

ACT for Local Authorities Glossary

TERM (ACRONYM)	DESCRIPTION
<i>ACT Awareness e-Learning</i>	An award-winning free guidance product developed by NaCTSO, to help people better understand and mitigate against current terrorist methodologies. It is publicly available to all organisations, their staff, and members of the public via the ProtectUK platform.
<i>Action Counters Terrorism (ACT)</i>	A national awareness campaign by Counter Terrorism Policing (CTP), which aims to raise awareness of the threat of terrorism and encouraging communities to help tackle terrorism and save lives. It does so by outlining how to report suspicious activity and actions to follow if caught up in a terrorist attack. ACT is a brand owned by CTP Communications.
<i>Anti-Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order (ATTRO)</i>	ATTROs are a legislative tool that enables police, working with local authorities, to reduce vulnerability to, or mitigate the potential impact of, attacks on or near roads. An ATTRO could take the form of a temporary road closure.
<i>Anti-Terrorism Crime and Security Act 2001 (ATCSA)</i>	An Act to amend the Terrorism Act 2000, which makes further provisions to the original Act.
<i>Architectural Liaison Officer (ALO)</i>	See DOCO
<i>Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO)</i>	****Legacy Term – For Info Only**** The ACPO was replaced by the National Police Chiefs Council (see NPCC) in 2015. Before its dissolution, the ACPO provided a forum for chief police officers to share ideas and advised the government on matters like terrorist attacks and civil emergencies.
<i>Attack Methodology</i>	The different methods of attack used by terrorists. These can range in complexity and may include a marauding attack (sometimes termed MTA), using a vehicle as a weapon (VAW), use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), fire as a weapon, Chemical, Biological, Radiological or Nuclear (CBRN) or other attack types such as cyber. It may also include a combination of methodologies.

<i>Attorney General's Office (AGO)</i>	The Attorney General's Office is a ministerial department which provides legal advice and support to the Law Officers who give legal advice to government and perform other duties in the public interest.
<i>Behavior Detection Officer (BDO)</i>	BDOs are officers specially trained in behavioral detection. The term 'behavioral detection' refers to a method of detecting individuals with hostile intentions by observing their behaviors and activities. This is widely used in Project SERVATOR.
<i>British Standards Institute (BSI)</i>	The BSI produces technical standards on products and services.
<i>NaCTSO Business Engagement Unit (BEU)</i>	A team within NaCTSO that engages with those who are responsible for Venues and Public Spaces (VaPS) sector businesses, organisations, and trade bodies or associations at a national level. Aimed at raising awareness of the importance of considering CT protective security and preparedness threats and risks in their safety and security capabilities. The unit prioritises those within sectors who have the most reach and influence to amplify key NaCTSO advice, guidance, and products. The unit listens to what works and what does not so that content owners can reflect user needs. The unit delivers a range of awareness raising methods, including briefings, webinars, trade shows and workshops. The unit targets decision makers and influencers with the aim of getting buy-in and encouraging a trickle-down effect from influential, national figures. Sectors are prioritised based on their scale and size, and not all parts of sectors receive direct engagement. The unit does not provide individual organisations with briefings.
<i>Counter Terrorism Business Information Exchange (CTBIE)</i>	Led by the Business Engagement Unit (see BEU), the CTBIE is a cross-sector information exchange which involves leaders from private industry, NaCTSO, NPSA and the Home Office to discuss security and counter terrorism measures. The aim is to reduce the impact from terrorism by using the group to raise awareness in a one-to-many approach, to consider industry lessons and to help shape advice and guidance.
<i>Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI)</i>	****Legacy Term – For Info Only**** See NPSA
<i>Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN)</i>	CBRN is often used to describe the risk posed by the terrorist use (or threatened use) of Chemical, Biological, Radiological or Nuclear material as a weapon, with the intention to cause harm. Sometimes referred to as CBRN(e), with the 'e' referring to explosives.

