ProtectUK

Threat and Response Levels

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Threat Levels

Terrorism threat levels are designed to provide a broad indication of the likelihood of a terrorist attack. There are five UK national threat levels.

Threat Level		Response Level	
Low	An attack is highly unlikely	NORMAL	Routine protective security measures appropriate to the event
MODERATE	An attack is possible but not likely		
SUBSTANTIAL	An attack is likely	HEIGHTENED	Additional and sustainable protective security measures reflecting the broad nature of the threat with specific vulnerabilities
SEVERE	An attack is highly likely		
CRITICAL	An attack is highly likely in the near future	EXCEPTIONAL	Maximum protective security measures to meet specific threats to minimise vulnerability

Response Levels

Response levels, which tend to apply to sites, should provide a general indication of the protective security measures that need to be applied at a given time, depending on the current UK national threat level and any specific assessments of vulnerability and risk.

There are a variety of site-specific security measures that can be applied within each response level. These measures should not be made public, to avoid informing terrorists about what actions are being taken and to disrupt any potential reconnaissance they may wish to conduct.

The CT Menu of Tactical Options is a list of protective security measures that you may wish to consider implementing in the event of an increase to Critical and is available on ProtectUK.

Implementing as many protective security measures in this information as possible will also help you to ensure you are prepared and protected in the event of an incident.

Find out more about the CT Menu of Tactical Options.

Find out more about Threat Levels.