

# Stay safe

This aide-memoire is designed to assist unarmed initial responders at an incident involving the use, or suspected use, of firearms or potentially lethal weapons.

See	Tell	Act																					
<p>A marauding attack may take many forms, from an attacker with a bladed weapon, to a multi sited attack with firearms and explosives. If the motivation is terrorism, it will be referred to as a Marauding Terrorist Attack (MTA).</p> <p>Operation <b>PLATO</b> is the agreed national identifier for the multi-agency response to an ongoing MTA and the <b>PLATO</b> declaration (only declared by Police) is designed to inform and prepare personnel from all three emergency services for the response.</p> <p>Unarmed responders have an important role in accordance with the SEE TELL ACT principles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is happening and where?</li> <li>Where are the subjects now/going? Confirm, as far as possible, the exact location of the subject(s) and the nature of the incident.</li> <li>How many subjects/casualties? Gather relevant intelligence on the subject(s) and related premises or vehicles, potential victims and casualties.</li> <li>What weapons, actions?</li> <li>Is it a firearm or other type of weapon? Describe what you see or have been told at the scene. If it is a firearm, is it a handgun or does it have a long barrel?</li> <li>What is the subject(s) doing with the weapon?</li> <li>Have threats been made?</li> </ul> <p>The subject(s) location is vital in directing armed officers, colleagues and the public to the right place as quickly as possible.</p> <p>Where the subject(s) are moving about, real time updates allow effective redirection of resources, if required.</p>	<p>Explain type of incident using METHANE with accuracy, brevity and clarity:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="770 432 1435 1455"> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>M</b></td> <td>Major incident</td> <td>Has a major incident been declared?</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>E</b></td> <td>Exact location</td> <td>Road – name or number Postcode Land marks Grid reference</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>T</b></td> <td>Type of incident</td> <td>Firearms, bladed attack, vehicle attack, fire as a weapon or IED.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>H</b></td> <td>Hazards</td> <td>Subject description(s) Vehicle – Make, model &amp; colour Weapon – Knife/firearm (type) IED – Person borne, bag or vehicle</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>A</b></td> <td>Access</td> <td>Identify best routes in and out Identify congested routes Identify suitable RVP/FCP</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>N</b></td> <td>Number of casualties</td> <td>How many? Injury type(s)? Can they self-evacuate?</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>E</b></td> <td>Emergency services</td> <td>What emergency responders are required at the scene? Ambulance Fire Service Police Taser/Firearms Explosive Ordnance Disposal Other...</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>M</b>	Major incident	Has a major incident been declared?	<b>E</b>	Exact location	Road – name or number Postcode Land marks Grid reference	<b>T</b>	Type of incident	Firearms, bladed attack, vehicle attack, fire as a weapon or IED.	<b>H</b>	Hazards	Subject description(s) Vehicle – Make, model & colour Weapon – Knife/firearm (type) IED – Person borne, bag or vehicle	<b>A</b>	Access	Identify best routes in and out Identify congested routes Identify suitable RVP/FCP	<b>N</b>	Number of casualties	How many? Injury type(s)? Can they self-evacuate?	<b>E</b>	Emergency services	What emergency responders are required at the scene? Ambulance Fire Service Police Taser/Firearms Explosive Ordnance Disposal Other...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not approach unnecessarily.</li> <li>Use hard cover where available.</li> <li>Consider approach/escape routes.</li> <li>Consider the safety of others.</li> <li>Wear correct PPE.</li> <li>Direct and/or disperse the public to safety.</li> <li>Gain relevant information from evacuating public.</li> <li>Provide real time information and updates.</li> <li>Maintain and develop observations.</li> </ul> <p>Also, where possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contain/isolate the subject(s) within a location or limit their movement.</li> <li>Confront threat if appropriate, proportionate and achievable.</li> </ul> <p>Unarmed responders are not expected to endanger their own or their colleagues lives in ill-considered attempts at rescue, or to effect an early arrest.</p> <p><b>Cover</b> Use cover from fire (<b>hard cover</b>) eg,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Substantial brick.</li> <li>Stone wall (not breeze block).</li> <li>Substantial tree.</li> <li>Earth bank.</li> <li>Vehicle engine block.</li> </ul> <p>Where cover from fire is not available consider cover from view (eg, wooden fence, hedgerow or vehicle).</p> <p><b>First aid</b> You have an obligation under <b>Human Rights</b> legislation to render first aid if safe to do so. You may be required to perform a wide range of lifesaving activities to protect the public.</p>
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Zoning	Improvised explosive devices (IEDS)	IED detonation and grenades
