

# stay alert and aware



January is a busy time for everyone, often involving change and new challenges. As we all go about our daily business, it is important to stay vigilant and be aware of the threat of terrorist attack.

Recent media coverage about the potential for a 'Mumbai-style' armed attack in Europe may have raised fears about such a risk.

The UK threat level is 'severe' (meaning an attack is highly likely), but we need to remain calm whilst also being prepared.

We are currently working closely with our policing partners and local communities to raise awareness without causing unnecessary alarm.

However, a terrorist or violent extremist attack in the UK, for example the use of explosives by suicide bombers cannot be ruled out. We are therefore ensuring our policing response plans are up to date and checking everything is in place so everyone can continue with their usual routines.

## How can you help?

**Vigilance is paramount and key to our success.**  
We can all do simple things to reduce the threat:

- If you become aware of something suspicious, trust your instincts and report it.
- Be aware of suspicious activity around venues such as shopping centres and other crowded venues or important sites.
- If you are unsure or suspicious about someone's activities or behaviour, however insignificant it may seem at the time, please report it immediately.

### How to report it:

- Where there is an immediate threat to life, always phone **999**.
- You can also report suspicious activity by calling the confidential anti-terrorist hotline on **0800 789 321**. This hotline is open around the clock by specialist counter-terrorism police officers and staff.
- Report non-urgent crime to the police on **08452 777 444**.
- Speak to your local police officer or police community support officer.
- Call Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**. Crimestoppers is an independent charity working to stop all crime. They never ask your name or trace your call.

Trust your instincts – local residents know when something isn't right so please don't hesitate to get in touch. It may turn out to be nothing, but you also could be helping to prevent a terrible tragedy. We really value and appreciate your support - thank you.

For more information and advice, visit our website at [www.avonandsomerset.police.uk](http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk)

**Avon and Somerset Constabulary**

Working together to make the communities of Avon and Somerset feel safe and be safe

[www.avonandsomerset.police.uk](http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk)