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London Regional Counter Terrorism Protective Security Update

June / July 2017

THREAT LEVELS

INTERNATIONAL to the UK

SEVERE
AN ATTACK IS HIGHLY LIKELY

NORTHERN IRELAND RELATED in Britain

SUBSTANTIAL
AN ATTACK IS A STRONG POSSIBILITY

For more information please see:
<http://www.mi5.gov.uk>

IF YOU SUSPECT IT REPORT IT

CALL 0800 789 321
CONFIDENTIAL ANTI-TERRORIST HOTLINE

 **@LondonProtect**
Please follow us and retweet posts. Pass on this information to your colleagues and employees so that we can pass information to everyone involved in working together to protect London.

Run, Hide, Tell for Holidaymakers Released

National Counter Terrorism Policing Headquarters (NCTPHQ), in association with the Foreign Office (FCO), and ABTA— The Travel Association, have launched a new four minute film outlining what to do if caught up in an attack.

Whilst the chances of being involved in a terror attack remain low, holidaymakers travelling abroad this summer are being urged to watch a new video designed to help keep them safe in the event of an incident.

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon, FCO Minister for National Security and Counter Terrorism says, “We want people to be safe so they can enjoy their holidays. As well as reading and taking note of our travel advice and taking out appropriate insurance, I encourage people to watch this film before they go away. While there is no specific information that British holidaymakers will be targeted this summer, it sets out some simple steps we can all take to minimise the impact of an attack if one does take place.”

Detective Chief Superintendent Scott Wilson, National Coordinator for Protect and Prepare, says: “The chances of being caught up in a terrorist incident are still low but sadly we have seen atrocities take place in the UK and abroad. So it is important everyone stays alert and knows what to do if the worst was to happen.”

“We want people to think of this in the same way they do the safety film airlines show before take-off. They don’t expect anything bad to happen but it is a sensible safety precaution to show people what to do.”

“And find out in advance the local emergency number. For EU countries it is 112.”

Nikki White, Director of Destinations and Sustainability from ABTA adds: “We recognise the importance of raising awareness and providing clear guidance for our Members and their employees. We know that customers would look to those staff working in their hotels and resorts to take the lead and respond quickly to an emerging situation.

This innovative new approach encourages everyone to be prepared should the worst happen. The central message is Run, Hide, Tell and was first launched by UK police in December 2015 after attacks in Paris. For more information click [HERE](#)





London Regional Counter Terrorism Protective Security Update



A Conversation With ... Matt Maer DSO MBE MA, Director Group Security Canary Wharf

I cannot stress enough the need for businesses to have clear, simple plans, that are practiced. When the attack occurs it is too late to consider what you are going to do. These plans do not have to be complicated, but as simple as thinking through what 'Run, Hide, Tell' really means for your business.

After distinguished service in the Army, Matt Maer joined Canary Wharf Group as its Director of Security and Resilience in 2012. Canary Wharf is a major business district in east London. It is one of the United Kingdom's two main financial centres along with the traditional City of London. It contains many of Europe's tallest buildings, including the second-tallest in the UK, One Canada Square. Around 120,000 people work in Canary Wharf, and there are over 300 shops, cafes, bars and restaurants, which includes a rapidly growing night time economy.

How do you think we could be more prepared and better able to respond to the threat of terrorism?

Firstly, I think it is important to stress that overall London and the United Kingdom is a safe place to work and live. Whilst we have seen a number of incidents recently, equally we have also seen extensive work by the police and security services to disrupt and apprehend those intent on committing acts of terror. We can however all do more. I believe that key to this is a better, true, partnership between the government and businesses. London Protect is a good example of how this is developing, but it is only the start and we need not only to be advised in general, but receive more specific information on which we can base our own measures. Equally business needs to inform the police and other agencies of what we are concerned about and share best practice. It is all about true collaboration, as neither side has the answer.

How do you think businesses should react when they hear of an attack?

