



4 May 2021

NATIONAL BULLETIN

Staying safe and security-minded this Summer



The Prime Minister's roadmap out of lockdown set out plans for the further easing of COVID restrictions from 17 May, giving people the opportunity to enjoy indoor hospitality and attend larger events again. We want the public to stay safe whilst they make the most of being out and about again this Summer.

Whilst understandably terrorism hasn't been top of the agenda for many this past year, the threat of terrorism in the UK has not gone away and remains at substantial, meaning an attack is likely.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Matt Twist, Senior National Coordinator Protect & Prepare said: "Following a year of restrictions impacting all our lives, we recognise people will be keen to get out and about as the lockdown begins to ease, and the importance of

businesses being able to return to more regular trading patterns."

"Let's enjoy these new freedoms, but let's do so in a way that help keeps us safe, not just from Covid-19 but terrorism as well."

"The terrorist threat will understandably not have been high on anyone's mind in recent months, and I would describe the threat as temporarily suppressed during lockdown, because it was difficult to go out in public and actually do anything."

"But that means that as the crowded places which have traditionally been the target for terrorists start to fill with people again, there is always the potential for that risk to come back."

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“The best defence against the terrorist threat is a collective community effort - where police, security staff, businesses and the public come together to minimise the chance of attack, and that is why Counter Terrorism Policing are launching this campaign.”

“Throughout the easing of lockdown and over this summer we are encouraging communities, the public and businesses, across the country to help the police tackle terrorism and save lives by remaining vigilant and reporting suspicious activity.”

Stewards, security professionals and staff helping to ensure events run smoothly will rightly be ready to ensure COVID regulations are met. Do they know what to do if a member of the public reports something suspicious? they are crucial eyes and ears in support of our 24/7 policing efforts too and play a role in protecting the public from not only COVID, but terrorism too.

In line with the easing of restrictions from 12 April, Counter Terrorism Policing and CPNI issued guidance for businesses on protective security, and shared a toolkit of materials for organisations to use to promote vigilance and ensure staff and customers know how to ACT if they see something concerning.

With indoor hospitality, larger sports and entertainment venues planning events through the spring and summer, we've updated our [communications toolkit](#) with situationally specific key messages, relevant to sectors opening up during the next phase of lockdown restrictions easing. If there are any other assets you require please don't hesitate to contact us at nctphq.comms@met.police.uk.

[CPNI has also published new Personnel Security advice](#) for organisations on how to mitigate internal and external security risks during the government's 4 Step Plan for coming out of lockdown.

How can you protect your customers and staff not just from COVID, but terrorism too this Summer?

These simple actions could save lives:

- Be security-minded when planning and providing briefings to staff and volunteers ahead of opening up venues and hosting events – they can be crucial eyes and ears in support of our 24/7 policing efforts
- Whilst you ensure your spaces meet Covid public health regulations, please risk assess your existing sites and any new premises such as outdoor spaces with security in mind too; and consider both [NaCTSO's protective security advice](#) and [CPNI's Personnel Security advice](#)
- Ensure your staff and volunteers are educated by signing them up to [ACT e-learning training. It is free and takes just 45 minutes](#). Staff could benefit from [See, Check and Notify training](#) covering hostile reconnaissance, vigilance and the power of hello, and reporting suspicious activity
- Promote the campaign materials in our toolkit to your staff and customers via your communication channels e.g. internal bulletins and on your external website.
- Display our campaign posters in high footfall areas and at events
- Share our social media assets on your social media channels using the hashtag [#CommunitiesDefeatTerrorism](#)

Any piece of information could be a key piece of the jigsaw. This summer, it's important that people know they won't be wasting our time. As the UK continues to open up, help us make it known that sharing concerns won't ruin lives, but it might save lives. Encourage your staff and customers to trust their instincts and ACT.

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