<i>Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (CCA)</i>	The Civil Contingencies Act (2004) delivers a single framework for civil protection in the UK. The Act is separated into 2 substantive parts: local arrangements for civil protection (Part 1); and emergency powers (Part 2). The Act defines two categories of responders, each with Different duties. Category 1 responders are the main organisations involved in most emergencies at the local level: for example, blue light services. Category 2 responders are likely to be heavily involved in some emergencies: for example, utilities and transport companies. The duties placed on Category 2 responders relate primarily to cooperating and sharing information with other responders.
<i>Combined Authority</i>	A legal body set up using national legislation that enables a group of two or more councils to collaborate and take /collective decisions across council boundaries. It is far more robust than an informal partnership or even a joint committee.
<i>Community Safety Partnership (CSP)</i>	CSPs Bring together local partners from emergency services, local authorities, health partners and the probations service to formulate and implement strategies to tackle crime, disorder, and anti-social behavior in communities. Introduced as part of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
<i>Competent Person In the Workplace (CPIW)</i>	The Competent Person In the Workplace (CPIW) is the working title for an Ofqual level 3 qualification. This qualification aims to offer business a training course to upskill people to understand protective security, risk assessment and preparedness. The CPIW is one of two parts of the Competent Person Scheme (CPS), the other being the Counter Terrorism Security Specialist Register (CTSSR). Having a CPIW qualification does not lead directly to entry onto the CTSSR
<i>Competent Person Scheme (CPS)</i>	A scheme made up of two parts, the Competent Person in the Workplace (CPIW) and the Counter Terrorism Security Specialist Register (CTSSR). This scheme is designed for people responsible for security within their organisation.
<i>CONTEST</i>	The United Kingdom's counter terrorism strategy (Protect, Prepare, Prevent, Pursue). The aim of CONTEST is to reduce the risk from terrorism to the UK, its citizens, and interests overseas, so people can live freely and with confidence. The most recent CONTEST strategy was published in 2023.
<i>Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH)</i>	Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) Regulations and Health and Safety regulations, which ensure businesses take all necessary measures to prevent major accidents involving dangerous substances and limit the consequences to people and the environment if they do.
<i>Counter State Threats (CST)</i>	A capability referring to actions aimed at countering State Threats (see state threats). CST seek to strengthen the UK's ability to deter, detect, and disrupt state actors who target the UK and protect UK interests and the public.

Counter Terrorism Awareness Advisor (CTAA)	Counter Terrorism Awareness Advisors (CTAAs) provide briefings and advice under the ACT Suite/ACT and SCan banners to partners, Local Authorities, and organisations.
Counter Terrorism Command (CTC)	The Counter Terrorism Command (CTC) – also known as ‘SO15’ – is currently based within the Metropolitan Police Service and is responsible for leading Counter Terrorism-related investigations in the whole London area. It is one of the 11 regional CTUs but also hosts a number of national and international functions on behalf of CTP.
Counter Terrorism Local Profiles (CTLP)	A CTLP is a report that outlines the threat and vulnerability from terrorism-related activity within a specific area (e.g., police Basic Command Unit (BCU) / Local Policing Unit (LPU), local authority area or force). The CTLP is a multi-agency informed assessment which illustrates the risks and vulnerabilities from terrorism within a defined geographical area. It is used to brief agencies on local terrorism-related issues and to inform local Prevent action plans, as it is primarily a Prevent document, but sometimes includes some Protect and Prepare information.
Counter Terrorism Police/Policing (CTP)	Counter Terrorism Policing is the collaboration of UK police forces working with the UK intelligence community to help protect the public and our national security by preventing, deterring, and investigating terrorist activity. This includes the network of Counter Terrorism Units and the Counter Terrorism Policing Headquarters
Counter Terrorism Policing Headquarters (CTPHQ)	The Counter Terrorism Policing HQ supports CTP by providing coordination, funding and the development and delivery of projects and policy which directly supports the national CT policing network, and key partners including MI5.
Counter Terrorism Policing (CTP) Network	The Counter Terrorism Policing (CTP) Network stretches across the UK and works alongside partners such as the UK intelligence community. Around the UK there are eleven regional counter terrorism units (CTUs). These units collaborate and have officers and staff working in a range of specialist fields. At the center of the network sits CTPHQ.
Counter Terrorism Prepare Officer (CTPO)	The purpose of a CT Prepare Officer is to coordinate regional CT Prepare activity, including the development, maintenance, and assurance of National and local CT Contingency Plans. They ensure a nationally consistent but regionally specific collaborative approach between National CT Capabilities and regional JESIP Partners, other CCA Cat 1 Responders, and other agencies.

