

CORPS RELAY

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CORPS
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SECURITY

Surrender and Compensation Scheme Opens Ahead of Government's Knife Ban

The Home Office surrender and compensation scheme began on 26th August and runs until 23rd September. Those who possess a weapon which meets the criteria can surrender it at their nearest designated police station. Compensation will be considered by the Home Office, if the weapon(s) being surrendered meets the criteria.

Once the amendment to the Criminal Justice Act 1988, comes into force on 24th September this year, it will be deemed an offence to possess weapons which meet the specified criteria. The Government's move aims to reduce the accessibility of some of the deadliest types of knives in the country thus reducing knife crime on the streets.

The new legislation follows on from an extensive public consultation conducted in 2023 with proposed measures developed in partnership between the Home Office and the National Police Chiefs' Council's Knife Crime Working Group. The Working Group continues to engage with Government and retailers to develop additional measures designed to reduce the availability of knives, particularly those that are readily accessible online.

Events Security Risk Assessments Now – Businesses not waiting for Martyn's Law

Although the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill, also known as Martyn's Law, is yet to be passed, a number of businesses are taking steps to enhance their security and terrorism preparedness. Recent incidents such as the attack in Southport at the end of July, demonstrate that threat actors select vulnerable targets in quiet areas as well as larger events. Organisers of events have a responsibility to ensure that those attending are kept safe from foreseeable harm, and this is prompting many conscientious businesses to look at the security of their events in lieu of the legislation, rather than waiting until it's in place to mandate and enforce such actions. Whilst no-one can say they know what any potential legislation will mandate, having a level of preparedness and

threat awareness will undoubtedly be beneficial to any business.

Corps Consult are working with a range of organisations, across multiple sectors, to help provide assessments, training, and planning to protect sites and site users. Preparedness is key in all emergency situations and sites that identify their security risks/vulnerabilities, train staff to identify threats, plan and implement their security mitigation measures, and both train and test their response plans are not only less likely to be targeted, but also reduce the potential damage were they to be impacted by such an event.

Palestine Action Members Charged in relation to targeting Elbit

Counter Terrorism Police have raided the homes of additional members of Palestine Action in relation to their suspected involvement with a breach at an Elbit Systems research facility on 6th August. Police have arrested 10 individuals they believe to have participated in the raid on a factory in Bristol, however, the charges have not been issued under the Terrorism Act.

The latest campaign against Elbit has seen Palestine Action target sites across the UK, including their factories in Leicester, Oldham and Shenstone, as well as the company's London headquarters. Previous campaigns have targeted Elbit through companies associated with them, this included planned action against Jones Lang LaSalle Incorporated (JLL) operated buildings

because the real estate services company refused to comply with Palestine Actions demand to evict Elbit from their London offices.

The tactics employed by Palestine Action are designed to cause disruption to their operations as well as draw public attention to Elbit's role in supplying arms to Israel. These include protests, occupying factory rooftops, smashing windows, spraying red paint to symbolise bloodshed and shutting down equipment. The red paint campaigns are a particular trademark of Palestine Action.

Telegram Messenger App Founder Charged with Allowing Criminal Activities

In a potentially landmark case, French authorities have arrested Telegram founder Mr Pavel Durov, over allegations that he allowed criminal activity to be carried out on the messaging app. Telegram is a free encrypted messaging and social media app that allows individuals or groups to send encrypted messages across a range of devices without the need to attach it to a phone number. The app has been adopted by people with a range of interests, including a number of protest and activism groups, and it's believed to be used by both criminal and terrorist groups in some instances.

