



Protected Premises Assurance Standard

The requirements against which a responsible person is assessed

Reference	WMA-PSA-001
Scheme	Westmark Protected Premises Mark
Version	0.9
Date of issue	September 2026
Classification	OFFICIAL
Scheme Owner	Westmark Assurance, a trading name of Ross Macdonald Consultancy Ltd (SC848204)

Contents

Document control

Document title	Protected Premises Assurance Standard
Reference	WMA-PSA-001
Scheme	Westmark Protected Premises Mark
Version	0.9
Date of issue	September 2026
Classification	OFFICIAL
Status	Normative. Four items at Sections 6, 12 and 14 are held in brackets pending publication of the Security Industry Authority guidance under section 12 of the Act, and v1.0 is issued on their completion
Scheme Owner	Westmark Assurance, a trading name of Ross Macdonald Consultancy Ltd (SC848204)
Normative annex	WMA-PSA-CAT-001 Protected Premises Control Set
Origin	Martyn’s Law Assurance Framework (MLAF) v1.1, 3 September 2026, which this standard supersedes as the Westmark assessment instrument. MLAF continues as the shared basis for the published gap analysis tool
Review frequency	On any commencement regulations under section 37 of the Act, any regulations under sections 4(3), 7(1)(e), 9 or 32, revision of the section 27 statutory guidance, publication or revision of the section 12 guidance, and annually as a minimum
Retention	This standard and all superseded versions are retained for seven years from the date of withdrawal

Version history

Version	Date	Summary
0.9	September 2026	First issue for use, with four bracketed items held for the SIA section 12 guidance

1. Purpose and status

1.1 What this standard does

WMA-PSA-001 sets out the requirements against which Westmark Assurance assesses the arrangements a responsible person has in place under the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, and the basis on which the Westmark Protected Premises Mark is awarded, held and withdrawn.

It serves two audiences. For the responsible person it states what has to be in place and what evidence will be examined. For the assessor it states how each control is scored, what constitutes corroboration, what is verified directly on site, and what conditions prevent a positive outcome irrespective of score.

1.2 What this standard does not do

An outcome awarded under this standard is an independent judgement by Westmark Assurance that the responsible person's public protection procedures and, at the enhanced tier, public protection measures meet the requirements of the Act as they will apply at commencement, and that they operate in practice at the premises or event assessed.

It does not constitute, and shall not be represented as:

- Approval, endorsement, registration or exemption by the Security Industry Authority, the Home Office or any police force
- Discharge of the duty to notify the Security Industry Authority under section 9, or of any duty under sections 5 to 8 and 10
- A determination under section 11 of whether premises or an event qualify, which the tribunal alone can make where the question is contested
- Confirmation that a compliance document provided to the Security Industry Authority under section 7 is accurate, which remains the responsible person's own statement under section 25
- A licensing condition, a Safety Advisory Group approval, a fire risk assessment, or a substitute for any inspection or requirement of a licensing authority, fire authority, or the Security Industry Authority
- Advice from a Counter Terrorism Security Adviser, or a substitute for the guidance published by ProtectUK and the National Protective Security Authority

Organisations holding an outcome under this standard are bound by the claim wording at Section 14. Representation beyond that wording is a breach of the scheme terms and is grounds for withdrawal.

1.3 The basis of the distinction

The Act places duties on the responsible person for qualifying premises and qualifying events and gives the Security Industry Authority the function of regulating compliance. It creates no certification scheme and no route by which a responsible person can obtain confirmation in advance that their arrangements are adequate. Section 27(5) provides that proof of having acted in accordance with the statutory guidance may be relied on as tending to establish that no contravention occurred.

A responsible person therefore has no statutory route to demonstrate that their arrangements would stand up to examination. What they can obtain is an independent examination of those arrangements against the Act and the statutory guidance, conducted on site by a competent assessor, with the result recorded on a public register. That is what this standard provides, and section 27(5) is why the record it produces has value beyond the assessment itself.

