FACTSHEET – PROTECTIVE SECURITY MEASURES FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS

The threat to the UK from terrorism is currently substantial. This indicates that an attack is likely. It is the middle of the 5 levels of threat which terrorism is assessed against, with the level set by the Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre and the Security Service.

There has been an increase in attacks from lone actors in recent years. These lone actors target events and spaces with large numbers of people. The National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) recommends that all events are risk assessed to help better prepare you staff, volunteers and event attendees to effectively respond in the event of a terrorist incident at your site.

Types of Terror Attack
Terrorists may use different methodologies to conduct attacks within the UK. These can include:

- Marauding Attacker (e.g. bladed weapon, firearm)

- Vehicle as a weapon (e.g. road, rail, aircraft)

- Improvised Explosive Device (e.g. person or vehicle borne, placed)

- Fire as a Weapon

- Chemical, Biological or Radiological attack

- Other attack types (e.g. cyber, drones)

Some methodologies are more likely than others. A marauding attacker armed with a bladed or blunt force weapon is generally the most likely attack methodology.

The Risk Management Process
It is important for larger sites to consider and assess the vulnerabilities to terrorist incidents that exist at their site and where possible implement protection measures that mitigate against those vulnerabilities. This will increase the protection and reduce the vulnerability of your site against acts of terrorism. To support you in conducting that assessment we have provided guidance at the links below:

If you need to carry out a Counter Terrorism Risk Assessment, ProtectUK provides a free and complete risk management process for use. Visit the ProtectUK risk assessment website for step-by-step guidance to help you carry out these assessments and identify control measures you may consider adopting.

The ProtectUK Risk Management Process (RMP) has been tailored specifically to manage terrorist risk. The approach consists of five key stages that capture the following core activities:

- **Stage 1:** Identify the risks

- **Stage 2:** Assess the risks

- **Stage 3:** Treat the risks

- **Stage 4:** Record your actions

- **Stage 5:** Review

Response Procedures to reduce the impact of incidents

It is important to establish effective incident response plans and procedures and socialise them across your site so that everyone knows what to do in the event of a terrorist incident. You should rehearse these plans to test and validate them with all staff and surrounding facilities to make sure they are effective. This will reduce the overall impact of any incident.

Providing counter terrorism awareness for your staff

1. **Increase your awareness with e-Learning**

Action Counters Terrorism (ACT) and See Check and Notify (SCaN) are two free awareness products that aim to equip staff and volunteers with a level of counter terrorism understanding.

- [Visit ACT e-Learning](#) - this module highlights best practice to help counter terrorism and increase security awareness,
- [Visit SCaN for all](#) - this module is designed to increase awareness of hostile reconnaissance and suspicious behaviour and how to counter it.

2. **Support to help rehearse your plans when responding to an incident**

Rehearse and validate your plans to make sure they work and are effective. '[ACT in a Box'](#) is a free resource available to organisations to be able to rehearse and explore their response to an incident as a group in a safe-to-fail environment. These self-delivered exercises help to bring response plans to life by allowing those responsible to reflect on their own venue and work through how they would respond together to specific situations including dealing with a suspicious item or a marauding attack.

3. **Incident response plans**

Within the 'Venues and Public Spaces' guidance on the ProtectUK website there is additional guidance on [evacuation, invacuation, lockdown and protected spaces](#). This will help you understand how to keep people safe when an incident is taking place and how you might communicate it. Actions taken by your site should be reasonable, necessary and proportionate, based upon the circumstances, particularly when they are necessary to protect life.

Martyn's Law

The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, commonly referred to as Martyn's Law, is intended to improve protective security and organisational preparedness across the UK. Your event or premises may be in scope of the act of you host more than 200 people at your venue. To find out more about the legislative requirements on the [ProtectUK website](#).

Even if you are not in scope of Martyn's Law, NaCTSO recommends that you embed counter terrorism within your risk assessments.

Further Resources

Bury Council produce a monthly [Prevent newsletter](#) which is a regular series of newsletters providing information and guidance in relation to Prevent. The focus on Prevent is to safeguard against hateful extremism.

Contact Bury Council for further local information:

Email: prevent@bury.gov.uk or call **07581020228**

0161 518 5550

fundinganddevelopment@buryvcfa.org.uk

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