

Further information for visitors to Cheltenham Festivals

The current **threat level** for international terrorism in the UK is CRITICAL

The current **threat response level** for international terrorism in the UK is EXCEPTIONAL

Everyone should stay **alert not alarmed** - the chances of a terrorist incident are still extremely remote, but it makes sense to take whatever simple steps you can to prevent and prepare.

The best form of defence is to prevent an attack before it starts. Terrorists usually scope out a target in the days before an attack. This *Hostile Reconnaissance* might include taking photos or making notes, asking questions about security, loitering and so on. You may not be at the festival very long, but stay vigilant to suspicious behaviour or things which are out-of-place. Make a note of any details and call it in. A false alarm is far better than an incident.

Remember when reporting – Who, When, What, Why, Where and How.

Stay vigilant regarding unknown people in secure areas, packages, unauthorised vehicles, or bags left in the wrong place.

Use the **HOT** protocol.

- Has the object been deliberately **Hidden**?
- Is there an **Obvious** threat (wires, circuit boards, batteries, tape, liquids or putty-like substances visible)?
- Is it **Typical** of what you would expect to find in this location?

Suspicious items – guidance for the public

- Do not touch
- Try and identify an owner in the immediate area
- If you still think it's suspicious, don't feel embarrassed or think anybody else will report it
- Report it to a member of staff, security, or if they are not available dial 999 (do not use your mobile phone in the immediate vicinity)
- Move away to a safe distance - even for a small item such as a briefcase move at least 100m away from the item starting from the centre and moving out

Who to call

It's probably nothing but... if you see or hear anything that could be terrorist-related trust your instincts and call the Anti-Terrorist Hotline 0800 789 321

If you think you have seen someone acting suspiciously, or if you see a vehicle, unattended package or bag which might be an immediate threat, move away and call 999.

Further information

The UK National Police Chiefs' Council has prepared various short briefing notes for people caught up in a terrorist attack. For further information visit: www.npcc.police.uk/staysafe

Further information from the Government about recognising and responding to terrorist threats can be found here: [Run, Hide, Tell](#) and here: [Recognising the Terrorist Threat](#)