



Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025: Martyn's Law

The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, also known as Martyn's Law, will require certain public premises and events to be prepared and ready to keep the public safe in a terrorist attack. The Act applies to England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland and establishes a minimum legal security standard of protective security at larger premises and events for the first time.

Scope

For premises and events to be in scope, they must meet specific conditions and be used for activities listed in the Act. They are separated into two categories.

- **The standard tier** is for premises that host between **200 and 799 people** at the same time.
- **The enhanced tier** is for premises and events that host **800 or more people**. Qualifying events will always be in the enhanced tier where they host 800+ people and are accessible to the public and have measures in place to control access, like checking tickets or taking payments.

Requirements

When the Act comes into force, those responsible for qualifying premises and events must:

- 1 **notify** the regulator, the Security Industry Authority (SIA), that they are responsible for their premises
- 2 have in place so far as reasonably practicable, appropriate **public protection procedures** that could be reasonably expected to reduce the risk of physical harm if an attack occurs there or nearby.

These procedures relate to:

- Evacuation**
- Invacuation**
- Lockdown**
- Communication**

Those responsible for **enhanced tier** premises and qualifying events must comply with the above requirements and also:

- 3 have in place, so far as reasonably practicable, appropriate **public protection measures** that could be reasonably expected to reduce both the vulnerability of the premises or event to an act of terrorism occurring and the risk of physical harm being caused to individuals if an attack occurs there or nearby.

These measures relate to:

- Monitoring**
- Movement control**
- Physical Security**
- Security of Information**

- 4 document the public protection procedures and measures in place, and give this information to the SIA
- 5 where the responsible person for enhanced duty premises or a qualifying event is not an individual (e.g. company) they must designate a senior individual.

Responsible person

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For qualifying premises, the responsible person is whoever has control of the premises in connection with their relevant Schedule 1 use – for example, the person who runs a restaurant or manages a theatre.
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For qualifying events, the responsible person is whoever has control of the premises for the event – for example, a theatre company that hires an industrial building to stage a play and has control of the building for that event.

Regulator

The Act establishes the Security Industry Authority (SIA) as the regulator.

The SIA will seek to support, advise and guide those responsible for premises and events in meeting the requirements of this legislation. Where there are instances of serious or persistent non-compliance the SIA will be able to take enforcement action including compliance notices, monetary penalties and restriction notices. The legislation also includes some criminal offences.

When the Act comes into force

The Act was passed in Parliament on 3 April 2025, and there will be an implementation period of at least 24 months. The Home Office will publish statutory guidance during this period. Neither the Home Office, SIA, nor the National Counter Terrorism Security Office endorse any third-party products offered by the private sector in respect of compliance with this legislation. The Government's intent is that those responsible for premises and events in scope can comply with the Act **without needing to buy specialist services**.



What you can do to prepare

While the Act is not yet in force, you can start building and maintaining a good security culture.

For more information, go to: www.protectuk.police.uk



Scan the QR code for more information



Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025: Prepare to Protect

Top Tips on getting ready for Martyn's Law.

The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, also known as Martyn's Law, received Royal Assent on **3 April 2025**. There will be an **implementation period of at least 24 months from April 2025**, before the Act comes into force. The government will publish guidance during the implementation period to support those in scope of the Act to prepare to comply with the new legal requirements.

These top tips **are intended to help**

- those responsible for premises and events to find out whether they will be in scope,
- those that will be in scope to prepare to comply with the new requirements,
- wider good practice of protective security and preparedness.

If you are in scope of the Act, you do not have to do anything yet, but planning will help you prepare to comply with Martyn's Law.



What should you know about the Act.

- Watch a brief overview of the Act's scope and requirements on **ProtectUK**.
- Read our **One Page Leaflet, Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act**.
- Find out more about scope and requirements in the **Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act's factsheets**.
- Read about common misunderstandings in the **Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025: Martyn's Law myth buster**.
- Look out for the publication of Home Office guidance (and associated material) on the requirements of the Act and of the **Security Industry Authority (SIA)** guidance on its function as the Act's regulator. Considering the requirements and your protective security and preparedness early will help you prepare for the Act.
- For the latest updates about the Act follow ProtectUK on **LinkedIn**, the Home Office on **LinkedIn** and the SIA on **LinkedIn**.



