



# Simple Guide to Martyn's Law (Protect Duty)

*For pubs, bars, clubs, restaurants, events & licensed premises*

## 1. What Is Martyn's Law?

Martyn's Law (also called the **Protect Duty**) is new UK legislation designed to improve the **security and preparedness** of public venues against terrorism.

It is named after **Martyn Hett**, one of the victims of the Manchester Arena attack (2017).

Martyn's Law aims to ensure that **all public venues** consider:

- Terrorism risks
- Safety planning
- Staff training
- Emergency response



## 2. Who Does It Apply To?

Martyn's Law applies to **any premises or event** that:

- ✓ Is accessible to the public
- ✓ Has a capacity of **100 people or more**

This includes:

- Pubs & bars
- Nightclubs
- Music venues
- Restaurants
- Sports venues
- Shopping centres
- Hotels
- Festivals
- Temporary events (TENs)
- Town centre events
- Large takeaways with seating
- Cinemas & theatres

## 3. Two Tiers of Duty

Martyn's Law splits venues into two levels.

**Tier 1: Standard Duty (100+ capacity)**

Most pubs, bars, restaurants, and small venues.

Requirements:

- Basic staff training
- Clear emergency procedures
- Terrorism awareness
- Identifying suspicious behaviour
- Knowing how to report concerns (999 / anti-terror hotline)
- Basic security precautions

### **Tier 2: Enhanced Duty (800+ capacity)**

Large clubs, arenas, stadiums, big event spaces.

Requirements:

- All Standard Duty actions **plus**
- Formal risk assessments
- Security plans
- Evacuation and invacuation procedures
- Testing and rehearsals
- Appointing a “responsible person”

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## **4. What Venues Must Do (Simple List)**

### **A. Provide staff training**

Staff must understand:

- What terrorism is
- Suspicious signs
- How to raise concerns
- What to do if an emergency happens

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### **B. Have a basic security plan**

For Standard Duty venues (most pubs/bars), this includes:

- How to lock down
  - How to evacuate
  - How to communicate with staff
  - Who calls 999
  - Who leads a response
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### C. Assess risks

Venues must think about risks such as:

- Crowded entrances
  - Queues
  - Unsecured bags
  - Vehicle access
  - Poor lighting
  - Rear staff doors left open
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### D. Put simple security measures in place

Examples:

- Door checks (bags, ID, queue control)
  - CCTV maintained
  - Good lighting
  - Avoiding crowd bottlenecks
  - Keeping fire exits clear
  - Staff presence at key points
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### E. Have an Emergency Action Plan (EAP)

This must include:

- Evacuation routes
  - Invacuation (move people inside to safe areas)
  - Shelter-in-place procedures
  - Who leads the emergency response
  - Communication methods (radio/phone)
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### F. Review and refresh training

New starters & annual refreshers must be logged.

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## 5. What Staff Need to Know (Quick Summary)

A simple phrase used by counter-terror experts:

**“See, Check, Share.”**

- **See** – notice suspicious behaviour or objects
- **Check** – assess if it could be a threat
- **Share** – tell a manager/security or call 999

Staff should also know:

- Evacuation points
  - Where to gather
  - How to lock down
  - How to guide customers
  - How to stay safe
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## 6. What Will Enforcement Look Like?

The government will be able to:

- Inspect venues
- Issue improvement notices
- Fine businesses that fail to comply
- Require staff training
- Require security plans

Fines are not finalised yet, but **Enhanced Duty** venues could see large penalties for non-compliance.

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## 7. When Will Martyn's Law Start?

As of 2025, the Bill is **in final stages**.

Implementation is expected **soon**, and venues will get lead-in time once the law is confirmed.

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## 8. What this means for your venue

**If your venue holds 100+ people, you WILL need:**

- Terrorism awareness training
  - A simple emergency plan
  - Basic security measures
  - Staff refreshers logged annually."
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This simple guide is future-proofed and reflects the **most recent draft requirements**. This guide is based on the most recent draft of Martyn's Law (Protect Duty). Requirements may change slightly once the legislation is fully enacted.