2. Scope and applicability

2.1 Responsible persons within scope

This standard may be applied to any person who is, or expects on commencement to be, the responsible person under section 4 of the Act for:

- Enhanced duty premises, being qualifying premises at which 800 or more individuals may reasonably be expected to be present at the same time

- Standard duty premises, being qualifying premises at which 200 to 799 individuals may reasonably be expected, or premises forced to the standard tier by Schedule 1 irrespective of numbers
- A qualifying event under section 3
- More than one of the above, as a portfolio

The standard applies in every part of the United Kingdom. Definitional differences between jurisdictions are absorbed within the control set and the sector profiles at Annex C of WMA-PSA-CAT-001 rather than surfaced as separate requirements.

The standard applies to responsible persons of any size, from a sole trader operating a single venue to a public authority or a multi-site operator. Proportionality is handled through the statutory test of what is appropriate and reasonably practicable, applied at ML-STD-09 and ML-ENH-05, and through the scoring criteria at Section 9, rather than by exempting smaller responsible persons from requirements.

2.2 Assessment products

An assessment is conducted as one of four products, fixed at scoping stage and recorded on the assurance statement.

Product	Applies to	Sections assessed	Method	Outcome
Enhanced premises assessment	Enhanced duty premises	P1 to P5	Site examination, direct verification, interview	Confirmed, Conditional or Not Confirmed. Mark at Confirmed
Qualifying event assessment	A qualifying event	P1 to P5	Document stage, build phase, show phase, close-out	As above, for the event
Standard premises declaration	Standard duty premises	P1 to P3	Desk review and remote interview	Declared or Not Declared. Register entry, no mark
Portfolio	A responsible person with several qualifying premises	Per premises	Each premises on its own product	Per-premises outcomes, portfolio listing on the register

A standard duty responsible person may elect the enhanced premises assessment. Where they do, all five sections are assessed and the mark is available at Confirmed.

A responsible person cannot select a product where the scope determination contradicts it. Where the assessor finds at scope determination or on site that the tier or the product is wrong, the assessment is suspended and rescoped.

2.3 Matters outside this standard

This standard does not assess fire safety, health and safety performance, crowd safety beyond the movement measures at ML-ENH-02, licensing compliance, food safety, or the general security of the premises against crime. Where an assessor observes a matter of that kind that bears on the risk of physical harm from an act of terrorism, it is recorded as an observation and reported. It does not affect the score. Where an assessor observes a matter of that kind that presents an immediate danger to life, the assessor raises it with the responsible person on the day regardless of scope.

2.4 Standard sections

Ref	Section	Controls	Applies to
P1	Scope and registration	ML-STD-01 to 04	All products
P2	Public protection procedures	ML-STD-05 to 10	All products
P3	Governance	ML-STD-11, ML-STD-12	ML-STD-11 enhanced and events where the responsible person is a body. ML-STD-12 wherever the structural conditions arise

Ref	Section	Controls	Applies to
P4	Public protection measures	ML-ENH-01 to 05	Enhanced premises and events
P5	Documentation and records	ML-ENH-06 to 08	Enhanced premises and events

Section weightings are at Section 10. The controls themselves are in WMA-PSA-CAT-001, which is a normative annex to this standard and carries its own version line. Control identifiers are those of the Martyn's Law Assurance Framework and are shared with the gap analysis tool published under it, so a self-assessment in that tool maps control for control onto an assessment under this standard.

3. Normative references

The following publications are referenced in this standard and in WMA-PSA-CAT-001. Assessors apply the version extant at the assessment date. Where a publication is withdrawn, replaced or amended between issue of this standard and an assessment, the assessor applies the successor and records the substitution in the assessment file.

3.1 Primary legislation

- Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 (c. 10), Part 1 and Schedules 1 to 3, as enacted, and Part 2 and Schedule 4 for the licensing register provisions referenced at ML-ENH-04
- Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975, for the definition of sports ground at Schedule 1 paragraph 4
- Safety of Sports Grounds (Northern Ireland) Order 2006
- Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Act 1987, Part 3, for regulated stands
- Licensing Act 2003 and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005, as amended by Schedule 4 to the Act

3.2 Secondary legislation

- The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 (Commencement No. 2) Regulations 2026 (SI 2026/622)
- The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) (Notification Requirements) Regulations 2026 (SI 2026/793), reproduced in substance at Annex D of WMA-PSA-CAT-001
- Any further commencement regulations under section 37, and any regulations under sections 4(3), 7(1)(e), 9 and 32, as made

3.3 Statutory guidance

- Home Office statutory guidance under section 27 of the Act, published 15 April 2026, including the correction slip of 6 August 2026
- Home Office guidance on the notification requirement, published 14 July 2026
- Security Industry Authority guidance under section 12 of the Act, once approved and published. [Held: the title and date of the published guidance are inserted here on publication]

Section 27(5) of the Act attaches evidential weight to conformity with the section 27 guidance. Every control in WMA-PSA-CAT-001 cites the paragraph of that guidance on which it rests where one exists, and an assessment file records where the responsible person's arrangements follow it.

