

Counter Terrorism Protective Security Advice

Festive Campaign 2019

for

Crowded Spaces

Overview

The UK faces a real threat from terrorism and crowded places remain an attractive target. The information in this booklet provides guidance on identifying potential threats and actions you should consider to counter the threat.

Threat Level

The UK Threat level is set at SUBSTANTIAL an attack is likely. As the Christmas period approaches the Risk and Threat to the areas and events that we cover is increased. We, as the SES Group must be extra vigilant, whether working at a railway station, the O2, checking site security or making sure shoppers at a Christmas Market are safe.

How can we increase security, keep the public and just as importantly ourselves safe?

Simply by being the eyes and ears of the Security services. ***If you've seen or heard something that could potentially be related to terrorism, trust your instincts and report it. Your actions could save lives.***

Role of Security at crowded places

The security officer's primary role is to keep the public safe. This is achieved by restricting access to certain designated areas and road closures and checking right of access and accreditation. Other roles may be customer facing or directional. Whatever the role is it will involve talking to and interacting with the public.

Potential Threats

- **Hostile reconnaissance:** people paying attention to security cameras, patrol patterns, asking questions about shift changeover times. Same person passing same area repeatedly. etc.
- **Suspicious vehicles:** parked and unattended for long period. Unusual location. Badly parked. Windows obscured. Drivers area clean, tidy and spartan (no evidence). Vehicle sitting heavy on its suspension (what's in it?). Strong smell of fuel, gas or sweet chemical smells are all indicators of a Vehicle Born Improvised Explosive Device (VIBD).

- **Conducting Bag Searches as Condition of Entry:** be concerned about the person that turns away to avoid being searched. What have they to hide? Think Behavioural Detection.
- **Suspicious Bags/Articles:** use the HOT protocol. If the suspicious item fails the HOT test then think **4 C's**:
 - Confirm** the item exhibits suspicious traits i.e. stuffed behind a hoarding etc
 - Clear** the immediate area of people
 - Communicate** notify Supervisor or Police but remember not to use your radio/phone within 15m of suspect item
- **Control** the area, set up a cordon (100 metres - small items i.e. briefcase size. 200 metres - larger items up to motor cars. 400 metres - vans and lorries). Ensure routes in are clear for Emergency Vehicle access
- **Marauding Terrorist Attacks:** fast-moving, violent incidents where attackers move through a location aiming to find and kill or injure as many people as possible. Most deaths occur within the first few minutes of the attack, before police are able to respond.
- **CBRN** chemical/biological incident. If one person is incapacitated with no obvious reason - approach using standard first aid protocols
 1. Two people incapacitated with no obvious reason - approach with caution.
 2. Three or more people in close proximity, incapacitated with no obvious reason - use caution, do not approach, stay up wind.
 3. Evacuate – get people away from the scene of contamination.
 4. Communicate and advise – immediate medical advice and reassurance that help is on its way.

Actions to Consider

- **Disruptive Patrols:** expand patrols to include approach roads. Vary patrol patterns/areas
- **Maintain Integrity of HVM:** check HVM is secured and locks are intact. Has static street furniture been moved/alterd to give vehicle access?
- **Check Evacuation Routes/Areas:** ensure they are free of obstructions/vehicles. Check evacuation areas for suspicious articles. Is the RVP/evacuation area safe from a Vehicle As Weapon (VAR) attack?
- **Run, Hide, Tell:** run and take as many people with you. If you can't find a safe place or somewhere to hide, then keep running. Put distance between you and the threat. When safe call the police.

Things to do

- Try and remain calm.
- Get to a safe area. Do not stand near suspect vehicle/bags.
- Record the registration number, make, model, colour and description of the vehicle. Any distinguishing marks or damage?
- Do not use your radio or mobile phone within 15 metres of the suspect vehicle/device; it may set it off!
- Once you are in a safe area **Immediately** inform your Supervisor or Event Control by radio. If the channel is busy, cut in stating **PRIORITY MESSAGE** this will clear the air and let you pass the message.
- Do not leave your position unless directed to by your Supervisor/Event Control or it becomes unsafe.