Counter Terrorism Protect Officer (CTPO) Metropolitan Police Only	Metropolitan Police Service-specific. CTPOs engage with local communities and businesses to provide counter terrorism advice and guidance in conjunction with CTSA's (Counter Terrorism Security Advisers) and CT Ops. CTPO's deliver ACT (Action Counters Terrorism) awareness sessions and SCaN (See, Check and Notify) training to local businesses.
Counter Terrorism Security Advisor (CTSA)	The primary role of Counter Terrorism Security Advisors (CTSAs) is to provide help, advice, and guidance on all aspects of counter terrorism protective security to specified industry sectors. In addition, CTSAs are responsible for the provision of protective security advice to venues and public spaces (areas where there may be large crowds who could be vulnerable to terrorist attacks) for example shopping centers, sporting stadiums, pubs and bars or transport hubs etc. CTSAs also work with local authorities and businesses, organisations and professional bodies to identify and assess sites that may be vulnerable to terrorist attack. They advise them about counter terrorism, protective security, and the guidance available that should be incorporated into their security plans, advice and guidance.
Counter Terrorism Security Coordinators (CT SecCo)	College of Policing: A CT SecCo is responsible for the development of a security plan with a view to minimising, managing and mitigating risk in respect of a policed event or operation in support of a gold commander's strategy.
Counter Terrorism Security Specialist Register (CTSSR)	The Counter Terrorism Security Specialist Register (CTSSR) will be a register of verified CT consultants who follow authoritative advice and who can offer specialist services to the business sector. The CTSSR is one part of the Competent Person Scheme (CPS), the other being the Competent Person In the Workplace (CPIW) qualification. Having a CPIW qualification does not directly lead to entry onto the CTSSR.
County Council (CC)	Local Authority body that provides services that cover a whole county, such as education.
Crime and Disorder Act 1998	Imposes a duty of key public sector organisations to work together to make places safer. The Act brings together relevant agencies at a local level including the police, local authority, youth offending teams and health services into Community Safety Partnerships (CSP), with the aim of improving multi-agency working to reduce crime.
Criminal Justice & Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010 (CJAS)	This Act of the Scottish Parliament relates to the licensing of certain activities by local authorities and amends the law relating to the sale of alcohol, and for connected purposes.

Critical National Infrastructure	Critical National Infrastructure are those facilities, systems, sites, information, people, networks, and processes necessary for a country to function and upon which daily life depends. It also includes some functions which need protection due to the potential danger to the public.
Data Protection Act (DPA)	The Data Protection Act 2018 controls how personal information is used by organisations, businesses, or the government.
Department for Leveling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)	****Legacy Term – For Info Only**** The Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC) was renamed the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in July 2024.
Design Out Crime Officer (DOCO)	Officers who provide specialist advice and guidance regarding the built environment at every stage of architectural design from pre-planning to the full development control process (to minimise crime, fear of crime, disorder, and anti-social behavior). In Scotland, these are referred to as ALOs (see ALO).
Disruptive Effects Officer (DEO)	An officer specially trained in disruptive effects, which are designed to interrupt the terrorist attack planning process. DEOs are trained to spot individuals who may be planning or preparing to commit crime. DEOs are often deployed as part of Project Servator.
District Council	Also called borough or city councils. They are local government bodies which are smaller than county councils and have a range of statutory and non-statutory responsibilities and services.
Event Safety Advisory Group (ESAG)	See SAG. In some areas, the term ESAG is used to differentiate the type of SAG meeting. The distinction is sometimes drawn between Sports or licensing SAGS and Event SAGS, though some areas do not differentiate.
Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD)	EOD is the technical response provided by Explosives Officer (EXPO) to render safe munitions, improvised explosive devices, and precursor component parts containing, explosive, chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear materials, both pre- and post-initiation.
Explosives Officer (EXPO)	Explosives Officer (EXPO) is an officer suitably trained to provide a technical response and render safe capability for EOD (see EOD).
Explosives Precursor and Poisons (EPP)	Chemicals that can be used in the illicit manufacture of explosives (see HME) or to cause harm.