3.4 Technical guidance

- ProtectUK, the National Counter Terrorism Security Office platform, including the ACT Awareness and See, Check and Notify products
- National Protective Security Authority published guidance on protective security, hostile vehicle mitigation, hostile reconnaissance and security-minded communications
- Home Office factsheets on the assessment of numbers, the responsible person, and the standard and enhanced tiers, as current
- The Purple Guide to Health, Safety and Welfare at Music and Other Events, for the crowd management context at ML-ENH-02 in the events profile

Technical guidance is the reference base for what is available to a responsible person. The statutory test of what is appropriate and reasonably practicable remains the yardstick, and an assessor does not score a responsible person against a technical publication as if it were a requirement of the Act.

3.5 Related legislation

- Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 and Fire and Rescue Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2006, for the fire evacuation arrangements the procedures at ML-STD-05 sit alongside
- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK General Data Protection Regulation, for the information security arrangements at ML-ENH-04 and the personnel records at ML-STD-10

4. Alignment basis

4.1 Statutory duties

Every control in WMA-PSA-CAT-001 derives from a section of Part 1 of the Act. The table shows where each duty is assessed.

Provision	Duty	Standard sections
Sections 2, 3, 4 and Schedules 1 and 2	Whether premises or an event qualify, at which tier, and who is responsible	Scope determination at Section 7, P1 (ML-STD-01 to 03)
Section 5	Public protection procedures: evacuation, invacuation, lockdown, communication, appropriate and reasonably practicable, followed by individuals working there	P2 (ML-STD-05 to 10)
Section 6	Public protection measures: monitoring, movement, physical safety and security, security of information, assessed and kept under review	P4 (ML-ENH-01 to 05)
Section 7	Compliance document prepared, kept up to date, provided to the SIA and revised copies provided within 30 days	P5 (ML-ENH-06, 07)
Section 8	Co-ordination and co-operation between persons responsible for, or with control of, the same premises	P3 (ML-STD-12)
Section 9 and SI 2026/793	Notification to the SIA and correction of notified information	P1 (ML-STD-04), DC-P7
Section 10	Designated senior individual where the responsible person is a body	P3 (ML-STD-11), DC-P5
Sections 12 to 26 and Schedule 3	Regulation, investigation, enforcement, penalties and offences	Section 12 of this standard, DC-P8, DC-P9, P5 (ML-ENH-08)
Section 27	Statutory guidance and its evidential weight	Section 3.3 of this standard, every control citation
Section 11	Tribunal determination of scope questions	Section 7 of this standard, disputed determinations

4.2 Statutory guidance

The section 27 guidance is organised by chapter. The table shows where each chapter is applied. Paragraph citations are carried in the statutory basis field of each control in WMA-PSA-CAT-001.

Guidance chapter	Standard sections
Chapter 4, qualifying premises and Schedule 1 uses (paragraphs 4.17 to 4.19 on principal use)	Scope determination, ML-STD-01
Chapter 5, tiers and the assessment of numbers	ML-STD-02
Chapter 6, the responsible person and co-ordination (paragraphs 6.3 to 6.5, 6.21 to 6.22)	ML-STD-03, ML-STD-12
Chapter 7, public protection procedures (including paragraphs 7.41 to 7.45 on lockdown)	P2
Chapter 8, public protection measures (paragraphs 8.7 to 8.55)	P4
Chapter 9, documenting compliance and the senior individual (paragraphs 9.12 to 9.16)	P3, P5
Chapters on the SIA, notification, enforcement and penalties	ML-STD-04, Section 12 of this standard

4.3 Origin in the Martyn's Law Assurance Framework

The control set was first published as the Martyn's Law Assurance Framework (MLAF) v1.0 on 7 July 2026 and revised to v1.1 on 3 September 2026 to incorporate SI 2026/793. MLAF was verified against the Act as enacted and carries two rating axes: compliance (Compliant, Partial, Gap, Not applicable) and maturity (None, Informal, Documented, Practised, Embedded). This standard adopts the twenty MLAF controls unchanged in substance, retains the MLAF identifiers, and reconciles the maturity axis to the scheme score at Section 8. The compliance axis is used to identify candidate disqualifying conditions at Section 6.

