



**COUNTER
TERRORISM
POLICING**
.....
NORTH EAST



Northumberland
County Council

Dear Event Organiser,

Northumberland County Council, Northumbria Police and Counter Terrorism Policing North East are working together to provide event organisers with advice and support on how to counter the threat of terrorism when planning an event.

The threat from terrorism is real and increasingly unpredictable, with publicly available spaces and crowded areas being an attractive target for a terrorist.

From a Counter Terrorism perspective, the UK National threat level from terrorism is **‘Substantial’¹** (at the time of reporting) and this means that an attack on the UK mainland **is likely**.

The current national response level to **‘Substantial’** is **‘HEIGHTENED.’** This response level states, **‘Additional and sustained protective security measures reflecting the broad nature of the threat combined with specific business and geographic vulnerabilities and judgements on acceptable risk.’**

We would like you to consider what *‘you’* can do to reduce your risk and mitigate against the impact of such an attack. Having effective planning in place can greatly reduce the likelihood of an attack.

You may be familiar with putting together a plan for your event and will know how to address many of the requirements around safety, but you may not be so familiar with security issues and terrorism in particular.

Here are some of the things we would like you to consider when putting your plan together, this is not an exhaustive list and at the end of this document we have signposted you to websites where more information can be obtained.

Security Planning

We would encourage you to produce a security plan addressing the terrorism threat which should take account of attack methodology and your vulnerabilities. Key issues for inclusions would be:

¹ [Threat levels](#) | [ProtectUK](#)

1. Before the event, how will you advertise it, be careful not to give too much information out that might assist a terrorist in planning an attack. Consider what can be included to deter this, we call this deterrence communications. [Security-Minded Communications guidance | NPSA](#)
2. Your site itself, starting from the approach, the perimeter to inside where the event is taking place. What is the risk and what can you do to mitigate against it? [Protecting Your Assets | NPSA](#)
3. Communications. Key to managing any incident, are yours 'fit for purpose? It is not just about how you communicate with your staff but also the public. [Communication | ProtectUK](#)
4. Staff training for both paid and volunteers. There is some excellent free online training to raise awareness and to empower your staff. To register for online training go to:
 - ACT E-learn - ct.highfieldelearning.com/
 - SCaN E-learn - scan.highfieldelearning.com
 - SCaN E-learn for Line Managers - scan.highfieldelearning.com
5. Ensure your staff have First Aid Training and have sufficient First Aid Kits available and distributed across the site. Consider Public Access Trauma Kits (PACT). [PACT First aid kits | ProtectUK](#)
6. Make yourself familiar with The Purple Guide. Within the Guide is a section on keeping events safe and less attractive to terrorists. [Purple Guide for the Events industry | ProtectUK](#)

Northumberland County Council Safety Advisory Group strongly recommend planning for a terrorist incident and may ask you for details of your security plan when considering your application. Examples of how to complete such a plan can be found on [ProtectUK | Home](#).

We recommend you consider a risk assessment for the event to address the terrorism threat. A template for such an assessment can be found here :-[Security risk management | ProtectUK](#) , and an example of a completed risk assessment :-[Terrorism risk assessment – small local festival.pdf \(protectuk.police.uk\)](#)

We would encourage you and your colleagues to register on the ProtectUK website and install the app which will give you direct alerts as to any threat or ongoing incident in your area direct to your phone. It is free to register and to download on both Android and Apple.

Further information to protect your event from terrorism can be found here:

- National Protective Security Authority (NPSA): www.npsa.gov.uk