Where to find FREE wider resources on counter terrorism and protective security ahead of the Act coming into force.

- Ahead of the Home Office publishing the guidance and the Act coming into force, you can still develop a good security culture.
- The National Counter Terrorism Security Office's (NaCTSO) **ProtectUK** website provides counter terrorism protective security and preparedness guidance and learning – this is available and relevant to all organisations. This resource supports organisations in both the public and private sectors to understand a range of threats and potential mitigations, including options for approaching **risk management**.

- The National Protective Security Authority (NPSA) is the **National Technical Authority** for physical and personnel security. NPSA's website provides useful information about protective security procedures such as lockdown, invacuation and evacuation. Premises in scope of the Act will need to have in place these procedures and should also refer to the Home Office guidance on the Act when it is published. This will likely help you to formulate your plans as it provides a good technical guide to lockdown, invacuation and evacuation.



What do you currently have in place for security in the event of an incident or emergency?

- Review how your existing security or emergency plans and arrangements align with the Act. The factsheets about the Act's scope (**premises** and **events**) will assist you in your relevant preparation. In addition, both the **standard tier** and **enhanced tier requirements** include having procedures in place to respond in the event of an emergency.
- You can also find guidance on first aid during a terrorist attack on **ProtectUK**. Please note that first aid is not a requirement of the legislation.



Have you thought about how you can upskill and prepare your staff?

- It's good security practice for your staff to be aware of the general terrorist risk, what steps can be taken to mitigate the risk and how you can better protect the public.
- Staff counter terrorism and protective security awareness can be developed through FREE e-learning such as **ACT Awareness e-Learning | ProtectUK**, and **See Check and Notify (SCaN) NPSA**.
- Although completing the training will not make you compliant with Martyn's Law and does not form part of the Martyn's Law compliance, it does provide staff (including employees, contractors and volunteers) with basic but valuable awareness of counter terrorism and protective security.



Have you visited ProtectUK and NPSA for helpful guidance on counter terrorism and protective security?

- Scan the QR below to access FREE ProtectUK guidance, and training on protective security and on improving your organisation's terrorism response.



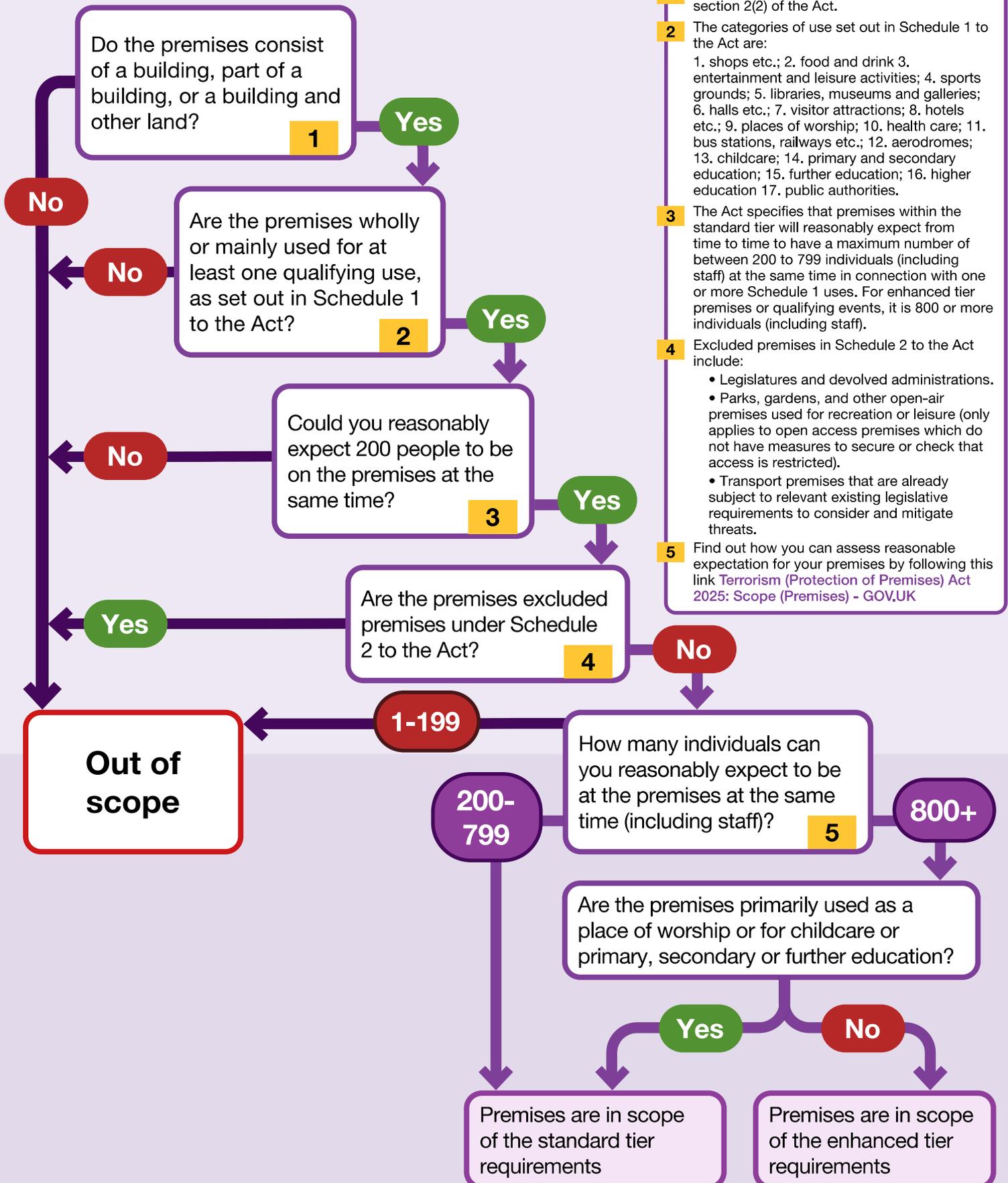
Scan this QR code to read more about
Martyn's Law on ProtectUK



Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025: Qualifying Premises: How to determine whether your premises is in scope of the Act.

KEY

- 1** The definition of premises can be found in section 2(2) of the Act.
- 2** The categories of use set out in Schedule 1 to the Act are:
1. shops etc.; 2. food and drink 3. entertainment and leisure activities; 4. sports grounds; 5. libraries, museums and galleries; 6. halls etc.; 7. visitor attractions; 8. hotels etc.; 9. places of worship; 10. health care; 11. bus stations, railways etc.; 12. aerodromes; 13. childcare; 14. primary and secondary education; 15. further education; 16. higher education 17. public authorities.
- 3** The Act specifies that premises within the standard tier will reasonably expect from time to time to have a maximum number of between 200 to 799 individuals (including staff) at the same time in connection with one or more Schedule 1 uses. For enhanced tier premises or qualifying events, it is 800 or more individuals (including staff).
- 4** Excluded premises in Schedule 2 to the Act include:
 - Legislatures and devolved administrations.
 - Parks, gardens, and other open-air premises used for recreation or leisure (only applies to open access premises which do not have measures to secure or check that access is restricted).
 - Transport premises that are already subject to relevant existing legislative requirements to consider and mitigate threats.
- 5** Find out how you can assess reasonable expectation for your premises by following this link [Terrorism \(Protection of Premises\) Act 2025: Scope \(Premises\) - GOV.UK](#)