4.4 Legal position at the date of this version

Dated statement, September 2026. The assurance statement and every report issued under this standard reproduce the statement current at the date of issue.

- The Act received Royal Assent on 3 April 2025. The substantive duties in sections 5 to 10 are not yet in force. Commencement is expected in spring 2027 following the minimum 24-month implementation period.
- Section 12(2)(a), (b) and (3), the SIA guidance duty, and section 18(5) to (7), the qualifying worldwide revenue statement, came into force on 15 June 2026 under SI 2026/622.
- The Home Office section 27 guidance was published on 15 April 2026 and corrected on 6 August 2026.
- The Notification Requirements Regulations 2026 were made on 9 July 2026 and come into force on the day section 9(1) comes fully into force.
- The SIA section 12 guidance was consulted on to 12 June 2026 and awaits Home Secretary approval and publication.
- No regulations have been made under section 4(3), section 7(1)(e) or section 32.

Consequences for assessment: there is at present no legal requirement to comply, no notification portal, and no submission route for compliance documents. ML-STD-04 and ML-ENH-06 are scored on readiness until the relevant commencement date, and DC-P7 and DC-P8 are dormant until then. Everything else in the Act's requirements can be prepared, implemented and evidenced now, and the statutory guidance exists to support that preparation.

5. Conventions and definitions

5.1 Normative conventions

Term	Meaning
shall	A requirement. Failure to meet it affects the score, and where the requirement is identified as disqualifying it prevents a positive outcome.
should	A recommendation. A responsible person departing from it is expected to explain the alternative adopted. Departure without explanation affects the score.
may	A permission. No score attaches to the choice.
the Responsible Person	The person or body undergoing or holding an assessment, being the person responsible under section 4 of the Act for the premises or event assessed, as named on the assurance statement. Where the responsible person is a body, the assessment attaches to the legal entity and the premises within scope are listed on the certificate.
the Assessor	The individual conducting the assessment on behalf of Westmark Assurance under a Protective Security authorisation.
the Scheme Owner	Westmark Assurance, a trading name of Ross Macdonald Consultancy Ltd.
the Act	The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025.
the SIA	The Security Industry Authority, in its functions under Part 1 of the Act.

Where a defined term appears in this standard or in WMA-PSA-CAT-001, it carries the meaning given in this section. Where the Act, regulations under it or the section 27 guidance define the same term, the statutory definition governs and this standard is read consistently with it.

5.2 Scheme terms

Term	Definition
Assessment	The examination of a Responsible Person's arrangements for a premises or event against this standard and the control set, conducted as one of the products at 2.2 and resulting in an outcome.
Control Set	WMA-PSA-CAT-001, the normative annex containing the controls against which a Responsible Person is scored. Each version carries its own reference and change log.
Outcome	For an enhanced premises assessment or a qualifying event assessment, one of the three results defined at Section 11: Westmark Protected Premises Mark, Westmark Protected Premises Conditional, or Not Confirmed. For a standard premises declaration, Declared or Not Declared. No other result is recorded.
Confidence Level	The Assessor's judgement of the strength and consistency of evidence supporting a Westmark Protected Premises Mark outcome, recorded as High, Moderate or Limited. It is a separate judgement from the score.
Disqualifying Condition (DC)	A condition which, where found, prevents an outcome of Westmark Protected Premises Mark irrespective of the score achieved. The conditions are at Section 12 and Annex A of the control set, numbered DC-P1 to DC-P9.
Scope Determination	The recorded, dated and attributable application of the gateway tests at Section 7.3, fixing whether the premises or event qualify, at which tier, and who is responsible, before any control is scored.
Maturity	The level at which a control is held by the Responsible Person, recorded against the anchors in the control set as None, Informal, Documented, Practised or Embedded, and reconciled to the score at Section 8.
Corroboration	Evidence of a single matter drawn from more than one independent source. A single document, a single interview, or a single observation does not corroborate itself.

