



8 April 2021

NATIONAL BULLETIN

Security advice for the easing of lockdown



On the 22nd February the UK Government published its [‘Guidance COVID-19 Response - Spring 2021’](#) detailing a staged roadmap to coming out of lockdown.

This presents an opportunity for businesses and communities in towns and cities to re-open and re-energise from 12th April 2021.

The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government has published a [press release](#) outlining the Government’s support for businesses, hospitality and entertainment industries and previously,

the easing of planning requirements for outdoor event and [pavement licencing](#).

The changes include:

- Relaxation of planning rules to allow pubs and restaurants to operate as takeaways.
- Greater flexibility for land to be used for temporary events, such as markets and motorsports.
- Planning freedoms to allow outdoor markets, marquees, pop-up car-boot sales or summer fairs without the need of a planning application.

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As a result, we will likely see a change in how publicly accessible locations like [high streets](#) look, feel and operate. These changes will have an impact on the security risk profile for these locations, including those relating to [terrorism](#). The [threat of terrorism continues to remain high](#) and crowded environments are likely to have different security vulnerabilities. It is very important that such vulnerabilities are identified and managed.

CPNI and NaCTSO has produced practical [guidance](#) to help authorities and business consider the threats and develop holistic mitigation strategies to protect queues and crowds of people from [Vehicle As a Weapon Attack](#) (VAW). This guidance considers not only the physical security measures that can be adopted, but also a range of complementary, low cost, security awareness materials that can deter a hostile attacker, whilst educating people to potential threats and shape their behaviour in response to the threat.

But the threat we face isn't only physical, it is important to also consider the potential threat your workforce could pose. CPNI has published guidance on the [insider threat during a pandemic](#), [guidance for line managers](#) as the lockdown eases as well guidance for those continuing to [work remotely](#). It is also important to ensure that you communicate your plans to reopen in a security-minded way. There is guidance available on [what to consider when communicating wearing a face covering](#), how to [promote protective security measures](#) as part of COVID-19 safety comms and how to promote a site in a security-minded way through [virtual tours](#). There is a library of guidance to assist you as you prepare for the ease of lockdown restrictions on the [CPNI website COVID-19](#) page.

Additional general protective security guidance, such as countering [Hostile Reconnaissance](#), [Search and Screening](#), [Marauding Terrorist Attack](#) and other terrorist related threats can found be on the [NaCTSO](#) and [CPNI](#) websites. Counter Terrorism Policing has also created a [communications toolkit](#) with suggested internal and external content to help you encourage vigilance and reporting of concerns.

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