

## Make Security-Minded Communications part of your security plans

### ProtectUK publication date

13/09/2022

When communicating during this mourning period, following the death of Her Majesty The Queen, it is important that you are taking a security minded approach.

- Are you taking a security-minded approach to your communications during this period of national mourning?
- Encourage your staff, customers and visitors to remain vigilant using a [communications toolkit](#) produced by Counter Terrorism Policing

Following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Counter Terrorism Policing is working closely with colleagues from police forces and partners across the UK to ensure public safety during this time of national mourning. Extensive, and well established, policing operations and protective security measures are in place.

## You can play your part by taking a security-minded approach to your communications activity.

In the run up to and on the day of the funeral, you will need to publish information for your customers or visitors, such as opening times or details of areas/times with restricted access. While this information is helpful for your customers and visitors, it can also be incredibly useful for another audience – those considering malicious acts against your site or visitors. This can range from petty criminals, such as pickpockets, to terrorists.

This guidance will help you to communicate these messages in a way that is useful for your customers and visitors, but less useful to those with malicious intent, who are also known as a

'hostile'.

## What information will a hostile be looking for?

A hostile will be looking to gather information that helps them to select a target location, choose an attack time and understand what method of attack is likely to be most successful and fits with their motivation. They will be looking for information on the protective security measures at your location and will be seeking to understand where there are vulnerabilities in your protective security.

## Where will a hostile look?

A hostile doesn't necessarily have to physically visit a site to get the information they need. They can use online resources to gather useful and current information from credible sources. Your communications can provide a potentially very effective layer of protective security, at little or no additional cost. By adopting a security-minded approach to your communications and online content, you can deny the hostile valuable information they need in the attack-planning stage.

## How can I publish what I need to in a security-minded way?

Security-Minded Communications aims to help protect an organisation, venue or event by viewing existing and planned communications through the eyes of someone who is seeking to gather information to help them plan a hostile act against it.

When creating content you should consider:

- What do I **need** to communicate?
- How can I use this opportunity to include messages that could **deter** a hostile?
- How can I ensure I provide information **without giving away details** that would be potentially useful to a hostile?
- If I need to publish detailed information, how can I **counter** any vulnerability created by promoting the protective security measures in place?

## Use the vigilance toolkit

One of the most effective things you can do to disrupt hostile activity is to encourage everyone at your location to remain vigilant and report suspicious activity.

Counter Terrorism Policing has produced [a toolkit for promoting vigilance](#) at your location during this period of national mourning.

We encourage you to make use of these materials across your communications channels to ask people to remain vigilant, trust their instincts and report suspicious activity.

**PAGE CATEGORY**

NEWS & VIEWS