Martyn's Law preparation introduction

Start with the official guidance, establish the facts of your premises or event, then work through the worksheets with the people who operate it. These resources support preparation; they do not decide what is appropriate in a real incident.

Start with scope

Identify the premises boundary, building, main qualifying use and person or organisation with control. Check Schedule 1 uses and Schedule 2 exclusions.

Establish how many people are reasonably expected at the same time, from time to time, including staff and relevant outside areas. Licensed capacity is not automatically the answer.

Qualifying premises generally begin at 200. Standard tier is normally 200-799; enhanced tier normally begins at 800. Specified worship, childcare and education premises have special treatment. Higher education is different.

Qualifying events have separate conditions, including 800 or more, public access and entry-condition checks. Events at enhanced-tier premises and specified worship / education premises need careful treatment.

Understand the duties

When the relevant provisions commence, standard-tier duties include SIA notification and appropriate, reasonably practicable public protection procedures. Physical public protection measures are not an additional standard-tier duty under this Act. Other safety law may still apply.

The four procedure areas are evacuation, invacuation, lockdown and communication. Decide what is appropriate for your actual venue; a fire evacuation plan is not automatically a terrorism response plan.

Enhanced-tier premises and qualifying events have additional duties covering procedures, measures, documentation and, where applicable, a designated senior individual. This starter pack does not fulfil those additional duties.

Prepare as a team

Name an owner for each outstanding action. Check accessibility, staff cover, shared responsibilities and information security.

Brief the relevant people and use proportionate exercises to test understanding. Update arrangements when people, premises, use or guidance change. These are preparation suggestions, not a claim that an annual drill or a particular written form is a universal standard-tier duty.

Keep detailed security arrangements restricted to people who need them. Do not publish routes, codes, vulnerabilities or staff contact details in public materials.

Planning aid only. Venue review required. Not certification.

Timing and official help

The main provisions are expected in spring 2027; the exact commencement date is subject to official confirmation. Do not use this pack as evidence that notification has been submitted.

The Home Office, SIA and ProtectUK provide authoritative free guidance. Official templates and support resources are being developed. Buying commercial software or templates is not a legal requirement.

Use with current official guidance

Independent planning aid. Not legal advice, an official SIA template, certification or a guarantee of compliance. Review and adapt to the real premises. Keep completed security information restricted.

Home Office statutory guidance

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-terrorism-protection-of-premises-act-2025/terrorism-protection-of-premises-act-2025-statutory-guidance

SIA explanation and notification updates

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/understanding-martyns-law-and-the-sias-role-as-regulator

GOV.UK collection

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/terrorism-protection-of-premises-act-2025

ProtectUK

https://www.protectuk.police.uk/