



Home Office

Rt Hon Tom Tugendhat MBE VR MP
Security Minister

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Rt Hon Dame Diana Johnson DBE PC MP
Chair of the Home Affairs Select Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

25 April 2023

Dear Dame Diana,

I am writing to you regarding The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill (known as Martyn's Law). This legislation is designed to enhance national security by ensuring protection from, and preparedness for, terrorist attacks.

I would like to thank Figen Murray, whose son Martyn Hett was killed in the Manchester Arena attack, for the significant contribution she has made through her tireless campaign to introduce Martyn's Law. I look forward to working with Figen and other stakeholders throughout the pre-legislative scrutiny period to help gather their views and encourage others to contribute too.

The intention to introduce Martyn's Law was announced by the Government on 19 December 2022 and the Government committed to publish the legislation in draft by Spring 2023. I am therefore writing to you to confirm we intend to publish the draft legislation as a command paper shortly, with the accompanying Bill documents also being published and made readily available on GOV.UK.

I would like to invite the Home Affairs Select Committee to perform pre-legislative scrutiny on the draft measures. I look forward to working with you to develop the Bill to ensure it is effective and works for all.

I am committed to introducing this Bill into Parliament, enshrining it into law at the earliest possible opportunity, once the scrutiny process has concluded. I would be grateful if the committee could report on the draft Bill before the summer recess. Our aim would then be to consider the committee's report and make any appropriate changes to the Bill so that the Bill is then ready for introduction when Parliamentary time allows.

The Bill will seek to improve protective security and organisational preparedness at a wide range of public premises across the UK. Those responsible for certain public premises will be required to consider the threat from terrorism and implement reasonably practicable mitigating measures. It will also establish an associated inspection and enforcement regime, which will seek to educate, advise, and ensure compliance with the regulations. The two primary objectives for the Bill will be to i) clarify who is responsible for security activity at locations in scope, thereby increasing accountability; and ii) improve outcomes UK wide so that security activity is delivered to a consistent level.

I look forward to working with you and the Committee as this important draft legislation is scrutinised.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Tugendhat', written in a cursive style.

Rt Hon Tom Tugendhat MBE VR MP
Security Minister