

The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill, otherwise known as Martyn's Law, seeks to enhance safety measures at UK public venues. Originally introduced in Parliament on 12 September 2024, it mandates security improvements across various public spaces, including shopping centres, concert halls and community centres, to better prevent, prepare for, and respond to potential terrorist incidents.

Martyn's Law



Key provisions

Risk-tiered approach

The law categorises venues into two primary tiers:

1) Standard Tier venues (where you could reasonably expect 200 or more people to be present at any time) must:

- Register
- Put in place appropriate and reasonably practicable public protection procedures, and
- Ensure anyone working (including volunteers) is familiar with these procedures.

2) Enhanced Tier venues (where you could reasonably expect 800 or more people to be present at any time), for example shopping centres and large stadiums, must:

- Register
- Nominate a person responsible for compliance
- Put in place appropriate and reasonably practicable public protection procedures to protect and communicate with people in the event of a security incident
- Document all procedures and measures, and
- Ensure anyone working (including volunteers) is trained on these procedures.

Duty to co-operate

Venues not in either tier might still need to comply under the Bill's "duty to co-operate". This will be useful for owners or operators of Enhanced or Standard Duty premises who cannot operate in a silo without assistance from the tenants (e.g. in a multi-let unit) or neighbours who may, on notice, require compliance with their procedures from these third parties.

Regulation

The Security Industry Authority (SIA), the UK's private security regulatory body, will enforce Martyn's Law. The SIA can conduct inspections, gather information, serve compliance notices, temporarily close premises and issue penalty notices (maximum of £10,000 for standard duty premises and £18m or 5% of worldwide revenue for enhanced duty premises). It will also be a criminal offence to fail to comply with an information notice, provide false or misleading information or obstruct the SIA.

- 1. Expand Duty of Care:** Businesses must review and enhance their duty of care to include comprehensive risk assessments and protective measures against terrorism. This involves categorising venues into standard or enhanced tiers based on their capacity and public exposure.
- 2. Adopt Basic Principles Now:** Rather than waiting for the legislation to be enacted, businesses should start implementing the basic principles of Martyn's Law immediately. This includes engaging with counter-terrorism services and utilising available resources and training programs.
- 3. Conduct Regular Risk Assessments:** Continuous assessment of the risk of terrorism is crucial. Businesses should evaluate their current security measures and identify areas for improvement to ensure they meet the requirements of Martyn's Law.
- 4. Enhance Security Training:** Staff should be trained to recognise and respond to potential threats. This includes participating in counter-terrorism training programs and staying updated on the latest security protocols.
- 5. Implement Technological Solutions:** Utilising advanced security technologies, such as surveillance systems and behavioural analytics, can help detect and prevent potential threats. These technologies can provide early warnings and assist in managing incidents effectively.



“This legislation will strengthen public safety, help protect staff and the public from terrorism and ensure we learn the lessons from the terrible Manchester Arena attack and the inquiry that followed. It is important we now take this forward through Parliament in Martyn’s memory and to help keep people safe.” – Yvette Cooper, Home Secretary

Who is the ‘Responsible Person’?

The responsible person would be required to ensure the Bill’s legislative requirements were met. Typically, this will mean:

- For a qualifying premises, the responsible person would be the person who has control of the premises in connection with its use. Where premises are let, this would therefore typically be the tenant. However, if qualifying premises form part of other qualifying premises, for example a department store within a shopping centre, then both the tenant and the property owner would each be responsible persons. In this case, the property owner and tenant would be required, so far as is reasonably practicable, to coordinate to ensure individual and cumulative compliance.
- For a qualifying event, the responsible person would be the person who has control of the premises at which the event is taking place in connection with its use for that event. For example, if a hotel hosted a public event in its grounds and maintained control of the premises for the purposes of that event, the hotel would be the responsible person irrespective of the involvement of any contracting organisations. Responsibility cannot be delegated to contracted services.
- For enhanced tier premises or an event, the responsible person would be required to appoint a designated senior individual (DSI), i.e., someone with high-level management responsibility such as a director or partner, with responsibility for ensuring that the relevant requirements were met.
- The responsible person would also be required to notify the regulator when they became and ceased to be responsible for the premises (regulations would set out further details of timings and exactly what information would be required to be provided).
- Where the responsible person is the tenant, the requirement to comply with this draft legislation would come within what should be a standard tenant obligation in most market standard leases to comply with all laws relating to the premises and the occupation and use of the same by the tenant. Where the responsible person is the landlord, for example with a shopping centre, then a landlord would likely be obliged to meet its obligations via the provision of services.

How can organisations ensure adequate First Aid preparedness for major incidents?

A terrorist incident introduces unique difficulties that might not be apparent in other situations, potentially causing life-endangering injuries to people. Recent incidents of terrorism in the UK have shown that bystanders in the vicinity of such attacks are eager to assist, including by administering first aid to the injured – often resorting to makeshift solutions in the absence of readily available supplies to treat critical injuries.

There is no need to resort to having to use such solutions (such as using ties, scarves and belts for tourniquets) if risks are properly assessed and the right provisions are made available in the right way.

Having first aid provisions to treat major trauma and Cardiac Arrest readily to hand and clearly signposted is a reasonably practicable and effective step for organisations to take in order to mitigate physical harm in the event of an emergency.

Remember:

- The arrival of emergency services might be delayed due to potential dangers, which could affect their ability to respond quickly
- The initial need for first aid can significantly strain emergency services and the broader healthcare system, especially when multiple injuries occur over a large area
- Although the severe nature of injuries in a terrorist attack might be similar to those in other emergencies, the additional threat from the attackers necessitates more comprehensive planning for first aid
- There should also be an assumption that there will be more than one casualty

- First Aid Needs Assessment, which includes taking a risk based approach
- Having an appropriate First Aid Response Plan
- Having adequate and appropriate First Aid Provision with **internationally recognised** signage
- Training where required

How can **Live is Life** help?

- Campaigning and support
- Needs assessment and help with planning
- Correct equipment to address the risks associated with any assessment
- Training and support
- Assistance with fund raising



info@liveislife.co.uk

The Live is Life Foundation charity,
Swadlincote, Derbyshire

Strategic Thinking in Resuscitation