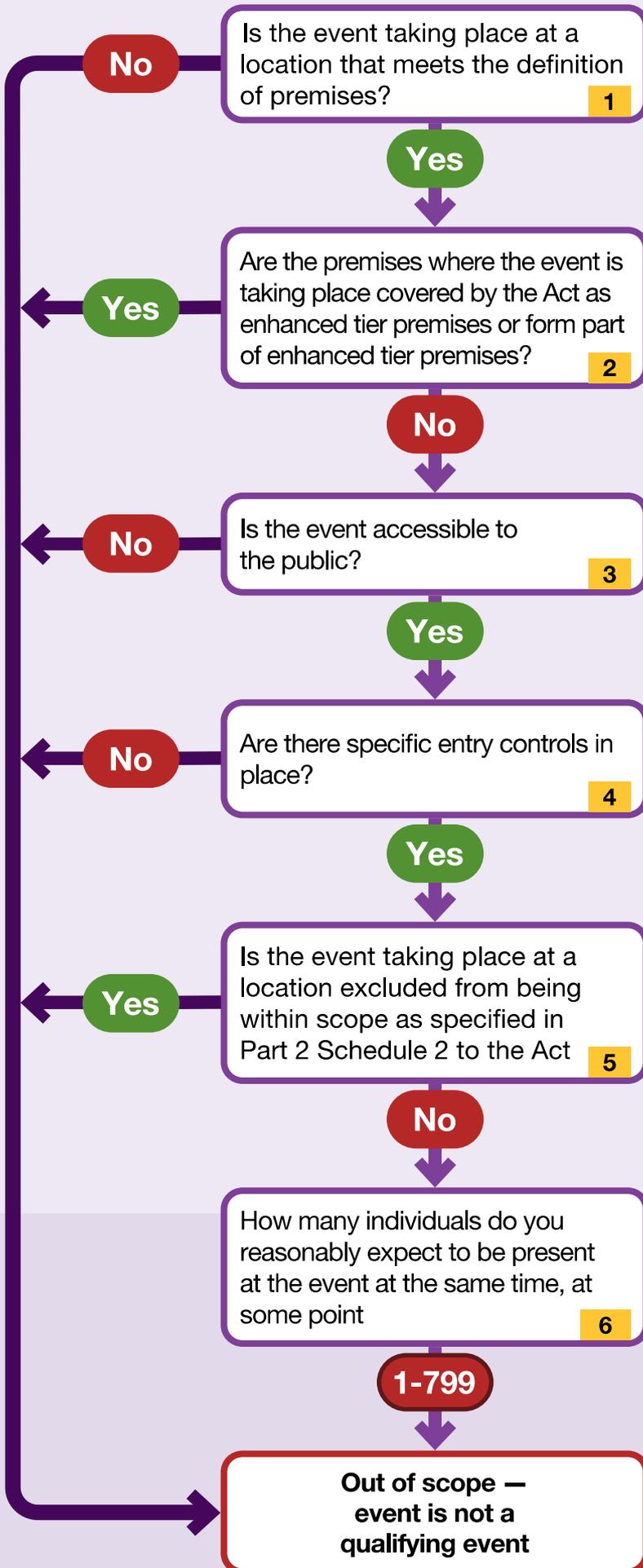




Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025: Qualifying Events: How to determine whether your event is in scope of the Act.

KEY

- 1** The definition of events can be found in section 3.1.a of the Act
- 2** The event must be taking place at a location that is not already in scope of the Act as enhanced tier premises. If the premises meets the criteria to be enhanced tier premises, please see the infographic on qualifying premises
- 3** Members of the public must be able to access all or part of the premises for the purposes of attending the event. Events will not be qualifying events under the Act where the condition for entry is personal to the attendees and, as a result, access is not open to the public.
- 4** The event must have measures in place to check that attendees satisfy a condition of entry. This is the requirement that, to enter the event, members of the public have paid, have a ticket or pass, or are members or guests of a club, association or similar body
- 5** Certain events are excluded from being qualifying events under Part 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act. These are:
 - an event held at premises specified or described in the following paragraphs in Schedule 2 to the Act—
 - paragraphs 1 and 2 (legislatures and devolved administrations),
 - paragraph 4 (transport security)
 - An event that is to be held at premises wholly or mainly used for a use specified in the following paragraphs of Schedule 1: paragraph 9 (places of worship), paragraph 13 (childcare), paragraph 14 (primary and secondary education), or paragraph 15 (further education).
- 6** To be in scope, it should be reasonable to expect that 800 or more individuals will be present at the event at the same time, at some point during the event. This figure must include staff working at the event. Only those attending or working in the part of the premises connected with the event should be captured.
Find out how you can assess reasonable expectation for your event by following this link [Terrorism \(Protection of Premises\) Act 2025: Scope \(Premises\) - GOV.UK](#)



Out of scope — event is not a qualifying event

Event is a qualifying event subject to enhanced tier requirements



Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025: Martyn’s Law myth buster

FACT

MYTH 1

“Businesses and organisations need to comply with the Act immediately.”



