



## Defeating Terrorism

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In response to the terrorist attack in Manchester, Neighbourhood Watch Members are asked to feed back in to Essex Police, via whatever means, any concerns that Members might have or information that comes from their communities.

This weekend we shall see increased activity around Mosques and prayer centres. Essex Police have plans in place to reassure and safeguard our Muslim communities.

The links below can be shared to go on Community Safety Partnership related websites and community messaging in order to provide reassurance.

- We urge the public to remain alert but not alarmed - the police service and our partners are doing everything we can to help protect the security of our citizens, public institutions, critical national infrastructure, and businesses and places;
- A webpage with advice for victims and those affected by the attack has gone live on [gov.uk:https://www.gov.uk/guidance/manchester-attack-may-2017-support-for-people-affected](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/manchester-attack-may-2017-support-for-people-affected)
- Terrorists want to create discord, distrust and to create fear. The police stand together with all communities in the UK and we will take action against any criminal behaviour that seeks to undermine society, especially where crimes are motivated by hate.
- Communities defeat terrorism, which is why we must maintain the strong relationship between the public and police. We depend on information from the public, who can be our eyes and ears, in our efforts to keep us all safe.
- Acts of terrorism and hate crimes are committed by a small minority of people and are not representative of the public. This is a time for us all to work closely together and unite against those who seek, through violence and extremism, to intimidate or cause fear.
- “We are aware that following incidents such as this, there can be an increase in hate crimes within our communities. Over the coming days and weeks we will be reaching out to reassure and strengthen bonds with the communities we serve.
- “There can never be any excuse for hate crime in any shape or form and this criminality will not be tolerated.
- “More than ever in these uncertain times we want those who are victims of hate crime to feel confident in the belief that we’ll take your reports seriously, protect you and make sure you get all the support you need.
- “So, if you are a witness or a victim of hate crime or feel vulnerable please contact someone to report it. More people are reporting hate crime than ever before but it is still significantly underreported. Don’t suffer in silence; there are people who can help you. Call the police on 101, Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 or via their website at [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org), or visit the True Vision website ([www.report-it.org.uk](http://www.report-it.org.uk)) for information, advice and to report online. In an emergency, always dial 999.”

The below briefing can be shared and is on the Essex Police public facing website.

Armed Essex Police officers will patrol major infrastructure sites across Essex and the county will see more local policing patrols as the force responds to the change in the national terrorist threat level.

The UK threat level from international terrorism has now been reduced from 'critical' (imminent) to 'severe' meaning an attack is highly likely. This is a national threat level and is based on intelligence that is considered credible and specific.

There is no specific intelligence or evidence that relates to Essex.

While the threat level remained at Critical, Deputy Chief Constable BJ Harrington said: "From today and until further notice people in Essex will see an increased police presence in the county and that includes armed police officers. We are doing this to protect and reassure the public and we plan and train in great detail to respond to situations like this."

"The national operation that has been put in place following the terrorist attack in Manchester will include military patrols supporting police operations in key national infrastructure locations. These plans are well-established and if you see any military personnel it does not mean that there is a specific threat near you."

"Communities defeat terrorism, which is why we must maintain the strong relationship between the public and police. We depend on information from the public, who can be our eyes and ears, in our efforts to keep us all safe. Please report anything suspicious to the confidential anti-Terrorist Hotline on 0800 789321 or in an emergency dial 999."

"In Essex today police officers will stay on duty for longer than usual to keep the county safe. We plan and prepare for such a response but I am extremely grateful to officers for the high quality and extremely swift response to the national security situation."

Essex Police are asking members of the public to follow the force's [Twitter account](#), [@essexpoliceUK](#) check [Facebook at www.facebook.com/essexpoliceUK](https://www.facebook.com/essexpoliceUK) and follow local media websites and news broadcasts for further information. Information will also be published on the Essex Police website.