I cannot stress enough the need for businesses to have clear, simple plans, that are practiced. When the attack occurs it is too late to consider what you are going to do. These plans do not have to be complicated, but as simple as thinking through what 'Run, Hide, Tell' really means for your business. Where are the keys to lock down your business entrances? Is there more than one set, so that it is not reliant on a single individual? Indeed, who is empowered to execute the plan? (It is no use waiting on a bureaucratic process to make a decision when the attacks are happening). What exits are people going to use, rather than the main one? (Are the fire exits a possibility?) Where are they going to go to beyond this? What happens if people cannot run away, where are people going to hide? What areas of your office, shop, bar, garage, or suchlike are more secure? (Back office? Store cupboard?) Can it be locked? Is it a solid structure? Are your people briefed on the plan? Have they rehearsed it? Is it part of your Induction, in the same way that a Fire Drill is?

What do you do, on a larger scale, at Canary Wharf?

At Canary Wharf we are fortunate to have a Board who are fully engaged with security issues and an excellent relationship with the security managers of the companies on the Estate. This allows us to adapt our security regime very quickly across the business district, without further discussion. Firstly, we aim to provide a more visible presence, in order to deter hostile reconnaissance, provide reassurance and inform the police of any suspicious behaviour. Having good working relationships with the Metropolitan Police, British Transport Police and TfL are also vital in making this happen. For example, after the Westminster Bridge attack all our officers in our retail mall and buildings adopted a higher profile stance, we increased the level of searching of vehicles and the Met arrived to support and reinforce us. A text book response, because it had been planned for beforehand.

How can the businesses, residents and visitors help protect Canary Wharf?

The key to providing a safe and secure place for people to work, live and socialise is that you are aware of our surroundings. And then, if anyone sees anything they think is odd they should report it to a member of the security team. We are very fortunate that this happens at Canary Wharf and while these suspicions have not been proven, we are always happy to investigate them. Nothing is too small or ever trivial. Alternatively the public can contact the police via the Anti-Terrorist Hotline 0800 789123, or in an emergency call 999.





London Regional Counter Terrorism Protective Security Update

Search and Screening

With the summer months upon us, London businesses will look to benefit from the increased number of tourists to the capital. This summer London will play host to a wide diverse range of events and celebrations, such as Wimbledon, the World Athletic Championships and a number of music festivals to name just a few.

Recent events in Manchester have shown the need to keep events as safe as possible and a thorough search regime coupled with effective policy will enable you to keep those with hostile intentions from being able to cause harm to your site, customers and staff.

Search and Screening is primarily used to detect prohibited items being brought in to a secure zone. In Counter Terrorism and security terms that can mean improvised explosive devices (IEDs) or bladed weapons among other items. Search and Screening can also create a sterile area to detect illegal drugs and alcohol being brought into your site, just having a professional search and screening policy can act as a deterrent to any potential hostile act.

Key tips for those looking to create a strong search regime are –

- Understanding the need for the measures at your site
- Estimate the number of people you will have to search and the amount of time this will take
- Decide whether the methods you are considering are proportionate
- You should continuously monitor and review the effectiveness of your security regime making sure your it is fit for purpose
- Consider the type of items you wish to search for, how you can search for the items and what equipment would help to find them

**Don't rely on others.
If you suspect it,
report it.**

**Confidential
Anti-Terrorist Hotline
Call 0800 789 321**

If you are deaf or have hearing difficulties
you can use a textphone to call us.
Dial 0800 032 4539.

Make sure that staff are fully trained in using equipment, searching and your escalation policy if they find a prohibited item.

For more advice regarding Search and Screening please visit the CPNI website [HERE](#) and speak to your CTSA's who can be contacted through [HERE](#).

Protect Messaging Going National

The Senior National Coordinator Protect and Prepare, DAC Lucy D'Orsi has called for Protect messaging to be rolled out across the UK by the end of the year. NaCTSO are working closely with CSSC to develop a national and regional capability to keep businesses informed and advised on the latest threat updates and suitable mitigation for your business. Watch out for more information as this is implemented.



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**



**CITY OF LONDON
POLICE**



**BRITISH
TRANSPORT
POLICE**



**COUNTER
TERRORISM
POLICING**



What's in the name Who are ISIL?



ISIL, ISIS, IS, Daesh. We see many names in reports that refer to this extremist group and their activity, however which one is most current or correct? This article will share a brief evolution of the group we know as ISIL and what their aims are.