When will I need to comply?

- The Act received Royal Assent on 3 April 2025, and it is expected that the implementation period will be at least 24 months. This period will enable those responsible for premises and events to have sufficient time to understand their new obligations, and to plan and prepare accordingly. This also allows time for the new regulator function of the Security Industry Authority (SIA) to be established.
- While there is no legal requirement to comply until the Act comes into force, you may wish to start considering what you need to do.
- The Home Office will publish guidance before the Act comes into force and will build on materials already available on ProtectUK to raise awareness. These include:
 - an animation giving an overview of the Act: www.protectuk.police.uk/martyns-law/martyns-law-overview-and-what-you-need-know
 - factsheets setting out key aspects of the Act: www.gov.uk/government/publications/terrorism-protection-of-premises-act-2025-factsheets
- There will also be engagement activities, such as webinars, during the implementation period to help you understand the requirements.

Does that mean I do not need to consider protective security before the Act comes into force?

- The Act will establish a minimum legal standard of protective security at larger premises and events for the first time. Many businesses and organisations already have excellent protective security measures in place. The government encourages those responsible to put in place appropriate measures for their circumstances.
- There are helpful resources on ProtectUK (www.protectuk.police.uk) including guidance, advice and free e-learning including:
 - Action Counters Terrorism (ACT) which can be found at ProtectUK
 - See, Check and Notify (SCaN) which can be found at the NPSA website.

FACT

MYTH 2

“As I’m not in scope, protective security shouldn’t matter to me.”



I’m not in scope of the Act, but what could I be doing to improve my organisation’s security culture?

- There is no legal obligation on organisation and businesses that are out of scope. However, you should make informed decisions about how to better protect people in the venues and public spaces you are responsible for.
- If you are not in scope, you can still develop a good security culture which identifies threats, minimises risk to the public and effectively responds to incident. You can find more information on the ProtectUK website: www.protectuk.police.uk

MYTH 3

“The Act puts expensive requirements on businesses and organisations.”



FACT

Will compliance cost a lot of money?

- The government’s impact assessment estimated that over a 10-year period, the cost is £330 per year to standard tier premises (between 200 and 799 people), which relates to management and staff time spent rather than cash expenditure, and £5,210 per year to enhanced tier premises (800 people or more).

Standard tier premises

- In the standard tier, the focus is on ensuring that premises have simple and low-cost public protection procedures in place, such as evacuation. Costs relate primarily to staff time, and there is no requirement to put in place or purchase physical measures.
- Organisations in the standard tier may already have security measures in place, such as locks and alarms, which may support public protection procedures. Further information on good security practice can be found at ProtectUK: www.protectuk.police.uk/guidance

Enhanced tier premises and qualifying events

- In addition to the above procedures, those responsible for enhanced tier premises or events must also put in place measures to reduce their vulnerability to terrorism. These may be implemented through people (such as training), processes (such as a bag search policy) or physical measures (such as CCTV).
- You will need to determine which measures are appropriate and proportionate to your circumstances, taking into account the nature of the premises or event, your activities and resources. Therefore, measures will vary between different premises and events.

MYTH 4

“Inspections and notifying the SIA will cost businesses and organisations money.”



FACT

Will inspections or notifying the SIA cost money?

- No, the SIA will not charge fees for inspections, post-inspection advice, or notifications.
- You will not need to notify the SIA of your premises or event until the relevant provisions of the Act commence. The Home Office and the SIA will publish the timeline and how to submit notifications well in advance.

MYTH 5

“The regulator will close down businesses.”



FACT

Will the SIA be able to close down businesses?

- The SIA will have powers to restrict events and the use of premises but will only be able to use these in exceptional circumstances where there is a clear and specific risk of harm to the public. Premises and events will have a right of appeal to the tribunal if they disagree with the use of these powers.
- Where an inspection has taken place and the SIA has concerns that the premises or event is not in compliance, it will rely on advice and guidance to secure compliance where possible. Formal enforcement powers will only be used where it is necessary and proportionate to do so to ensure compliance. Where the SIA uses its formal enforcement powers it will usually issue a compliance and/or a penalty notice.
- Further information on enforcement measures is in this factsheet: www.gov.uk/government/publications/terrorism-protection-of-premises-act-2025-factsheets/terrorism-protection-of-premises-act-2025-the-regulator-sanctions-and-enforcement-factsheet

MYTH 6

“ Every qualifying premises and qualifying event must have an individual as the responsible person. ”



Who is responsible for ensuring a premises or qualifying event complies with the Act?