Communication

Passing critical information is important to get the correct help. Remember ETHANE:

- **E** - Exact location
- **T** - Type of incident **Vehicle As Weapon (VAR)**, **Vehicle Born Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED)**, **Chemical or Biological (CBRN)**.
- **H** – Hazards at scene or on approach
- **A** -Access/Egress for Responders
- **N** – Numbers of casualties
- **E** – Emergency Services. What is required i.e. fire service, ambulance, police. Military etc.

How to gain the advantage

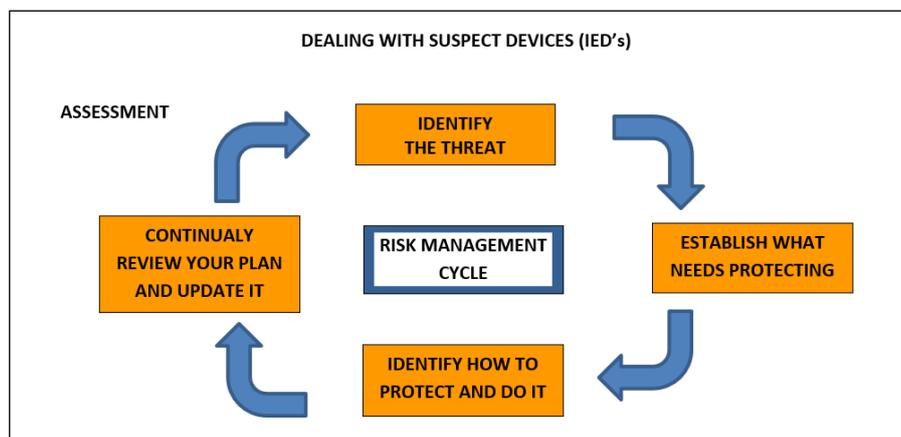
By being observant and alert you are seeing the signs before the threat develops. This gives you time to think and react. Time to get out of the way and call control.

Remember

Your safety is paramount. Remain calm. Pass all information on. Stay alert and observant.

Report suspicious activity/behaviour

- S** – Situation (what makes it suspicious)
- A** – Activity (what were they doing)
- L** – Location (where were they / are they now)
- U** – Unit (who noticed it/witnesses)
- T** – Time (what time did this occur)
- E** – Equipment (what did they have with them)
Remember and record any other descriptive details or important information



The H.O.T Protocol

- Is the item **HIDDEN** deliberately, i.e. not just left behind?
- Is the item **OBVIOUSLY** suspicious?
- Is the item **TYPICAL** for what should be at your venue or surroundings?

ACTIONS

- Do not touch.
- Clear the public away from the suspect device.
- When clear inform control (DO NOT USE RADIOS OR PHONES NEAR A SUSPECT PACKAGE).
- Give a full report of what is near the suspect package i.e. vehicles, flammable liquid or compressed gas storage etc, exact location and routes into the area.
- Check for secondary devices in obvious evacuation holding areas.

Recommended distances for cordons



REMAIN SAFE AT ALL TIMES

You are no help to anyone if you become a casualty

Further Resources

It helps to keep up to date with your training. If you have not completed the ACT Awareness e-Learning course as part of your stage 2 please contact the SES Academy www.joanne.cross@thesesgroup.co.uk and Jo will enrol you. This is now easy to access – just log on and learn. The more of us that take part, the better our collective efforts to tackle terrorism.

Keep yourself, the public and your families safe. Think **ACT**.

Resources are available on-line at:

<https://act.campaign.gov.uk/> or <https://www.met.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/ath/possible-terrorist-activity/>

<https://www.cpni.gov.uk/mail-screening-matters-0>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crowded-places-guidance>