

NHS Provider Organisations CEO
NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups Chief
Accountable Officers
Commissioning Support Units

NHS England
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Dear colleagues,

The Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre (JTAC) has advised that the UK Threat Level should be changed from **SEVERE** (an attack is highly likely) to **CRITICAL** (an attack is expected imminently). Further information regarding this change is available at <https://www.mi5.gov.uk/threat-levels>.

The consequence of this is that longstanding NHS Emergency Preparedness Resilience and Response (EPRR) protocol means all NHS organisations are now required please to:

- Immediately cascade the change in alert level to your staff
- Review relevant staffing levels and security arrangements across your health facilities, taking account of any additional advice from your local security experts in conjunction with the local police
- Ensure all staff are aware of your organisation's Incident Response Plans, business continuity arrangements and on call notification processes
- Ensure appropriate senior representation is available to join any NHS England Regional or Directorate of Commissioning Operations team teleconferences that may be called to brief on the situation
- Notify your local NHS England EPRR Liaison of any current or scheduled works or operational changes currently affecting service delivery within your organisation
- Review the Home Office advice issued in relation to this threat, and risk assess this against your own organisation, taking steps where possible to mitigate identified risks
- Review mutual aid agreements with other health services including specialist and private providers

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Acute care providers are required to:

- Review Emergency Care, Theatre and Support Services, paying particular attention to staff availability, stocks and current blood stock levels
- Clearly identify and review patients who could be discharged safely to create capacity if your organisation is responding to an incident
- Review availability of your Patient Transport Service (PTS) particularly in the event of the local NHS Ambulance Trust requesting mutual aid from your PTS provider

Community and Mental Health providers are required to:

- Review staffing availability for crisis intervention teams
- Prepare to support any accelerated discharge from acute care settings

Clinical Commissioning Groups and Commissioning Support Units are required to:

- Act in support of accelerated discharge and where necessary support Trusts in maintaining their contracted services

NHS England will continue to work with you, the Department of Health, NHS Improvement and other government departments and agencies, and issue further advice as required.

Thank you for your leadership at this time.

Kind regards



Simon Weldon
Director of NHS Operations and Delivery
NHS England

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Copy:

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