Extreme Right-Wing Terrorism (ERWT)	Extreme Right-Wing Terrorism (ERWT) describes those involved in Extreme Right-Wing activity who use violence in furtherance of their ideology. These ideologies can be broadly characterised as Cultural Nationalism, White Nationalism and White Supremacism.
Form of Words (FoW)	A form of words is a short official communication that can be quoted or broken out to partners. A FoW may be created from a larger source document that has a higher security classification or may be issued by a senior officer. The FoW should usually have specific handling instructions to say what level it can be used at and with which audience.
Freedom Of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)	This Act makes provision for the disclosure of information held by public authorities or by persons providing services on their behalf.
Government Protective Marking Scheme (GPMS)	****Legacy Term – For Info Only**** The GPMS has now been superseded by the GSC. However, documents classified under the GPMS still exist and need correct handling. The former categories of the GPMS were TOP SECRET, SECRET, and CONFIDENTIAL. RESTRICTED, PROTECT, UNCLASSIFIED)
Government Security Classification (GSC)	An administrative system that classifies information using three classification tiers (OFFICIAL, SECRET and TOP SECRET). These each provide a set of protective security controls, which are proportionate to the potential impact of the information being compromised.
Grey Space	****Legacy Term – For Info Only**** An area which would not usually have a specific, designated security overlay or management, but is accessed by the public (continuously or sporadically) due to neighboring activity. For example, an area where the public gathers or passes through. It also may not have an easily identifiable overarching owner/operator (as a result of mixed ownership or otherwise). It may be between 2+ Venues and Public Spaces with multiple owners/operators, where risk ownership may be ambiguous (morally and/or legally). Grey Space is no longer a favoured term due to the implication that there is no clear ownership of public space. Grey Space is acceptable to be used in the context of encouraging ownership and collaborative working in shared spaces, albeit with recognition that it does not mean that nobody has responsibility for a given space.

<i>Hazardous Sites and Substances (HSS)</i>	Hazardous Sites and Substances. Refers to engagement with specific sites who are in scope of the Environmental Permitting Regulations (through their possession of high activity sealed sources), the Anti-Terrorism Crime and Security Act 2007 (through their production or storage of schedule 5 Pathogens and Toxins), or COMAH regulations.
<i>Hazardous Sites and Substances (HSS) Unit</i>	A NaCTSO unit. The HSS Unit is responsible for delivering protective security advice regarding sites holding Radioactive Sources, Pathogens, Toxins and Chemical Weapons and to members of the public wishing to hold/acquire Explosive Precursors and Poisons.
<i>Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC)</i>	****Legacy Term – For Info Only**** Replaced by HMICFRS
<i>His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS)</i>	HMICFRS independently assesses the effectiveness and efficiency of police forces and fire and rescue services – in the public interest. For Police forces this includes England, Wales and Northern Ireland but excludes Scotland.
<i>His Majesty's Revenue & Customs (HMRC)</i>	HMRC is the UK's tax, payments, and customs authority. It collects money that pays for the UK's public services.
<i>His Majesty's Government (HMG)</i>	The group of MPs and Members of the House of Lords that hold government posts, either within the Cabinet or Government departments.
<i>Home Affairs Select Committee (HASC)</i>	A cross-party committee of 11 MPs responsible for scrutinising the work, including the expenditure, administration, and policy, of the Home Office and its associated bodies. It examines government policy, spending, and the law in areas including immigration, security, and policing.
<i>Home Made Explosive (HME)</i>	Explosive material produced illegally, in a makeshift manner, using readily available chemicals. These chemicals are called explosive precursors (see EPP).
<i>Homeland Security Group (HSG)</i>	A department of the Home Office, Homeland Security Group's (HSG) role is to reduce homeland security risks to the UK's people, prosperity, and freedoms. This includes risks from terrorism, state threats, economic crime, and cyber-crime. Formerly known as the Office for Security and Counter Terrorism (OSCT).
<i>Hostile Reconnaissance</i>	Purposeful observation with the intention of collecting information to inform the planning of a hostile act against a specific target.

<i>Hostile Vehicle Mitigation (HVM)</i>	Hostile Vehicle Mitigation (HVM) is a protective security discipline focusing on reducing risks associated with vehicle borne threats posed by terrorists and criminals.
<i>Improvised Explosive Device (IED)</i>	An IED, sometimes referred to as a 'homemade' bomb, is an explosive device constructed from military or nonmilitary components. Although IEDs may be 'homemade,' they can still be as powerful as commercial or military devices, sophisticated in their design and very effective.
<i>Invacuation</i>	A method of moving people to a safe area within a building. This is a tactical option best used when the threat is outside of the building. When preparing invacuation procedures, an individual should identify safe locations within a building, and which threats they will protect people from. Safe routes and the capacity of the safe haven should also be considered.
<i>Irish Related Terrorism (IRT)</i>	****Legacy Term – For Info Only**** see Northern Ireland Related Terrorism
<i>JASPAR Principles</i>	JASPAR stands for Justifiable, Achievable, Sustainable, Practical, Affordable and Reasonable. On occasion 'e' is added to the end for 'effectiveness' making JASPARe.
<i>Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles (JESIP)</i>	JESIP sets out a standard approach to multi-agency working for UK responder organisations when responding to incidents and emergencies. The JESIP models and principles have become the standard for interoperability in the UK.
<i>Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre (JTAC)</i>	JTAC, which is based within MI5, is the UK's independent authority for all-source terrorism assessment. JTAC sets the threat level to the UK from all forms of terrorism, though assesses the threat from Northern Ireland-related terrorism separately. JTAC issues warnings of threats and other terrorism-related subjects to government departments and law enforcement.
<i>JTAC Official Sensitive Product (JOSP)</i>	A document produced by JTAC to communicate the threat to the UK from terrorism at an official sensitive level. This process removes sensitive information and allows for wider dissemination.

