

# Martyn's Law

Martyn's Law, also known as the Protect Duty, is proposed legislation in the United Kingdom aimed at enhancing national security and reducing the risk of terrorism, in tribute of Martyn Hett, who was killed alongside 21 others in the Manchester Arena terrorist attack in 2017. It seeks to improve the protection of public venues by requiring responsible parties to assess the threat of terrorism and implement appropriate mitigation measures.

## Why it is coming into law?

The law is being introduced due to the 15 domestic terror attacks in the UK since 2017, which have caused deaths and casualties among people going about their every day lives. The evolving and unpredictable nature of terrorist threats necessitates improving security measures and ensuring consistent preparedness.

## What does it mean for our hospitality guests?

Martyn's Law will have implications for hospitality guests as it applies to various public locations, including entertainment venues, food and drink establishments, and places of worship. These venues will be required to consider the threat of terrorism and implement proportionate security measures to enhance public safety.

#### What do you need to do as a team member?

As a team member, it is important to familiarise yourself with the requirements of Martyn's Law, participate in training and awareness-raising activities when they become available, and follow the security processes and procedures established by your organisation. This may include actions such as being prepared to respond quickly to evolving situations, guiding team members and guests to alternative exits, or administering lifesaving treatment while awaiting emergency services.

## What do you need to do as an owner/ operator?

As an owner or operator, you will have additional responsibilities under Martyn's Law. These include conducting a risk assessment and developing a security plan to a reasonably practicable standard. You will need to assess the balance between risk reduction and the resources required to achieve an appropriate level of security readiness. The Bill will impose a duty on the owners and operators of certain locations to increase their vigilance and protection from a terrorist attack by requiring them to take proportionate steps, depending on the size and nature of the activities that take place there. A tiered model will be used.

A standard tier will drive good readiness outcomes. Duty holders will have to undertake simple activities to improve protective security and preparedness. This will apply to locations that are reasonably expected to have 200-799 individuals on the premises at the same time.

**An enhanced tier** will see additional requirements placed on high-capacity locations in recognition of the potential catastrophic consequences of an attack. This will apply to locations with a capacity of 800 or more.



## How and when will it be enforced?

Martyn's Law will be enforced through an inspection capability, which will aim to educate, advise, and ensure compliance with the duty. Inspectors will have the authority to use a range of sanctions to address breaches effectively. The specific details of enforcement procedures will be clarified closer to the implementation of the law. The Bill was introduced to Parliament on 12 September 2024 and is currently undergoing Parliamentary scrutiny. There will be a period of time before the legislation is implemented following being made law. This is expected to be at least 2 years to allow time or planning and preparation for operators.



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

The legislation will apply across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, as national security is a reserved matter for the UK Government.

#### Action:

To prepare for Martyn's Law, we recommend to take advantage of the resources provided by the National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO), the Home Office, and Pool Reinsurance through the online platform called ProtectUK. This platform serves as a centralised hub for guidance, advice, learning resources, and engagement with security and counter-terrorism experts.

CPL Learning will contribute to raising awareness, continuously monitor and stay abreast of official guidance and regulations pertaining Martyn's Law. CPL Learning will remain informed about any updates, changes, or additional requirements that may be introduced. By doing so we can ensure that we consistently provide our clients with the most current, accurate and up to date information regarding Martyn's Law and its implications on protective security and will be regularly updated with new engaging content and increased functionality.

Further information weblink: <u>https://www.protectuk.police.uk/</u>