Term	Definition
Direct Verification	A test performed by the Assessor on the visit in which an arrangement is exercised rather than described: the timed securing of entry points, a live communication cascade, the retrieval of named records, the Assessor's own open-source exposure check.
Documentary evidence	Scope determinations, procedures, appropriateness records, vulnerability assessments, compliance documents, training and drill records, co-ordination agreements, revision logs, notification packs and the records in the register pack.
Observational evidence	The site examination, observation of the premises or event in use at the peak period, inspection of entry points, invacuation areas, routes and measures.
Testimonial evidence	Structured interviews with the senior individual, the procedure owner, front-line workers and counterpart duty holders.
Record evidence	Correspondence, minutes, incident logs, report logs, change records and other artefacts generated during normal operation rather than produced for the assessment.
Assessment File	The Assessor's contemporaneous record of the assessment, retained for seven years.
Assurance Statement	The document issued to the Responsible Person recording the outcome, the product, the premises or event, any limitations, the dated legal position at 4.4, and any improvement actions.
Standard Premises Declaration	The desk-verified product for standard duty premises at 2.2, recorded on the register as Declared with the words "desk verified, no site visit".

5.3 Statutory terms

Term	Definition
Qualifying premises	Premises meeting each of the four conditions in section 2(2) of the Act: a building or a building and other land, wholly or mainly used for a Schedule 1 use, at which 200 or more individuals may reasonably be expected from time to time to be present at the same time, and not excluded by Schedule 2 Part 1.
Standard duty premises	Qualifying premises at which the expected number is 200 to 799, or which Schedule 1 directs to the standard tier irrespective of number (places of worship, childcare, primary, secondary and further education).
Enhanced duty premises	Qualifying premises at which the expected number is 800 or more, not being premises Schedule 1 directs to the standard tier.
Qualifying event	An event meeting each of the six conditions in section 3(1) of the Act, including 800 or more individuals reasonably expected and entry checks in place.
Responsible person	Under section 4, the person with control of the premises in connection with the relevant Schedule 1 use, or of the premises in connection with their use for the event, subject to the specified-person rules in Schedule 1.
Senior individual	The individual concerned in the management or control of a body that is the responsible person for enhanced duty premises or a qualifying event, designated under section 10 as having responsibility for the body's compliance.
Public protection procedures	The procedures required by section 5 for evacuation, invacuation, lockdown and communication, to be followed by individuals working on the premises or at the event where there is reason to suspect an act of terrorism is occurring or about to occur.
Public protection measures	The measures required by section 6 at enhanced duty premises and qualifying events, relating to monitoring, the movement of individuals, physical safety and security, and security of information.
Compliance document	The document required by section 7, stating the procedures and measures in place and assessing how they may be expected to reduce risk and vulnerability, provided to the SIA and revised within 30 days of any revision.

Term	Definition
Act of terrorism	Has the meaning in section 33, which extends by section 33(3) to the use or threat of action reasonably suspected to be carried out in the course of, or in the planning or preparation of, an act of terrorism.
Immediate vicinity	The area around the premises or event within which an act of terrorism would put individuals at the premises or event at risk of physical harm, as applied in the section 27 guidance. Its extent is a matter of judgement recorded in the scope determination.
Schedule 1 use and principal use	The uses listed in Schedule 1 and, where more than one applies, the use determined under section 4(2) as the principal use.
Group of buildings	Buildings treated as one set of premises under section 2, indicated by close proximity and a common responsible person for all or most of them.
First publicised	For a qualifying event, the day its date is first made available to members of the public for advertising, by or with the authority of a responsible person, through any medium, as defined in regulation 2 of SI 2026/793.