<p>A 'Marauding Attack' response may differ from a normal police response. Commanders may zone areas in order to identify and differentiate levels of risk. This ensures the appropriate deployment of emergency service responders. Unarmed responders will play a vital role in the initial stages of the response and should recognise that this may include activity within each of the zones.</p> <p>The <b>HOT</b> zone is an area assessed to contain a credible and continuing threat to life, including the presence of attackers with weapons.</p> <p>The <b>WARM</b> zone is an area assessed as where the attackers are not believed to be present at this time, but an identified threat remains.</p> <p>The <b>COLD</b> zone is an area where no known threat exists or where appropriate control measures have been implemented. Some cold zones will not require any control measures. The RVP and Forward Command Point (FCP) will be within this zone.</p> <p><b>Responder deployment:</b> the deployment of resources into the <b>HOT</b> and <b>WARM</b> zones may include both specialist and non-specialist multi-agency responders. The decision as to when and how should be made by commanders and informed by the attack methodology.</p> <p>Non-specialists may be tasked with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ confrontation for less sophisticated weaponry (eg, knife or vehicle), use of PPE (eg, baton/spray) or Taser</li> <li>▪ providing a deterrent, or reassurance</li> <li>▪ directing potential victims/vulnerable persons</li> <li>▪ dealing with casualties</li> <li>▪ gathering information and reporting back</li> <li>▪ implementing cordons</li> </ul> <p>Non-specialists should be briefed upon the extent of their role including evacuation signals/procedures or other appropriate mitigating measures.</p>	<p>IEDs can be hidden to maximise effect and could take any shape or size. Context is key; consider what is normal for the location or situation. Treat all IEDs as <b>REAL</b> until you know differently.</p> <p>IEDs usually contain certain key components (eg, packaging, switch or timer, power source, initiator and main charge). Not all of the components may be visible.</p> <p>Use the <b>Five C's</b> in preparation for arrival of Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) officers:</p> <p><b>Confirm</b> – Location, position, characteristics.  <b>Clear</b> – Public, premises/internal evacuation.  <b>Cordon</b> – Distance, out of line of sight, use hard cover.  <b>Control</b> – Senior officer informed, RVP searched, powers.  <b>Check</b> – Cordon clear, secondary devices? Other locations searched.</p> <p><b>Person borne (PB) IED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain your minimum cordon safety distance during any movement of the subject.</li> <li>▪ Use hard cover if available but maintain observations.</li> <li>▪ Direct and/or disperse public from the immediate area and any anticipated direction of travel taken by the subject(s).</li> </ul> <p><b>IED/PBIED minimum cordon distances</b>  Cordons should not be in direct line of sight. Use hard cover avoiding glass or parked vehicles.</p> <p><b>100m</b> for smaller items (eg, rucksack, briefcase or <b>PBIED</b>)  <b>200m</b> for medium items (eg, suitcase, wheelie bin or car)  <b>400m</b> for larger items (eg, vans or lorries)  Minimum safe <b>transmission</b> distances: <b>15m</b> handheld radios, mobile phones and PDAs. <b>50m</b> Vehicle radios.</p>	<p><b>POST or PARTIAL detonation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ For any 'Explosion' put in a minimum <b>100m</b> cordon as there may be a remaining explosive hazard. However, where there are casualties the situation may be too dynamic to achieve immediately. The rapid treatment and extrication of casualties will remain a priority.</li> <li>▪ Don't touch or move anything you don't have to.</li> <li>▪ Move people away from the seat of explosion as quickly as possible (accepting that casualties may make this a slower process).</li> <li>▪ Essential personnel may go forward to protect and save life, following an NDM assessment.</li> <li>▪ Utilise any available hard cover.</li> <li>▪ Spend the minimum amount of time in the area as possible and keep numbers to a minimum.</li> <li>▪ Consider the need for respiratory protection measures. Dust, smoke, debris, and CBRN hazards may be present.</li> </ul> <p><b>Immediate reaction to a 'GRENADE' deployment</b>  A grenade threat may be identified by seeing it being thrown, sighting a fly off handle or pin or hearing a sharp crack, as the detonator initiates. Where it is believed, or becomes evident that a grenade threat exists, immediate action should be taken to find hard cover or to create distance from the grenade. If possible this should be simultaneously accompanied by a clear shout of '<b>GRENADE</b>' in order to warn others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If there is no immediate hard cover lie face down with feet facing towards the threat.</li> <li>▪ To minimise injury to persons in <b>line of sight</b>, with no PPE or suitable cover, you need to be <b>200m</b> from the point of detonation.</li> <li>▪ Protection from all sides may be necessary due to the <b>360 degree threat</b>.</li> <li>▪ Lethal range is <b>5m</b>. May cause death or serious injury within <b>50m</b>.</li> </ul>