



Counter Terrorism Security Advice

Terrorism is a real threat to all businesses. That threat may not be to you directly to have a serious impact on your development or continuity. It may relate to your neighbours, clients, supply chain or even a tenuous association.

All of Scotland's Police forces employ specialist trained Counter Terrorist Security Advisors (CTSAs) to advise on the threat posed and mitigation methods for terrorism and related matters. The core role of the Counter Terrorism Security Advisor is to assess, in partnership with the Centre for the Protection of the National Infrastructure (CPNI), local identified critical sites within their force area that might be vulnerable to terrorist or extremist attack; assist to devise and develop appropriate protective security plans to minimise impact on that site and the surrounding community.

CTSAs receive comprehensive specialist training in areas such as protective security, explosives and pre-cursor chemicals, pathogens and toxins, radiological sources, site and vulnerable point surveying, business continuity and disaster recovery, information and personnel security, integrated security systems, designing out vehicle borne terrorism and the threat from Chemical Biological Radiological or Nuclear attack.

They work closely with representatives of trade organisations and professional bodies to ensure Counter Terrorism protective security advice is incorporated in general crime prevention regimes. A key finding of the Lord West review of National Security was that more would be achieved by better engaging local authorities, local partners and in particular businesses to encourage them to implement counter-terrorist security advice, with a particular focus on designing-in CT protective security measures to new buildings to reduce the vulnerability to a terrorist attack in crowded places.

Argus Professional is a free event which takes you through a terrorist attack using a table top multi-media simulation. You will work in small syndicate groups to answer a series of questions and challenges put to you, and develop your responses to the attack. The whole event including a coffee break will last approximately three hours.

ARGUS Professional is one of a suite of initiatives based upon the successful format of Project ARGUS and was developed by the National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) to encourage planning, architect and design professionals to raise awareness of designing in counter terrorism protective security measures at the design concept stage. These professions have been identified as being able to play a significant role in reducing vulnerability, hence the aim of Argus Professional is to encourage debate, and demonstrate that counter terrorism measures can be designed into structures and space to create safer crowded places.

As with the Police Architectural Liaison Officer consultation with the CTSA is free and will provide information regarding cost effective preventative measures commensurate with the risk faced. This will achieve best results if the consultation takes place at the earliest possible stage of design.

If you wish any further information please contact the Scottish Business Crime Centre who have links with all Scottish police forces. Alternatively, your local CTSA can be contacted through your area police headquarters.