Lead Government Department (LGD)	The UK uses a 'Lead Government Department' (LGD) model to cover all phases of emergency planning, response, recovery, and risk assessment. Designated LGDs are responsible for leading work to identify serious risks and ensuring that the right planning, response, and recovery arrangements are in place. However, when responding to an emergency of sufficient scale or complexity, where a degree of Central Government co-ordination or support becomes necessary, a designated Lead Government Department (LGD), or where appropriate, a Devolved Administration department, will be made responsible for the overall management of the Central Government response to the incident. The Cabinet Office is responsible for designating LGD status. Usually, the LGD is the department with primary policy responsibility for the risk.
NaCTSO Lead Government Department (LGD) Unit	A NaCTSO Unit that provides support, advice and guidance across Government Departments to increase their CT Protect and Prepare capability and resilience within all their process, policy and procedures that impact on Venues and Public Spaces and the general public.
Left, Anarchist and Single-Issue Terrorism (LASIT)	Left-Wing, Anarchist and Single-Issue Terrorism (LASIT) encompasses a wide range of ideologies. It includes those from the political left-wing as well as anarchists who seek to use violence to advance their cause in opposition to the capitalist system. It also includes those with single-issue grievances who seek to use violence in opposition to a specific policy or practice.
Licensing Safety Advisory Group (LSAG)	See SAG
Local Approach	A NaCTSO led initiative to develop a nationally consistent approach for regional Protect and Prepare teams to engage with local authorities, organisations and communities to improve protective security and preparedness consideration at a local level and reduce the risk and impact of terrorist attacks at venues and public spaces. The Local Approach is one of the core building blocks of the VaPS strategy, along with the National Approach. Externally, this work will typically be referred to under the 'ACT for Local Authorities' banner.
Local Authorities (LA)	Local Authorities are local government bodies responsible for providing a range of services for people and businesses in a defined area. Local authorities may be two tier, consisting of county councils and district, borough, or city councils. Or one tier such as unitary councils in the London and metropolitan boroughs.
Local Government Association (LGA)	The LGA is the national membership body for local authorities and works on behalf of its member councils to support, promote and improve local government. LGA is a political organisation with elected representatives from political parties.

<i>Lockdown</i>	A method of locking doors or other barriers to prevent access to part or all of a site or building. The aim of a Lockdown is to reduce the immediate threat of harm by delaying attackers and preventing people inadvertently putting themselves in the path of danger.
<i>National Stakeholder Menu of Tactical Options (MoTO)</i>	The National Stakeholder Menu of Tactical Options (MoTO) is a list of tactical, security measures available for use by the private sector and industries to enhance their security postures at times of raised threat or in response to terrorist incidents. The options can be implemented independently by an organisation or deployed at the request of the police.
<i>Military Aid to Civil Authorities (MACA)</i>	This is support of the armed forces to civil authorities in the UK. This may be for a wide range of tasks including providing niche capabilities such as EOD, supporting the civil authorities in responding to emergencies when their capacity or capabilities are overwhelmed, or in preparation for major national events.
<i>Ministry of Housing Community & Local Government (MHCLG)</i>	The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government is a ministerial department of the Government of the United Kingdom. It is responsible for housing, communities, and local government in England.
<i>National Barrier Asset (NBA)</i>	A substantial collection of temporary vehicle security barriers and protective security fencing that can be deployed to provide hostile vehicle mitigation (HVM) schemes. The NBA is owned by CTP, and its deployment under Operation Rosette is managed by the NaCTSO National Vehicle Threat Mitigation Unit (NVTMU).
<i>National Border Targeting Centre (NBTC)</i>	The NBTC is a division within Border Force. It checks passenger data or people entering and leaving the UK against the Home Office Warning Index. This allows the creation of security alerts where required with are flagged to Border Force.
<i>National CBRN center (NCBRNC)</i>	NCBRNC is part of UK CT policing, under the National Coordinator for Protect and Prepare, and runs a variety of training and exercising to continually develop guidance around operational response for military and civil CBRN responders.
<i>National Community Tension Team (NCTT)</i>	The NCTT monitors national tensions and can provide information to police forces.