FACT

- The responsible person for qualifying premises is whoever has control of the premises for its relevant use under the Act. These uses are set out within Schedule 1 and include visitor attractions, hotels and leisure activities. For qualifying events, the responsible person is whoever has control of the premises for the purposes of the event.
- The responsible person may be an individual, but it is anticipated, will typically be a company or other organisation. For example, a company operating 50 qualifying premises may be the responsible person for all of them.
- For an enhanced tier premises or event, where the responsible person is not an individual, there is an additional requirement to designate a senior individual with responsibility for ensuring that the body complies with the requirements in the Act.

MYTH 7

“ People who hire qualifying premises are the responsible person. ”



If premises are hired out, will the hirer be responsible under the Act?

FACT

- The responsible person is whoever has control of the premises for its relevant Schedule 1 use. If the premises is mainly used as a hall or event space that is hired out, the person in control will usually be the premises operator, not the hirer.
- Contracts to hire qualifying premises may contain terms and conditions for the hirer relevant to the requirements under the Act, but responsibility under the Act does not pass to them.

MYTH 8

“ I need to notify the regulator of every event at qualifying premises. ”



Will every event taking place at premises have to be notified to the regulator?

FACT

Enhanced tier premises

- Enhanced tier premises do not need to notify the SIA of individual events or activities that are taking place there. For example, a hotel within the enhanced tier hiring out its whole space for film premieres and other events would not need to notify the SIA of this activity because it will already be subject to enhanced tier requirements as qualifying premises.

Standard tier premises

- In some circumstances a standard tier premises may host a one off or occasional event that meets the Act's qualifying event criteria without being drawn into the enhanced tier. Where this is the case, the requirement to notify the regulator will fall to the responsible person for the qualifying event (often the event organiser). In such circumstances the event organiser will be the party in control of the premises for the duration of the event - this may be the person responsible for the premises day to day activities or the event organiser. Further information on what qualifies as a one off or occasional event will be provided in statutory guidance.

MYTH 8

Continued

FACT



Out of scope premises

- Events that meet the criteria set out in the Act and take place in premises that are not otherwise in scope must be notified to the SIA. For example, a private warehouse (not a qualifying premises) hosting a one-off, ticketed music event open to the public where 800+ individuals are expected to be present, would be drawn into scope. Where the event meets the qualifying event criteria, the requirement to notify the regulator will fall to the person who has control of the premises for the purposes of the event (i.e. the event organiser).

MYTH 9

“ I need to purchase Public access Trauma First Aid kits to be compliant. ”



FACT

Are there first aid requirements in the Act?

- There is no specific requirement to provide medical treatment and associated equipment within the Act.
- The government provides advice and encourages businesses to consider appropriate healthcare provisions, but this does not form a requirement under the Act.
- Wider guidance on first aid awareness can be found at: www.protectuk.police.uk/advice-and-guidance/response/counter-terrorism-first-aid-awareness

MYTH 10

“ Businesses and organisations will need to buy services to comply with the Act's requirements. ”



FACT

Will I need to buy services to comply?

- The government's intent is that those responsible for premises and events in scope can comply with the Act without needing to buy specialist services.
- The Home Office will publish guidance during the implementation period, before the Act comes into force. This guidance will be self-explanatory and easy to follow, requiring no particular expertise nor the use of third-party products or services offered by the private sector.
- The Home Office, the Security Industry Authority and the National Counter Terrorism Security Office do not endorse any third-party products offered by the private sector in respect of compliance with this legislation. It is not necessary to obtain specialist products or services offered by the private sector to comply with the Act, statutory guidance will clearly explain the Act's requirements. We encourage you to visit the ProtectUK website for guidance on protective security, including updates on compliance with the Act.



Scan the QR code for more information