

## Martyn's Law – an overview for parishes

Martyn's Law (the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025) is new legislation designed to help organisations be better prepared in the unlikely event of a terrorist incident.

For most churches, this is about **awareness and sensible preparation**, rather than significant change.

### What you need to know

- The law mainly applies to **larger gatherings (200+ people)**
- Many churches will be **out of scope**, but can still adopt good practice
- Where it does apply, the focus is on **simple planning and awareness**

There is **no expectation** that churches introduce complex processes or physical security measures such as installing CCTV.

### What this means in practice

For parishes, Martyn's Law is about:

- Thinking ahead about how to respond in an emergency (including evacuation procedures)
- Ensuring a few key people know what to do
- Building on existing health and safety arrangements

### Find out more

Parishes are encouraged to use the national resources available:

- [Ecclesiastical: Martyn's Law made simple](#)
- [GOV.UK: Terrorism \(Protection of Premises\) Act 2025](#)
- [Church of England, safety and security in church buildings.](#)

### Time to prepare

There is a preparation period until around April 2027 before the legislation is fully implemented.