



Written evidence submitted by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health to the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Public Bill Committee

About the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health

We are the professional voice for environmental health professionals, representing over 7,000 members working in the public, private and non-profit sectors. Building on our rich heritage, we ensure the highest standards of professional competence in our members, in the belief that through environmental health action, people's health can be improved. For further information visit www.cieh.org and follow us on X [@The_CIEH](https://twitter.com/The_CIEH)

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Summary

CIEH's main interest in this Bill is ensuring that the event safety expertise of environmental health professionals is acknowledged and used to help ensure the operational success of this new inspection and enforcement framework. Collaborative working with CIEH and strategic communication and accessibility to all relevant stakeholders must be priorities for the new regulator.

Key points

- CIEH should be a key partner to the Security Industry Association (SIA) in both the development of the regulatory framework and the enforcement of the legislation as well as a key adviser in the enforcement of the Bill. Environmental health professionals currently enforce the Health and Safety at Work Act. They play a key role in ensuring that events are conducted safely, working alongside event organisers to develop comprehensive health and safety plans, ensuring regulatory compliance. They are a core part of the team of professionals that manage a variety of risks including oversight of safe management of the premises, safe access and egress, emergency response and evacuation plans, as well as crowd safety and production management. When the proposed legislation takes effect, environmental health practitioners working in event health and safety will work alongside the SIA as key



duty holders in the ongoing management of safe events. Our close collaboration is essential to support enforcement and ensure compliance.

- We are concerned about the large enforcement burden that the Bill will place on the Security Industry Authority (SIA) given this new area of regulation for the organisation. We hope that the committee stage can determine and clarify exactly how and who the SIA needs to work with. As well-established professionals in the area of event safety management, environmental health professionals are a key source of information and expertise for this role.
- During the Bill's Second Reading debate, the Rt Hon Chris Murray MP and Rt Hon Priti Patel MP raised the importance of the enforceability of provisions. We would welcome further insight into how the SIA will recruit and train the additional professionals needed to deliver on the Bill's provisions, in particular around enforcement, and what qualifications, skills and experience will be required.
- The new duties placed on the SIA by this legislation will bring the SIA into contact with a much larger range of stakeholders. They will also necessitate greater interaction with the public and with venue managers and event organisers from a variety of sectors and venues of all sizes and types. The SIA will need to be adequately resourced to be accessible and responsive to these varied audiences. It will also need to communicate strategically and in a timely manner about its plans and work, both in the two-year implementation phase and once the new legislation is operational.
- It is important that the new regulator's enforcement body has knowledge of other legislation in the event safety space. It is key that there are means to communicate amongst all enforcement bodies. The success of this Bill will depend on a high level of cooperation between enforcement agencies and there must be a formal commitment to cooperate to ensure productive and smooth dynamics between duty holders.

Suggested Amendments

Amendment one – Clause 12 Investigations and enforcement: Role of the Security Industry Authority

Clause 12, page 8, line 5, at end insert 'in consultation (or collaboration) with an Advisory Board ("the Board") comprised of other professions with responsibility for health and safety in public venues, including registered environmental health practitioners.



Purpose: To require the SIA to work with other relevant and experienced event safety professionals in developing guidance on the legislation.

Amendment two – Clause 27 Guidance

Clause 27, page 19, line 28, at end insert new subsection ‘The Secretary of State must establish an Advisory Board (“the Board”) to support The Security Industry Authority in their new role. The Board must be comprised of other professions with responsibility for health and safety in public venues, including registered environmental health practitioners.

Explanation: This will establish the Advisory Board which will work with the Security Industry Authority to a) ensure guidance is created that supports the sector