

Terrorism Security Update - Advice to the Scottish Business Community

At around 1515 hours on Saturday 30 June 2007, a Jeep Cherokee drove into a front door at the check-in area of the terminal building at Glasgow International Airport.

The vehicle caught fire on impact. Emergency services were immediately in attendance and two men were arrested at the scene. One was taken to the Royal Alexandra Hospital where he is presently detained suffering from severe burns and is in a critical condition. The other man has been detained in police custody.

This is being linked to the recent terrorist activity in London. There are clear similarities and the Glasgow incident is also being treated as a terrorist incident.

The current terrorism threat level has now been raised to **critical** and security procedures have been raised at airports and other key locations across Scotland and the wider United Kingdom. As a result, businesses and members of the public are asked to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the police.

This may be an appropriate time for the business community to review company security policies. Some of the responses worthy of considering are:-

- A review of security equipment to ensure all are in working order, and still meets with the original operational requirement.
- Reducing unnecessary access to your premises.
- Increasing access control measures, ensuring that any increased measures are coordinated and communicated to staff, customers and emergency services.
- If possible check vehicles coming onto your premises and prevent parking near to vulnerable areas.
- Ensuring security staff are aware and reminded of their role and action to take should an incident take place.
- Assessing CCTV systems with regard to the quality of images and existing retention procedures. **In connection with our current investigation into the terrorist attack on Glasgow Airport, you are urged to retain all images within your systems until police evidential requirements can be more accurately confirmed.**

Following the Glasgow Airport incident, the potential exists for a rise in community tensions within Scotland.

Tension indicators may vary from anecdotal reports of mistrust or unease in communities to the commission of hate, racist and/or faith-related incidents expressed by word or deed. For example, community tensions may be recognised by a sudden increase in racist graffiti, by the affixing of posters to street furniture or the distribution of leaflets and pamphlets.

While the Scottish Police Service monitors variations in community tensions, it is important to ensure there are no gaps in our knowledge at this particular time. The assistance of partners in the business community is therefore essential in the shared task of ensuring that our communities and citizens remain safe and secure.

A dedicated team of officers has been established and a full investigation into recent events is currently ongoing. The following contact telephone numbers and advice are provided for members of the business community.

- Information of any kind relating to the incident at Glasgow Airport should be passed to the police Incident Room on 0800 056 0944.
- Members of the public witnessing any suspicious incident should contact their local police force, or dial 999.
- Assistance and advice relating to all forms of business security can be obtained from local police Community Safety Departments.

In addition, any information relating to the Glasgow Airport incident, matters relating to community tension, or any other form of suspicious or criminal activity, can be passed anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

ACPOS Communications

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