

# **UK Protect**

Protective Security Information for the Business Community

NATIONAL BULLETIN

3 November 2020

## **UK Threat Level Update**

### Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu, UK head of Counter Terrorism Policing:

"Overnight, we heard the terrible news of another terrorist attack in Europe - this time in Vienna, where four people were killed.

"Our thoughts are with all of the victims, their families and loved ones of the recent attacks both in Austria and France, as well as all of the emergency service personnel who continue to respond to and investigate these atrocities.

"At this time, there is no intelligence to link any of these attacks to the UK, and officers from Counter Terrorism Policing continue to work closely with our international partners and will of course provide any assistance where we can.

"Today, the threat level from terrorism has changed from SUBSTANTIAL to SEVERE as a precautionary measure in response to the events in France and Austria. This threat level moving to SEVERE means it is highly likely that a terrorist attack could happen in the UK, but I want to stress that the change is not based on a specific threat.

"However I do urge the public to remain vigilant and to report any suspicious activity to police. Now, more than ever, we need communities to stand together and reject those who seek to sow division and hatred between us. We need communities and families to bring to our attention anyone they perceive may be vulnerable, a danger or escalating towards terrorism.

Anyone with information is urged to contact police by calling 0800 789 321 or by visiting <a href="https://www.gov.uk/ACT">www.gov.uk/ACT</a>

"Whilst we want the public to remain alert, they should not be alarmed by this change in threat level. We have a variety of established operational tactics that are tried and tested, to ensure that the UK is both well prepared and protected from the threat of terrorism.

"Since 2014, when the threat level was last changed from substantial to severe, we have continued to build on our capability and enhance security arrangements against the backdrop of a consistently high level of threat. Officers work day and night to protect the public and keep them safe from the threat of terrorism and this will not change.

"We have activated the established planning mechanisms across the police service, which will lead to enhanced protection and preparedness.

"Some of this will be visible and involve additional police officers being deployed to certain places and locations, which the public can expect to see over the coming days.

"From this afternoon we will begin to increase our levels of visible patrols and implement other security and protection measures.

"We are also working closely with our local communities – businesses, faith groups and community groups across the UK to provide reassurance and seek their support and assistance in keeping the UK safe.

"As I have previously said, our efforts can only succeed where we have the support of the public - it is communities standing together that defeats terrorism."

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#### **Marauding Terrorist Attacks**

Marauding terrorist attacks are fast-moving, violent incidents where assailants 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.

It is more important than ever that your organisation is aware of the heightened risks and adequately prepared for any potential attack.

New and detailed guidance is now available providing details of the simple measures that can be taken to minimise the impact of an attack and help save lives. This builds on the principles of RUN, HIDE, TELL published by the National Counter Terrorism Security Office.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crowded-places-guidance/marauding-terrorist-attack-mta-run-hide-tell

#### **Run Hide Tell**

Incidents in the UK and around the world remind us all of the terrorist threat we face, which in the UK is considered as 'SUBSTANTIAL', meaning an attack is likely.

Police and security agencies are working tirelessly to protect the public but it is also important that communities remain vigilant and aware of how to protect themselves if the need arises.

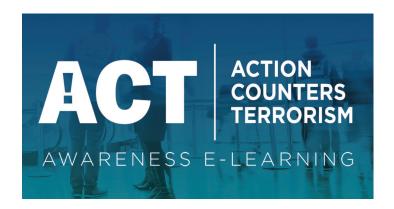
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ stay-safe-film



#### **Unattended Items**

- Do not touch
- Try and identify an owner in the immediate area
- If you still think it's suspicious, don't feel embarrassed or think anybody else will report it
- Report it to a member of staff, security, or if they are not available dial 999 (do not use your mobile phone in the immediate vicinity)
- Move away to a safe distance Even for a small item such as a briefcase move at least 100m away from the item starting from the centre and moving out.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crowded-places-guidance/unattended-and-suspicious-items



#### **ACT Awareness e-Learning**

ACT Awareness e-Learning is an innovative 45-minute training scheme that could help prevent terror attacks and it covers how to spot the signs of suspicious behaviour and what to do if an attack should take place. Free to use, the package can be divided into short sections to suit business needs and it takes just three quarters of an hour to complete – 45 vital minutes that could save lives.

We encourage businesses to apply for registration and make use of this free resource available here:

https://ct.highfieldelearning.com

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### CROWDED PLACES



Guidance on increasing the protection of crowded places from a terrorist attack.

#### **Crowded Places Guidance**

The UK faces a real threat from terrorism and crowded places remain an attractive target.

Crowded places include shopping centres, sports stadia, bars, pubs, places of worship and clubs which are easily accessible to the public and attractive to terrorists.

Guidance has been written to help those charged with security at crowded places mitigate the threat and help make the UK less vulnerable to an attack.

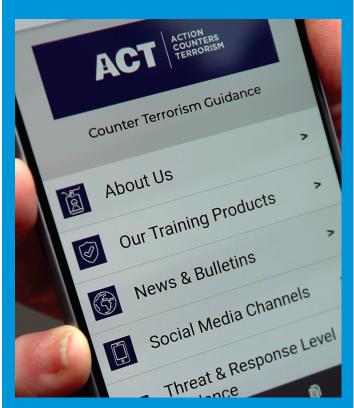
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crowded-places-guidance

#### **Lets Talk About It**

Let's Talk About It is an initiative designed to provide practical help and guidance in order to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

https://www.ltai.info

### SIGN UP FOR THE ACT APP



The ACT App provides useful guidance on all aspects of protective security and is also being used for COVI D-19 messaging in addition to CT specific messaging.

- Download the Urim app from the Google Play or Apple Store.
- 2 Email ct@highfieldelearning. com to request a user name and password.

Please note access is for business/professional use only.

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