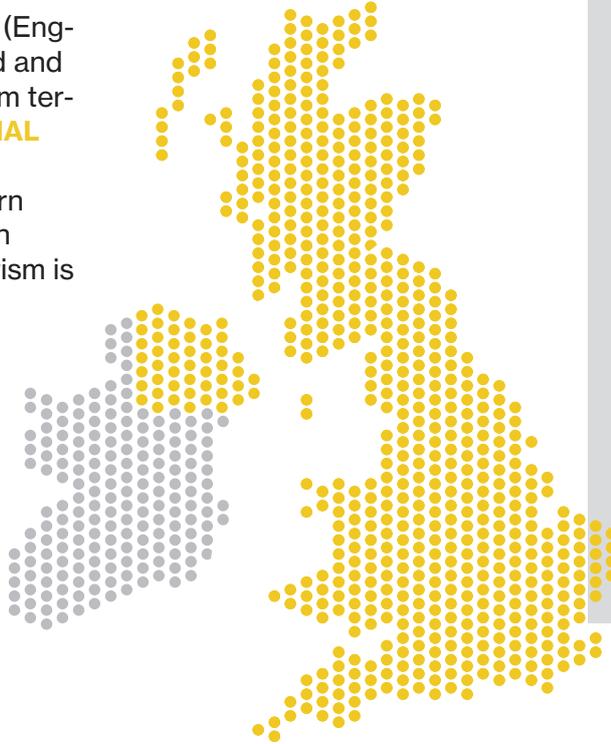
Durov faces preliminary charges that he allowed his app to be used for criminal activities. There

is an investigation underway in to a number of alleged offences, including child sexual abuse material being shared via the app, and of its use by organised crime gangs for drug trafficking and fraud. Telegram have described the allegations as 'absurd' with Russian officials stating the arrest was politically motivated.

Current National Threat Level

The threat to the UK (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) from terrorism is **SUBSTANTIAL**

The threat to Northern Ireland from Northern Ireland-related terrorism is **SUBSTANTIAL**



NOTE:

Threat levels are designed to give a broad indication of the likelihood of a terrorist attack

LOW means an attack is highly unlikely

MODERATE means an attack is possible, but not likely

SUBSTANTIAL means an attack is likely

SEVERE means an attack is highly likely

CRITICAL means an attack is highly likely in the near future

Palestine Action Co-Founder Charged under the Terrorism Act

Richard Barnard (41), co-founder of Palestine Action, has been charged with an offence under the Terrorism Act following a series of speeches he made in Manchester and Bradford. Barnard stands accused of “expressing an opinion that is supportive of a proscribed organisation, contrary to section 12 of the Terrorism Act 2000”. The proscribed group this relates to is Hamas which

Barnard’s speech is said to have expressed support for. He will appear before Westminster Magistrates’ Court on 18th September, where he also faces two charges of encouraging or intending to encourage criminal damage.

An Afghan Man Accused of Planning Acts of Terrorism in Belfast

Habib Shamel (27) appeared in a Belfast court accused of possessing articles for use in terrorism, namely a USB stick, and of having files on it containing information likely to be useful to terrorists. No application for bail was mounted by Mr Shamel during the brief hearing, as he was

already in custody for an unrelated but serious charge. He was remanded in custody at HMP Maghaberry, until 26th September.

Two Teenagers Charged with Right-Wing Terrorism

Rex Clark (18) and Sofija Vinogradova (19) were both charged with preparation of terrorist acts and will appear in Westminster Magistrates Court. Clark and Vinogradova were arrested after an investigation into suspected extreme right-wing activity. Vinogradova was first arrested on 4th August on suspicion of possession of a firearm and collection of information likely to be of use to a terrorist. Vinogradova was then released on

bail before being rearrested on 10th August and charged with a further two counts of collection of information likely to be useful to a person committing or preparing an act of terrorism. The Met's Counter Terrorism Command, Commander Dominic Murphy, has encouraged people not to speculate about the specific details of the case.

Bristol Man convicted of Sharing of Extreme Islamist Terrorist Publications

Faseh Sajid, a 21-year-old man from Bristol, has been convicted for shared videos on social media and group chat platforms glorifying extreme Islamist terrorism. Sajid was found guilty on five counts of dissemination of a terrorist publication contrary to Section 2 of the Terrorism Act 2006. Concurrently he was found not guilty on another count of the same offence.





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