National Coordinator Protect and Prepare (NCP)	The National Coordinator Protect and Prepare works on behalf of CTPHQ to provide national strategic oversight of police Protect and Prepare activity in support of the UK Counter Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST)
National Counter Terrorism Policing Headquarters (NCTPHQ)	****Legacy Term – For Info Only**** see Counter Terrorism Policing Headquarters (CTPHQ)
National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO)	The National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) is a Counter Terrorism Police hosted unit that supports the delivery of protective security and preparedness within the UK.
National Crime Agency (NCA)	A national law enforcement agency, covering England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland that works in conjunction with other law enforcement and the UK intelligence community to protect the public for serious and organised crime.
National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC)	The NCSC acts as a bridge between industry and government, providing a unified source of advice, guidance, and support on cyber security, including the management of cyber security incidents. NCSC is part of GCHQ (see UKIC).
National Disruptive Effects Unit (NDEU)	The NaCTSO unit which leads on disruptive effects (including hostile behavior detection, deterrence, and security minded communications) for all police forces in the UK who have adopted the tactic and sets the national standards for other government departments who use similar tactics. They are also responsible for the operationalisation of these tactics for businesses, utilising the SCan package which is delivered by CTSA's.
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. Any local planning policies must align with the NPPF.
National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC)	The National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) brings UK police leaders together to set direction in policing. It focuses on operational delivery and developing national approaches to policing issues. There are designated NPCC leads for many different areas of policing.
National Protective Security Authority (NPSA)	The UK Government's National Technical Authority for Physical and Personnel Protective Security.
National Technical Authority (NTA)	There are three NTA's in the UK: NPSA, the National Cyber Security Centre, and the UK National Authority for Counter Eavesdropping (UKNACE).

<i>Night Time Economy (NTE)</i>	Refers to a range of economic activities that take place in towns and city centers during the evening and night-time, usually between 6pm to 6am. These activities include retail, entertainment and leisure, sports, nightlife, festivals, transportation, and tourism. The NTE can contribute significantly to local economies and job creation.
<i>Northern Ireland-Related Terrorism (NIRT)</i>	Northern Ireland Related Terrorism (NIRT) refers to acts of terrorism connected to the political and sectarian conflict in Northern Ireland. The threat level from NIRT within Northern Ireland is distinguished from other forms of terrorism by the Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre (JTAC).
<i>Organisational Preparedness</i>	Process of organisations preparing to deal with known risks and unforeseen events or situations, enabling the effective and efficient prevention, reduction, control, and mitigation of, and organisational response to emergencies.
<i>Operator</i>	Individuals, businesses/organisations, or the State with responsibility for the operation of and business undertaken at a Venue or Public Space.
<i>Owner</i>	Individuals, businesses/organisations, or the State with the proprietary right of a Venue or Public Space.
<i>Pathogens and Toxins (P&T)</i>	Pathogens (specified disease-causing micro-organisms) and Toxins that are controlled under Schedule 5, Part 7 of the Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 Order 2007. Premises are obliged to notify the appropriate authorities if they intend to hold, keep or use stock of P&T.
<i>Person Borne Improvised Explosive Device (PBIED)</i>	An IED that is carried on a person and may be concealed by the person in order to deliver it to their target. Sometimes referred to as a suicide bomber.
<i>Police Crime Prevention Academy (PCPA)</i>	The Police Crime Prevention Academy is an initiative of the Police Crime Preventions Initiatives (PCPI) organisation. The PCPA is a crime prevention learning and development supplier, providing qualifications and courses for the public and private sectors as well as delivering events and webinars.
<i>Police Crime Prevention Initiatives (PCPI)</i>	A police-owned organisation that works to deliver a wide range of innovative and ground-breaking crime prevention and demand reduction initiatives to support the wider UK Police Service, Government, and the general public.

