

# **PSA Delivery Agreement 26:**

## Reduce the risk to the UK and its interests overseas from international terrorism

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October 2007

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# SUMMARY OF THE DELIVERY AGREEMENT

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## VISION

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**1.1** Terrorism is amongst the most complex challenges facing the United Kingdom.

### Strategic Context

**1.2** Since the early 1990s, violent extremists claiming to act in the name of Islam have committed acts of terrorism across the world as a means of advancing their various politico-religious agenda. These attacks have taken place in the UK (e.g. '7/7' in London), against UK-related targets and UK citizens overseas (e.g. the attacks on the British Consulate in Istanbul in 2003 and on the night clubs in Bali in 2002) and against UK allies (e.g. '9/11'). These attacks threaten the security of the UK and its citizens, of visitors to our shores, and of our international interests, including relationships with key foreign governments.

**1.3** The terrorist threat is serious and sustained. It is trans-national in scope, indiscriminate in its actions and aims to cause mass casualties, regardless of the age, nationality, or religion of its victims. The Government has no higher duty than the protection of its citizens: countering this threat is, therefore, a critical cross-Government priority.

**1.4** This PSA aims:

- to reduce the risk to the UK and its interests overseas from international terrorism

**1.5** In order to achieve this aim, the Government's specific objectives are to:

- stop terrorist attacks;
- where we cannot stop an attack, to mitigate its impact;
- strengthen our overall protection against terrorist attack; and
- stop people becoming terrorists or supporting violent extremism.

## MEASUREMENT

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**1.6** Each of these four objectives is underpinned by small number of outcome measures. These will be used to monitor and assess the cross-government counter-terrorism effort over the next three years.

## DELIVERY STRATEGY

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**1.7** Our overall vision for the PSA builds upon CONTEST, the name given to the Government's long term strategy for countering international terrorism which was published in July 2006. CONTEST aims to reduce the risk from international terrorism so that people can go about their daily lives freely and with confidence. The strategy and the programme to implement it are divided into four principal areas of work:

- pursuing terrorists and those that sponsor them;
- preparing for the consequences;
- protecting the public, key national services, and UK interests overseas; and
- preventing terrorism by tackling the radicalisation of individuals.

**1.8** Together these are known as 'the Four Ps': PREVENT, PURSUE, PROTECT, and PREPARE.

## ACCOUNTABILITY AND GOVERNANCE

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**1.9** The text of the PSA Delivery Agreement on countering-terrorism is not being published. By its nature, the PSA Delivery Agreement contains information about the UK counter-terrorism effort that could potentially be useful to those who threaten the UK and its interests. In so far as is possible and consistent with national security, scrutiny arrangements for this PSA, including parliamentary scrutiny - will mirror those in place for other PSAs with progress reports made public during the CSR period.