

TERRORISM

(Source of Information – Home Office website – Jan 09)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/security>

Current threat level

The current terrorism threat level is Severe. An explanation of what this means in terms of a terrorist attack is set out below.

What are threat levels?

A new system has been created to keep the public informed about the level of threat to the UK from terrorism.

The system also helps the police and other law enforcement agencies determine how they should respond to, and prepare for a terrorist incident.

The threat levels are:

- critical - an attack is expected imminently
- severe - an attack is highly likely
- substantial - an attack is a strong possibility
- moderate - an attack is possible but not likely
- low - an attack is unlikely

What should the public do?

You should always remain alert to the danger of terrorism and report any suspicious behaviour:

- if you have information about terrorist activities contact the anti-terrorist hotline on 0800 789 321
- call 999 if there is an immediate threat to life
- if you know of a threat to national security contact the Security Service MI5

Who decides the threat levels?

The Security Service (MI5) and the Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre work together to decide the level of threat to the UK. More information about how the threat levels are decided is available on the Security Service website.

<http://www.mi5.gov.uk/>

The threat levels abroad

For information on the threats abroad, travellers or British nationals overseas should consult the Foreign & Commonwealth Office website for country-specific advice.

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/>