5.4 Premises and operational terms

Term	Definition
Entry point	Any door, gate, shutter, barrier or opening through which an individual can enter or leave the premises or the event perimeter, including staff, service and emergency exits, whether or not in ordinary use.
Invacuation area	A place on the premises or at the event designated in the invacuation procedure as offering less risk of physical harm, with recorded selection reasoning and capacity.
Operating pattern	The range of conditions under which the premises or event operates across the week, season or event day, including opening hours, programming, peak and quiet periods, and staffing at each.
Peak period	The period within the operating pattern at which the greatest number of individuals is present or entering, observed by the Assessor during the site examination.
Quietest realistic staffing level	The lowest number of workers on duty at any time the premises are open to the public, taken from the rota rather than from description, against which the procedures are tested for executability.
Worker categories	Permanent employees, casual and zero-hours workers, agency workers, volunteers, contractors and, for events, stewards supplied by a contractor. The procedures bind every category by section 5(3).
Counterpart duty holder	A person other than the Responsible Person who is responsible for, or has any extent of control of, the same premises or event premises, with whom co-ordination or co-operation is required under section 8.
Event phases	Build, show and break: the periods before public admission, during public presence, and after public departure, each examined for a qualifying event.
Provisional outcome	For a qualifying event, the position given after the build phase so a promoter may display it during the event, worded as provisional on the register until close-out confirms or alters it.

6. Roles, competence and independence

6.1 Accountability

6.1.1 Where the Responsible Person is a body, accountability for compliance with the Act rests with the senior individual designated under section 10 for enhanced duty premises and qualifying events. For standard duty premises, where no designation is required, the Responsible Person shall name a single individual concerned in its management or control who holds the same accountability for the purposes of this standard.

6.1.2 Where the Responsible Person is an individual, that individual holds the accountability and shall not delegate it.

6.1.3 The accountability shall not be shared between individuals or held by a committee. Activity supporting it may be delegated to a procedure owner, a duty manager, an event safety manager or a security contractor, provided the delegation is documented and the accountability remains with the named individual.

6.1.4 The named individual shall be recorded by name and position in the scope determination, on the compliance document where one is required, and on any assurance statement issued under this standard.

6.1.5 Where the named individual changes, the Responsible Person shall record the date of change, notify the Scheme Owner within twenty working days where an outcome is held, and, after commencement, correct the notified information with the SIA within the period at regulation 6 of SI 2026/793.

6.2 Roles within the Responsible Person

Role	Holds	Requirement
Senior Individual	Accountability for compliance across the premises or event	Approves the procedures and the appropriateness record, approves the vulnerability assessment and measure set at the enhanced tier, signs the compliance document, receives notification of every incident and drill finding, and is the escalation point
Procedure Owner	Responsibility for maintaining the procedures and their records	Maintains the four procedures, the appropriateness record, the training register, the drill and exercise record, the revision log and the notification pack
Initiation Authority	Authority on duty to initiate evacuation, invacuation or lockdown	Named per shift or event phase in the procedures with deputies, present whenever the premises are open to the public, briefed on the decision prompts
Event Safety Manager (events)	Responsibility for the procedures and measures during build, show and break	Holds the event-specific procedures, briefs stewards including contractor-supplied stewards, is the point of contact for the venue operator and any Safety Advisory Group
All workers	Individual obligation under section 5(3)	Know the four procedures and their role in each, complete briefing before first solo shift or first event, report suspicious activity and near misses without delay

6.3 Role concentration in smaller organisations

6.3.1 The Senior Individual, the Procedure Owner and the Initiation Authority may be the same individual where the size of the Responsible Person makes separation impracticable.

6.3.2 Where roles are concentrated, the Responsible Person shall record the concentration and shall identify how a decision on the procedures or measures receives a second view. Acceptable arrangements include a nominated deputy, a counterpart duty holder under ML-STD-12, a Counter Terrorism Security Adviser, a Safety Advisory Group, or a retained adviser.

6.3.3 A Responsible Person in which one individual holds every role and is also the only initiation authority on duty during the quietest realistic staffing level shall not score above 1 on ML-STD-10. This is a limit on score rather than a

disqualification. It reflects that a procedure which depends on one person cannot be shown to operate when that person is absent.

6.3.4 Concentration of roles shall be recorded on the assurance statement as a stated limitation.

6.4 Competence

6.4.1 The Responsible Person shall hold a record demonstrating that each person performing a role at 6.2 is competent for it. Competence may rest on qualification, credential, training or experience. Experience is a sufficient basis where the record states what that experience consists of and how it bears on the role.

6.4.2 For the Senior Individual and the Procedure Owner, the record shall show familiarity with the Act, the section 27 guidance and the ProtectUK awareness products, refreshed within the last twelve months.

