers and Council assets.

Although the simulation that is proposed to be used is based around an event in a retail centre, the lessons learned are still pertinent to Elected Members. Three similar events have already been facilitated for Senior Managers across all Directorates of the Council, with one session being aimed specifically at schools and colleges. All of the courses were well received and have helped managers (in conjunction with the recently updated Council Policy and Procedures on Terrorism) to put into context the nature of the risks and appreciate the need to have effective plans in place.