Improving lives

NHS
Sheffield Health Partnership University
NHS Foundation Trust

# Board of Directors
# Item number: 19
# Date: 25 November 2026

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| **Confidential/public paper:** | Public |
| **Report Title:** | Terrorism (protection of premises) Act 2025 (Martyn's Law): preparedness and progress update |
| **Author(s)** | Samantha Crosby, head of facilities and health & safety |
| **Accountable Director:** | James Drury, director of strategy |
| **Presented by:** | James Drury, director of strategy |
| **Vision and values:** | The Trust vision is **to improve the mental, physical and social wellbeing of the people in our communities**. In preparing for Martyn's Law, the Trust will take a values-led approach that reflects how **we work together** across clinical, estates, facilities, security and corporate teams to deliver proportionate and effective protective security arrangements. Our work will be underpinned by the value **we are respectful and kind**, recognising the sensitive nature of acute mental health environments and the importance of maintaining dignity, compassion and therapeutic care while strengthening preparedness. **We are inclusive** in our approach, actively engaging staff across all sites and roles, valuing their insight and experience. As this is new legislation with evolving guidance, **we keep improving** by reviewing, learning and adapting our arrangements over time. |
| **Purpose:** | This paper provides the Board with an update on the Trust's preparations for the terrorism (protection of premises) act 2025, commonly known as Martyn's Law. It provides assurance on governance, progress since the previous Board report and the next phase of implementation. Operational, premises specific and protective security information is intentionally excluded from this report. |
| **Executive summary:** | The Trust has continued to progress its preparedness project for Martyn's Law. Governance and leadership arrangements are established, a high level assessment has been undertaken and independent specialist advice has been obtained.<br><br>The project is now moving from initial assessment into structured implementation, including policy and procedure review, training and awareness, emergency preparedness, partnership working and ongoing assurance.<br><br>Detailed information concerning individual premises, security arrangements, vulnerabilities and specialist findings is managed through appropriate internal governance routes and is not included in this public report. |

| **Which strategic objective does the item primarily contribute to:** | | | | | |
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| Effective Use of Resources | *Yes* | ✓ | *No* | | |
| Deliver Outstanding Care | *Yes* | ✓ | *No* | | |
| Great Place to Work | *Yes* | ✓ | *No* | | |
| Reduce inequalities | *Yes* | ✓ | *No* | | |

**What is the contribution to the delivery of standards, legal obligations and/or wider system and partnership working.**

This report supports the Trust's compliance with statutory duties and national assurance requirements by demonstrating early and proportionate preparedness for the terrorism (protection of premises) act 2025. It aligns with NHS England expectations for estates, safety and emergency preparedness oversight, and contributes to Board-level assurance that risks relating to security, public protection and organisational resilience are identified, assessed and managed through established governance arrangements.

The work strengthens compliance with existing legal and regulatory requirements, including health and safety legislation and emergency preparedness obligations, by embedding Martyn's Law considerations within current security risk assessments, policies and procedures rather than creating parallel systems. The planned review and update of security risk assessments, the security policy, and lockdown policy and procedures ensure continued alignment with care quality commission (CQC) expectations around safe environments, risk mitigation, learning and continuous improvement, particularly within the context of complex acute mental health settings.

The approach also supports system-wide working and partnership assurance. Effective preparedness requires collaboration with system partners including emergency services, local authorities and landlords where premises are shared. The proposed actions promote clear accountability, coordinated response arrangements and information sharing, supporting wider integrated care system resilience and public protection expectations.

By providing early assurance, a clear implementation approach and ongoing oversight during the national implementation period, this work demonstrates the Trust's commitment to meeting emerging legal obligations, maintaining regulatory compliance, and assuring the Board that security and preparedness risks are being managed in a structured, proportionate and values-led manner.

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| **Board assurance framework (BAF) and corporate risk(s):** | The programme supports the Trust's wider arrangements for safety, security, emergency preparedness and organisational resilience. Any material risks identified through implementation will be considered through established risk management and assurance processes. |
| **Any background papers/items previously considered:** | Previous Board report on the terrorism (protection of premises) act 2025; Board briefing - legal update facilitated by DAC Beachcroft 25 February 2026. |
| **Recommendation:** | The Board is asked to:<br>• **Note** the progress made in preparing for the terrorism (protection of premises) act 2025.<br>• **Note** the governance and accountability arrangements supporting the programme.<br>• **Note** that independent specialist advice obtained.<br>• **Support** the continued development and implementation of the preparedness programme.<br>• **Note** that detailed operational and protective security information will continue to be managed through appropriate internal governance arrangements. |

**Board of directors**
**Terrorism (protection of premises) act 2025 (Martyn's Law)**
**Preparedness and Progress Update**
**November 2026**

## 1. Purpose of the report

This report provides the Board with an update on the Trust's preparations for the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, commonly known as Martyn's Law. It provides assurance on the governance arrangements established, progress made since the previous Board report and the next steps in the preparedness programme.

In recognition of the subject matter, this report does not include operational, premises specific or other protective security information. Detailed information is managed through appropriate internal governance arrangements.

## 2. Background

The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 introduces requirements intended to improve preparedness and public protection at qualifying premises and events. The Trust previously reported to the Board on the implications of the legislation and established a programme of work to support organisational preparedness.

Work has continued since the previous report to develop the Trust's approach, informed by published national guidance and independent specialist advice. The Trust is taking a staged and proportionate approach that builds on existing safety, security and emergency preparedness arrangements.

## 3. Governance, accountability and roles

Governance arrangements are established to provide executive oversight and operational leadership for the Trust's preparedness programme. The programme brings together the relevant corporate, operational and clinical functions to support a coordinated response.

The principal responsibilities are:

- The Board provides oversight and receives assurance on preparedness, significant risks and progress. Fulfilled through reports such as this.
- The accountable executive provides strategic leadership and oversees delivery of the programme. Director of Strategy fulfils this role.
- The operational lead coordinates implementation, policy development, training and awareness, specialist advice and assurance reporting. Head of Health and Safety fulfils this role.
- Relevant emergency preparedness, health and safety, estates, facilities, security and clinical functions contribute to implementation within their areas of responsibility. Ongoing with further evidence to be visible through the implementation plan.
- Progress and significant matters are reported through established governance and escalation routes. To be reported to Health and Safety Oversight Group, with escalation to EMT.

## 4. Organisational assessment