

SECTION 646

Counter Threat Operations



Protecting New Zealand Crowded Places Strategy and Associated Documents

The release of these documents has placed owners and operators of crowded places inclusive of events firmly under the spotlight in terms of familiarising themselves and complying, folding this back into tradition health and safety documentation.

Specific Responsibilities:

Owners and operators of crowded spaces have responsibilities (page 9 of Strategy) that relate specifically to the counter threat arena, namely:

- Assessing the risks and vulnerabilities of their crowded place
- Implementing appropriate mitigations for risks at their crowded place
- Keeping mitigations in proportion with the risks to their crowded place
- Monitoring the effectiveness of the mitigations
- Reviewing the mitigations at appropriate times.

Compliance Examples:

Differ greatly subject to a large number of considerations, broadly, are you a venue that hosts events, an event, shopping mall, public space etc. The following can be considered as broad examples, however, there are a myriad of proportional mitigations to be considered.

- Conduct a self-assessment to identify level of risk (this may be as far as you need to go) available on the Police link provided below.
- Conduct a formal threat assessment which will identify all required actions for mitigation
- Review current systems adding in
 - Lockdown/shelter in place procedures
 - Generate threat response plans (violence/IED, shooter/vehicle intrusion/hostage etc)Most folk generate an adjunct that sits alongside existing health and safety, I have an adjunct that I can work through that with you that covers all components required.
- Staff confidence training encompassing procedures/new strategy/hostile reconnaissance and response strategies to the various threats
- Scenario training on specific threats as relate to your business operations

All owners/operators must now take demonstrated steps to apply proportional mitigations consistent with the current national threat level and business operations.

The strategy will be regularly updated and additional resources added, please use this link to stay current. <https://www.police.govt.nz/advice-services/protecting-crowded-places-attack>

New Zealand operates a five level Terrorism Threat System ranging from VERY LOW to EXTREME. In considering appropriate mitigations you should visit <https://www.nzsis.govt.nz/our-work/counter-terrorism/national-terrorism-threat-level/> to determine what level New Zealand is currently at. More often than not we sit at MEDIUM – Terrorist attack is assessed as feasible and could well occur.

There are some great resources that can be completed by owners/operators themselves, however for upper level assessments and training you should seek out the services of a suitably qualified counter threat expert.

For more specific guidance please refer to my website [S646.com](http://www.S646.com) or give me a call 021 633 128.

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