<i>Prepare</i>	One of the four themes of the UK Counter- terrorism strategy (CONTEST). The aim of Prepare is to minimise the impact of an attack and reduce the likelihood of further attacks.
<i>Protect</i>	One of the four themes of the UK Counter- terrorism strategy (CONTEST). The aim of Protect is to strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack.
<i>Protect & Prepare (P&P) Lead</i>	A CT regional lead for Protect and Prepare. The P&P Lead's role is to act as the regional coordinator for all work falling within the scope of the Protect and Prepare strands of the governments CONTEST Strategy.
<i>Protect and Prepare Group (PaPG)</i>	A Local Authority chaired group with members from within the Local Authority, and partners, such as the emergency services and BIDs. The purpose of this group is to achieve, a joined-up approach to protective security and preparedness
<i>Protective Security</i>	Protective security is a broad term that includes a range of measures to safeguard people, assets, and information from malign threats. Common examples of Protective Security measures include physical security, such as access control, hostile vehicle mitigation, search and screening and CCTV; personnel security measures like vetting; and ACT and SCan security awareness training.
<i>Protective Security Improvement Activity (PSIA)</i>	****Legacy Term – For Info Only**** see Systematic Assessment of Site Security
<i>ProtectUK (PUK)</i>	ProtectUK is a digital platform (ProtectUK Home) that provides guidance and support to businesses and the wider public on mitigating the threat from terrorism.
<i>Public</i>	Any person who may access a venue or public space, especially people who are not members of a particular organisation and/or who do not have any special type of knowledge or training regarding the location they are accessing.
<i>Public Authority Information Exchange (PAIE)</i>	An NPSA initiative for information sharing amongst public authorities.
<i>Public Event Group (PEG)</i>	See SAG

Public Event Safety Advisory Group (PESAG)	See SAG
Publicly Accessible Locations (PALs)	****Legacy Term – For Info Only**** PALS was the protective security delivery strategy between 2020-2024. Under PALS activity was divided into Sites, Zones, Sectors, and Groups. During this period pilots and research activity was undertaken to develop an evidence base for the new approach which was eventually launched in 2024 as the Venues and Public Spaces Strategy. PALS prompted large scale restructuring of NaCTSO but operationally the Crowded Places Model continued to be delivered until 2024. See VaPS.
Register of Security Engineers and Specialists (RSES)	An NPSA sponsored register of security engineers and specialists who have met professional competence standards as determined by the Institute of Civil Engineers. Organisations of the register can be engaged to provide costed protective security advice or to develop or comment on advice received from others.
Request For Information (RFI)	A request to see information held by public authorities. The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act (FOISA) gives people the right to see information held.
Resilience Direct (RD)	ResilienceDirect (RD) is the UK's secure web-based platform (accredited to Official), made available for the Resilience Community. ResilienceDirect enables the real time sharing of information across the blue light emergency responders, public and private sector organisations. RD supports the working of the local resilience community alongside National Government departments and agencies. RD works with the Devolved Administrations, for emergency planning, response, and recovery.
Right Wing Terrorism (RWT)	****Legacy Term – For Info Only**** Has been replaced with ERWT
Safety Advisory Group (SAG)	Provide a forum for discussing and advising on public safety at an event. Usually organised by local authorities. They aim to help organisers with the planning and management of an event and to encourage cooperation and coordination between all relevant agencies. They are non-statutory bodies and so do not have legal powers or responsibilities and are not empowered to approve or prohibit events from taking place.
Safety Advisory Group for Events (SAGE)	See SAG

Sectors	In the context of CT Protect & Prepare, sectors refer to businesses and organisations operating within a specific sphere of activity that can be engaged to help improve the protection and organisational preparedness at Venues and Public Spaces, for example events, retail, and hospitality. Businesses/organisations may be part of more than one sector. Not all sectors will directly be responsible for Venues and Public Spaces (for example insurers or vehicle rental).
Security Industry Authority (SIA)	The SIA is the regulator of the UK's private security industry, reporting to the Home Office. It was established under the Private Security Industry Act 2001 to contribute to public protection by setting and improving standards in the regulated private security industry.
See, Check and Notify (SCaN)	SCaN is a training programme developed by NPSA. It aims to help businesses and organisations maximise safety and security by training staff to correctly identify suspicious activity and know what to do when they encounter it.
Self-Initiated Terrorist (SIT)	A Self-Initiated Terrorist is defined as 'Person(s) who threaten or mobilise to violence (as defined in Section 1 of the Terrorism Act 2000) without material support or personal direction from a terrorist organisation; but who may still be influenced or encouraged by the rhetoric or ideology of a group'. Self-Initiated Terrorists have previously been referred to as 'lone actors'.
Senior Investigating Officer (SIO)	The Senior Investigator leads as the Senior Investigative Officer (SIO) on specified crime investigations. They are accountable to chief officers for the conduct of the investigation. They manage the investigative response, and all resources associated with the investigation. They develop and implement strategies, procedures and systems that underpin the investigation and ensure the management and assessment of threat, risk, and harm.
Senior Leadership Team (SLT)	The college of policing set leadership standards from Stage 1 to Stage 5. Senior Leadership sits at Stage 4 between mid-level leaders (Stage 3) and executive leaders (Stage 5). In policing senior leadership is considered in the ranks of Chief Inspector to Chief Superintendent and the equivalent staff ranks.
Senior National Coordinator for Protect & Prepare (SNCPP)	The National Coordinator Protect and Prepare works on behalf of NCTPHQ to provide national strategic oversight of police Protect and Prepare activity in support of the UK Counter Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST).
Sensitive Information in Licensing Applications (SILA)	Sensitive Information in Licensing Applications (SILA) forms part of the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 s (referred to as 'Martyn's Law') that introduces a means by which licensing information, deemed sensitive, will be exempt from publication to any publicly accessible platform.

