

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

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

**On 3 April 2025, the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 (commonly referred to as 'Martyn's Law') was approved as new legislation. Its aim is to strengthen the security of public premises and events by requiring those responsible for certain premises and events to consider how they would respond to a terrorist attack.**

**We've pulled together a factsheet with key details you need to know.**

### **Will Martyn's Law apply to all of the UK?**

The legislation will apply across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland to ensure consistency in keeping the public safe across all parts of the United Kingdom.

### **When will the new legislation come into force?**

The Government intends to have an implementation period of at least 24 months to allow those responsible for premises and events to understand their obligations, plan and prepare (although the Government has said that guidance will be published "in due course" to assist in understanding the requirements set out in the legislation).

### **Who will enforce the legislation?**

Once in place, the legislation will be enforced by a regulator established through a new function of the Security Industry Authority (SIA).

### **Who will Martyn's Law affect?**

The legislation will apply to organisations and individuals responsible for publicly accessible locations, including venues and events, that meet specific criteria (detailed below). This includes premises used for purposes like entertainment, leisure, retail, food and drink, sports, education, and places of worship.

### **What premises will be affected by Martyn's Law?**

The legislation will apply to premises:

1. of at least one building (or the premises are in a building);
2. wholly or mainly used for one or more of the uses specified at Schedule 1 of the Act (e.g a restaurant or a shop);
3. that would reasonably expect 200+ individuals to be present, at least occasionally; and
4. that are not excluded under Schedule 2 of the Act.

A premises which may reasonably expect 800+ individuals will be subject to enhanced duty premises requirements unless the Act says otherwise.

### **What events will be affected by Martyn's Law?**

For events, the legislation will apply where:

1. the event will take place at premises that fall within section 3(1)(a) of the Act, including land without buildings, but that are not enhanced duty premises;
2. the relevant premises are accessible to members of the public for the purpose of the event;
3. it is reasonable to expect that there will be 800+ individuals present for the event;
4. there will be measures to check entry conditions are met; and
5. the event is not excluded under Schedule 2 of the Act.

Events at places of worship, or childcare, primary, secondary or further education premises, where 200 or more individuals are expected, will not be considered “qualifying events” for the purpose of the enhanced duty.

### Who is responsible for ensuring compliance with Martyn’s Law?

In the context of premises, the person who has control of the premises in connection with its main Schedule 1 use will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the legislation. Similarly, for events, it will be the person who has control of the premises at which the event will be held.

Where the responsible person is not an individual, a senior individual with the responsibility of ensuring compliance must be appointed.

### What are the standard duty premises?

For premises where 200-799 individuals may be present at the same time, the responsible person will have to:

1. notify the SIA of their premises; and
2. so far as reasonably practicable, have in place appropriate public protection procedures.

The public protection procedures do not require physical measures to be put in place but rather a plan that should be followed by those working at the premises in the event of a terrorist attack.

They are intended to reduce the risk of physical harm and may include evacuation, invacuation and locking down premises. These procedures could be delivered through training, raising awareness and publishing sufficient information.

### What are the requirements for enhanced duty premises?

There are additional requirements for premises/events where more than 800 individuals may be present at the same time.

In addition to the measures set out above, enhanced duty premises/events will be required to have in place (so far as reasonably practicable) appropriate public protection measures to reduce the vulnerability of the premises/event and minimise the risk of physical harm caused to individuals should an attack occur at the premises/event or nearby.

These measures need to be documented, and a record (along with an assessment) submitted to the SIA.

This legislation will be relevant to a range of industries, including the leisure, entertainment and tourism industries, as well as some places of worship, health and education. Those operating in these industries should be aware that they may fall within the scope of the Act and if they do, what their responsibilities/obligations may be.

### How will my business or organisation be supported under Martyn’s Law?

The Government will be providing guidance in due course, and we will be updating our clients as and when we receive information to support throughout the implementation period. Sign up for our [enews](#) to be the first to receive updates.

**For further information, call or email Joanne or Gail on:**



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