



THE FORTRESS

THE TOBRUK PSS LTD NEWSLETTER

MAY 2026 EDITION

PROTECTIVE SECURITY

During April, the [UK Government](#) raised the national terror threat level from substantial to severe following the recent antisemitic terror attack in Golders Green and growing concerns of Islamist and right-wing terrorism. A severe threat level indicates that an attack is highly likely in the next six months.

Protective measures are already being strengthened nationally, with the Government announcing additional funding to increase police presence around synagogues, schools, and community centres, alongside the expansion of Project Servator. This heightened threat level should prompt organisations to review their protective security arrangements. This is especially important for sites that are symbolic, high-profile, or regularly crowded since they are often viewed as more attractive targets for terrorist attacks.

Security teams should reassess their physical security measures, reinforce staff vigilance, prioritise suspicious activity reporting, and review emergency response plans to ensure they remain effective.

TECHNICAL SECURITY

The [Metropolitan Police](#) recently announced the rollout of new digital crime reporting technology aimed at tackling shoplifting across London. The platform allows retailers to upload CCTV footage, suspect images, and incident details directly to police, significantly improving the speed and quality of evidence sharing.

This allows officers to more quickly identify repeat offenders and link offences across multiple stores. Police report that around 80% of suspects are identified by running images through facial recognition software and crime databases. The platform is also improving prosecution outcomes by strengthening the quality and consistency of evidential submissions. Since its implementation, the system has contributed to a 7.4% increase in the average number of retail theft cases solved.

This demonstrates how technical security systems are increasingly being used not only to deter incidents, but also to support criminal investigations and successful prosecutions. For businesses, the development highlights the importance of ensuring surveillance systems are designed both for real-time monitoring and effective evidence capture to support post-incident police collaboration.

CYBER SECURITY

The UK has been warned to prepare for an increase in hostile state-backed cyber activity, with senior officials highlighting Russia, China, and Iran as key sources of concern. According to [recent reporting](#), the National Cyber Security Centre handles around four nationally significant cyber incidents per week, reflecting the growing scale of sophisticated attacks targeting UK organisations.

A recent example includes the exposure of Russian military intelligence group [APT28](#), which was found to be exploiting vulnerable routers to conduct large-scale DNS hijacking operations. By altering router settings, attackers were able to redirect internet traffic through malicious servers and intercept passwords, authentication tokens, and sensitive data.

[Some reports](#) estimate the campaign impacted at least 18,000 victims across 120 countries, underlining the global scale of modern cyber espionage activity. As state-backed cyber threats continue to evolve, organisations must ensure cyber security measures are regularly reviewed and strengthened to protect against increasingly sophisticated attacks.

PERSONNEL SECURITY AND INSIDER RISK

Recent reporting has sparked concerns about personnel vetting standards following allegations that an MP was assigned a bodyguard with extremist links. In response, security providers have begun expanding screening procedures to include enhanced social media and online footprint checks as part of the vetting process.

Traditional background screening may no longer be sufficient on its own to assess the suitability of individuals placed in security-sensitive roles. Publicly available online behaviour, affiliations, and ideological indicators can now provide valuable insight into risk factors that may not be identified through conventional vetting methods.

The issue highlights the increasing importance of adopting a more modern approach to personnel security. However, expanding vetting into employees' digital footprints presents a legal and ethical challenge. Organisations must ensure screening remains proportionate, relevant, and aligned with employee privacy rights.

UK CRIME

Phone theft remains a persistent issue across London, but this month's Metropolitan Police operations suggest enforcement efforts are beginning to have an impact. The Met launched covert Friday night operations against phone thieves in hotspot areas, focusing resources during peak offending periods when thefts are most common.

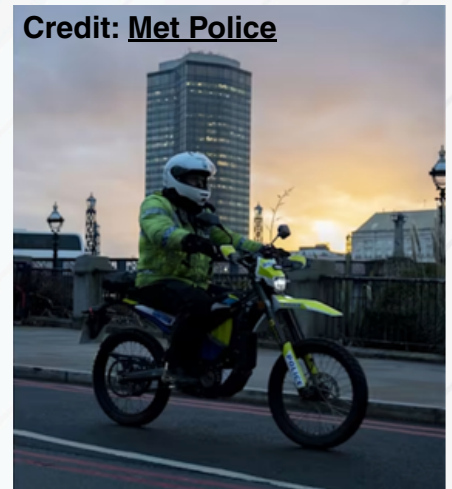
In one 12-hour operation alone, officers made 15 arrests. In one week, e-bike enabled crime – often linked to phone theft – dropped by nearly 40% in Southwark and Lambeth. Broader Metropolitan Police figures show theft-from-person offences have fallen by 21% across London, equating to around 20,000 fewer victims, with 13,000 fewer mobile phone thefts recorded over the past financial year.

Alongside these results, the Met is increasingly deploying drones and e-bike response teams to improve surveillance and rapid interception of suspects. This reflects an ongoing shift towards more technology-enabled policing approaches to countering fast-moving urban street crime.

Credit: Met Police



Credit: Met Police



TOBRUK PSS LTD UPDATE

April proved to be another strong month for Tobruk PSS. We secured a new project supporting a client in the Oil and Gas sector with the development and enhancement of their security emergency procedures. Alongside this, we continued our work on two live security tenders, helping existing clients navigate both security services and electronic security procurement processes.

We were also pleased to achieve approved supplier status with not one, but two highly respected Property Management companies. We look forward to building strong working relationships and supporting them across a range of future projects.

Danny Moody CSyP, RISC

If your organisation needs support/advice regarding any of the topics discussed within this month's newsletter or from within our range of Protective Security services please reach out using the contact details at the bottom of the page.