



Counter Terrorism Protective Security Advice

for Visitor Attractions



produced by

NaCTSO

National Counter Terrorism Security Office

systems operated by magnetic swipe or contact proximity cards supported by PIN verification. See Access Control Guidance on page 21.

Security passes

If a staff pass system is in place, insist that staff wear their passes at all times and that their issuing is strictly controlled and regularly reviewed. Visitors to private areas should be escorted and should wear clearly marked temporary passes, which must be returned on leaving. Anyone not displaying security passes in private areas should either be challenged or reported immediately to security or management. Consider introducing a pass system if you do not have one already.

Screening and Patrolling

The screening of hand baggage is a significant deterrent that may be a suitable protective security consideration for your visitor attraction.

Routine searching and patrolling of premises represents another level of vigilance; covering both internal and external areas. Keep patrols regular, though not too predictable (i.e. every hour on the hour). See Search Planning on page 29.

Traffic and parking controls

If you believe you might be at risk from a vehicle bomb, the basic principle is to keep all vehicles at a safe distance. Those requiring essential access should be identified in advance and checked before being allowed through. If possible, you should ensure that you have proper access control, careful landscaping, traffic-calming measures and robust, well-lit barriers or bollards. Ideally, keep non-essential vehicles at least 30 metres from your building.

For site specific advice and guidance you should contact your local police CTSA.

See also Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Devices on page 41.

Doors and windows

Good quality doors and windows are essential to ensure building security. External doors should be strong, well-lit and fitted with good quality locks. Doors that are not often used should be internally secured ensuring compliance with relevant fire safety regulations and their security monitored with an alarm system. This is particularly important to those attractions that have an external search / screening operation in order to prevent unauthorised entry and bypassing any search regime.

As a minimum accessible windows should be secured with good quality key operated locks. The police may provide further advice on improving the security of glazed doors and accessible windows.

Many casualties in urban terrorist attacks are caused by flying glass, especially in modern buildings and glazing protection is an important casualty reduction measure.

Extensive research has been carried out on the effects of blast on glass. There are technologies that minimise shattering and casualties, as well as the costs of re-occupation.

Anti-shatter film, which holds fragmented pieces of glass together, offers a relatively cheap and rapid improvement to existing glazing. If you are installing new windows, consider laminated glass, but before undertaking any improvements seek specialist advice through your police CTSA or visit www.cpni.gov.uk for further details.