<i>Sensitive Information in Planning (SIPA)</i>	Protocol where a request can be made to the local planning authority for sensitive information contained within a planning application to be held separately from the main body of the application and to not routinely appear on the public register. The information can be accessed by special request only.
<i>Site</i>	Individual Venues or Public Spaces, usually with a defined boundary/ownership. Sites may be permanent or temporary.
<i>Specialist Operations 15 (SO15)</i>	See CTC. SO15 is the directorate number of the Counter Terrorism Command (CTC) of the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS). It sits within the national network for Counter Terrorism Policing (CTP) and has responsibility for CT policing within the MPS force area, though it also performs some national functions.
<i>Sports Ground Safety Authority (SGSA)</i>	SGSA is the UK Government's advisor on safety at sports grounds. Its purpose is to ensure that sports grounds are safe for everyone. It produces the Green Guide, a guide to safety at sports grounds.
<i>Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)</i>	SOPs are a set of instructions that should provide clear, concise, and accurate information to perform a task or implement a process. Correct use of SOPs ensures a consistent level of performance, efficiency, and quality.
<i>State Threats</i>	State threats are overt or covert actions by foreign governments which fall short of direct armed conflict with the UK but go beyond peaceful diplomacy and expected statecraft to harm or threaten the safety or interests of the UK or our allies. This could include physical violence and assassinations, espionage, and cyber-attacks.
<i>Strategic Security Coordinator (SSC)</i>	For CTP Protect and Prepare, determines strategic objectives and sets any tactical parameters. Retains strategic oversight and overall command and responsibility. Manages the national protective security risks from an incident, but not directly related to the investigation. Facilitates a pan-contest response in partnership with Prevent and Pursue national coordinators.
<i>Systematic Assessment of Site Security (SASS)</i>	A tool for assessing existing protective security and preparedness measures in place at a specific site.
<i>Terrorism Act 2000 (TACT)</i>	This Act makes provision about terrorism. It defines terrorism and outlines offences relating to terrorism.

Unitary Authority (UA)	A unitary authority provides all local government services within an area. This differs from 2 tier local governments where county and district councils split services across a given area.
United Kingdom Border Agency (UKBA)	UKBA was suspended, in 2013, by UK Visas and Immigration
United Kingdom Border Force (UKBF)	A law enforcement command within the Home Office. It has the task of securing the UK border by carrying out immigration and customs controls for people and goods entering the UK.
United Kingdom Intelligence Community (UKIC)	The UK's intelligence services, including the Secret Intelligence Service (SIS) also known as MI6, The Security Service (MI5) and the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ).
Vehicle as a weapon (VAW)	Where a vehicle itself is used with hostile intent, to breach a perimeter, ram, and damage infrastructure, or as a weapon to injure and kill people.
Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED)	A VBIED is a vehicle which contains and delivers an explosive device to a target.
Venues and Public Spaces (VaPS)	Any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission. Venues and Public Spaces include a wide variety of everyday locations that may be publicly or privately owned and can also include temporary events. Venues and Public Spaces may include parks, public squares, and open spaces; cafes and restaurants; sports stadiums and leisure centres; festivals and music venues; hotels; pubs, clubs, bars, and casinos; high streets, retail stores, shopping centres and markets; schools and universities; medical centres, hospitals, and places of worship; employment offices; transport hubs; museums, exhibition, and conferences centres. Examples of venues and public spaces not included are police, fire, and military bases. **This list is by no means exhaustive, but it does demonstrate the diverse nature of Venues and Public Spaces**
Venues and Public Spaces Unit (VaPSU)	The VaPS Unit is a NaCTSO Unit within the NaCTSO Policy and Guidance Department. Its role is to develop and facilitate the provision of CT security advice in respect of Venues and Public Spaces.