

Guidance Sheet

**MARTYN'S LAW (TERRORISM
(PROTECTION OF PREMISES) ACT 2025)**

GUIDE NO 2

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BPA Guide No. 2 - Martyn's Law (Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025)

What is Martyn's Law?

Martyn's Law is the informal name for the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025. The Act was introduced to improve the security of publicly accessible premises and events by ensuring that those responsible have considered the risk of a terrorist attack and have appropriate procedures in place to protect the public.

Although the Act has received Royal Assent, its duties are not yet in force. An implementation period is underway to allow organisations time to prepare before the legal requirements commence.

Who Does It Apply To?

The legislation adopts a proportionate, two-tier approach based on the number of people reasonably expected to be present.

Standard Tier

Premises expecting 200–799 people should have practical procedures for evacuation, invacuation, lockdown, and communication with staff, emergency services and the public.

Enhanced Tier

Premises and qualifying events expecting 800 or more people must implement reasonably practicable security measures to reduce vulnerability. These may include vehicle mitigation, security screening, CCTV, access controls, hostile vehicle protection, enhanced staff training and formal security planning.

What Does This Mean for Firework Displays?

Many professionally organised public firework displays attract audiences exceeding 200 people and may fall within the scope of the legislation. Larger displays (800+) are likely to be subject to enhanced requirements. Duties primarily fall on the responsible person for the venue or event.

Impact on Event Planning

Planning should consider terrorism-related risks alongside existing event hazards, including emergency response procedures, crowd management, communication arrangements, emergency service liaison, public information, staff training and exercising.



Relationship with Existing Firework Legislation

Martyn's Law complements rather than replaces existing legislation relating to fireworks, explosives, health and safety, ADR, environmental protection and licensing.

Contracts and Responsibilities

Organisers, venues and display companies should clearly define responsibilities for security planning, crowd management, emergency procedures, communications and security staffing.

Insurance Considerations

Insurers may increasingly expect organisers to demonstrate that appropriate security planning has been undertaken.

Preparing Now

Identify whether events fall within scope, review risk assessments, consider terrorism-related risks, develop emergency procedures, train staff, review contracts and monitor Government guidance.

Key Points

- The Act is now law but duties are not yet in force.
- Events expecting 200 or more people may fall within scope.
- Events expecting 800 or more people will have additional security duties.
- The legislation complements existing health and safety and explosives legislation.
- Early planning and preparation are recommended.

Further Information

For the latest Government guidance on Martyn's Law and protective security, visit the official UK Government website or contact the British Pyrotechnists Association for industry-specific guidance.