The origins of the group we know as Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) can be traced back to 1999 where they were originally known as Jama'at al-Tawhid wal-Jihad (JTJ). The organisation was established from groups pledging allegiance to Al Qaeda through their leader Abu Musab Al Zarqawi.

Following his death in 2006 the group, which then became known as Islamic state in Iraq (ISI), began to break away from Al Qaeda, with members' allegiance given to the ISI commander. The objective of ISI was to establish an Islamic State in Iraq during the Iraq War.

It was not until 2013 that the group was given a more familiar name. Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, who had become ISI leader, transformed the group into ISIL, who we know are still active today. The goals of ISIL were to expel US forces from Iraq and establish a caliphate. With expansion into Syria, the group also adopted the name of Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

This successful expansion led to the group establishing their caliphate in 2014, and as a result began referring to themselves as Islamic State (IS). This name in particular was controversial in that many did not recognise IS as a 'state', whilst condoning the groups killing of innocents as 'non religious' and therefore delegitimising the name.

The UN continue to call the group ISIL, whilst the majority of the Arab world referred to them as Daesh, which is an acronym of ISILs Arabic name. Daesh has since been adopted by many media outlets and politicians as it is considered derogatory within the Arabic community, to the extent that if the term is used in areas of ISIL control, it is punishable by cutting out the tongue. Many people will now refer to the group as Daesh as a result.

Regardless of the change in name, the violent ideology of this extremist group endures. ISILs growth into a complex organisation means that through their control over large areas of Syria and Iraq they managed to enforce their interpretation of Sharia Law. Their expansion even reached Africa, with ISIL affiliated groups operating in Egypt and Somalia. However a loss in territory, particularly in Iraq has resulted in an increase in attacks on the West in 2017. As published in their extremist propoganda, they have a continuing desire to conduct attacks against police, military and government as they are representative of the state. Other targets such as nightclubs, pubs, sports stadia which are considered anti - Islamic are also desirable.

With the evolution so far, it would be difficult to rule out any further re-branding by the group. The perceived loss of ground in their caliphate may result in a change in emphasis or direction, however regardless of the evolution of the group ISIL will remain a threat to the security of nations across the world.



Summary of Incidents at Home and Abroad

The attacks that took place in Manchester, London Bridge and Finsbury Park have been covered through the publication of London protect Incident Messages and therefore will not feature in this edition.



Avenue des Champs Elysees, Paris, France —Monday 19th June 2017

On Monday 19th June 2017 in the Avenue des Champs Elysees, Paris a man carried out a vehicle attack when he rammed a police vehicle. Reports indicate that a firearm and explosives were found in the vehicle. The suspect was shot and fatally wounded by police.

Central Station, Brussels, Belgium—Tuesday 20th June 2017

An attacker set off a small explosion before the Belgium authorities fatally shot him at Central Station, Brussels in Belgium on Tuesday 20th June 2017. Reports indicate that the suspect was wearing what appeared to have been an explosive belt. Nobody else was reported injured during the incident.



Michigan, United States—Thursday 22nd June 2017

On Thursday 22nd June 2017 at the Bishop International Airport, Flint, Michigan a police officer was stabbed in the neck by an attacker who shouted 'Allahu Akbar' just before the incident. The suspect, a Canadian citizen, was arrested at the scene. The motivation for the attack has been cited as a 'hatred of the United States'.

Paris, France—Monday 3rd July 2017

On Monday 3rd July French authorities arrested a person in north-west Paris on suspicion of plotting to assassinate French president Emmanuel Macron. Reports indicate that he plotted to carry out an attack at a national parade on the 14th July 2017 in Paris.



Recent Terrorism Arrests—Brussels, Belgium—Wednesday 5th July 2017

Belgian authorities arrested two people on Monday 5th July 2017 on suspicion of preparing an attack in Brussels. Reports indicate the police recovered weapons, explosives and two police uniforms at a premises.

Oklahoma, United States—Monday 10th July 2017

On Monday 10th July 2017 an improvised explosive device detonated and damaged an Air Force recruiting station in Bixby, Oklahoma. No injuries were sustained during the incident.

