



11 June 2021

NATIONAL BULLETIN

CPNI issues new guidance mitigating the risk of fire used as a weapon



A new guidance document has been developed in collaboration with the Home Office, National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) and the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) highlighting ways to mitigate the risks posed by terrorists conducting attacks that combine the use of fire with other attack methods, this is known as Fire as a Weapon (FAW).

As outlined by the Centre for Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI), Fire as a Weapon (FAW) is the deliberate use of fire within a terrorist attack with the intent to cause harm. This may include causing harm to people, premeditated damage to property, or a combination of both.

The document, which can be read [here](#) is aimed at those who are responsible for the protection of Critical National Infrastructure (CNI) sites, sensitive sites and other crowded places. The document can provide guidance on the FAW threat, where it can take place and the steps partners can take to reduce the threat.

Fire and smoke alone can provide a lethal mix and when combined with other terrorist attack methods as part of a Marauding Terrorist Attack (MTA) it can create an extremely complex situation for security partners, Emergency services and venue staff. Guidance on what an MTA is, and how they can be disrupted can be found on the [CPNI website](#).

Starting fires during attacks can be relatively easy and may require limited planning and preparation. However, a successful attack is likely to require detailed and planning and involve capable attackers and partners should take this into consideration when planning security plans and measurements.

Coordinating a response can be very difficult for both site teams and emergency services. Fires can be used in many ways such as a distraction for larger attacks or to trigger an evacuation where people may be vulnerable to an attack. Attackers may also want to prevent the capabilities of emergency services arriving to a scene

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and their ability to prevent a successful attack. It is important that venues have appropriate measures in place to be able to manage all risks of terrorism.

Detailed information on this can be read on the [CPNI Website](#). For more information on how you can protect your customers and staff, businesses and security partners are urged to contact the National Counter Terrorism Security Office at

NaCTSOMailbox-.EngagementUnit@met.police.uk

SIGN UP FOR THE ACT APP



The ACT App provides useful guidance on all aspects of protective security and is also being used for COVID-19 messaging in addition to CT specific messaging.

- 1** Download the Urim app from the [Google Play](#) or [Apple Store](#).
- 2** Email ct@highfieldlearning.com to request a user name and password.

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