6.4.3 Where the Responsible Person lacks internal competence for an activity, in particular the vulnerability assessment at ML-ENH-05, it shall record how the activity is resourced. Sourcing competence externally is acceptable. Leaving the activity unresourced is not.

6.5 Resourcing

6.5.1 The Senior Individual shall make resource available for the activities the Act requires, including time for briefing and drills across all worker categories, the means of communication the procedures rely on, maintenance of any physical measures, and the record-keeping at ML-ENH-08.

6.5.2 A Responsible Person that cannot show how drills and briefings are resourced across casual, agency and volunteer workers will be examined closely at ML-STD-10, because unresourced briefing tends not to reach the newest worker on the quietest shift.

6.6 Scheme roles

Role	Held by	Function
Assessor	An individual holding a Protective Security authorisation from the Scheme Owner under WMA-AAA-001	Conducts the scope determination and the assessment, performs the direct verifications, gathers and tests evidence, applies the scoring criteria, and prepares the assurance statement or finding report
Technical Reviewer	An individual holding a Protective Security authorisation, other than the Assessor	Reviews the assessment file and the proposed outcome before issue, and confirms that the scoring, the direct verification results and the independent opinions at ML-STD-09 and ML-ENH-05 are supported by the evidence recorded
Scheme Owner	Westmark Assurance	Owns this standard and the control set, authorises Assessors, maintains the register, and decides on suspension and withdrawal

6.7 Assessor competence

6.7.1 A Protective Security authorisation is distinct from a Defence Supplier Mark authorisation. Holding one confers no authority to assess under the other.

6.7.2 An Assessor shall demonstrate, before authorisation, a background meeting at least two of the following: service as a Counter Terrorism Security Adviser or equivalent within counter-terrorism policing, or as a police or military protective security specialist, membership of the Register of Security Engineers and Specialists or Chartered Security Professional status, five years in operational security management of premises or events at enhanced-tier scale with live responsibility for evacuation, invacuation and lockdown arrangements, a crowd safety qualification at level 5 or above with experience at qualifying-event scale, membership of the Security Institute at MSyl or above with demonstrable protective security practice.

6.7.3 An Assessor shall have completed the NPSA and ProtectUK training products current at the date of authorisation, including ACT Awareness as a minimum, and shall demonstrate working knowledge of the publications at Section 3, tested at authorisation and at annual renewal.

6.7.4 An Assessor shall complete the Scheme Owner's induction covering the scoring model, the Assessor Handbook and the interview set, and shall conduct a first assessment witnessed by an existing Protective Security Assessor before assessing alone.

6.7.5 The Scheme Owner shall hold a competence record for each Assessor in WMA-AAP-001 Form A, reviewed annually, recording the products the Assessor is authorised to assess. An Assessor without event experience at qualifying-event scale does not assess a qualifying event.

6.7.6 An Assessor shall complete continuing professional development covering the normative references and any change to the published threat picture, and shall record it.

6.8 Technical review

6.8.1 Every outcome, including a Standard Premises Declaration, shall be reviewed by a Technical Reviewer before issue.

6.8.2 Where the Scheme Owner does not have a second authorised individual available, the review shall be performed under a documented arrangement with an external reviewer holding the competence at 6.7 and bound by the confidentiality terms at Section 15, recorded in WMA-AAP-001 Form D.

6.8.3 An outcome issued without technical review shall not be issued. Where review is unavailable, the assessment is held and the Responsible Person is informed of the delay and its cause. For a qualifying event, a provisional outcome may be given after the build phase without review, and the reviewed outcome follows close-out.

6.9 Independence and conflict of interest

6.9.1 The credibility of an outcome under this standard rests on the Assessor having no interest in the result. This section is applied without exception and without commercial discretion.

6.9.2 Related Body. For the purposes of this section, a Related Body is any legal entity which, in relation to the Scheme Owner: is under common ownership or common control, shares a director, member, partner or controlling individual, shares personnel who perform assessment or consultancy work, holds a financial interest in the Scheme Owner, or in which the Scheme Owner holds a financial interest, or operates under a standing commercial arrangement with the Scheme Owner covering referral, revenue sharing, joint delivery, subcontracting or reseller terms. Separate incorporation does not by itself take an entity outside this definition. The test is whether an informed observer would consider the relationship capable of affecting the Assessor's judgement.

6.9.3 Trading names and Related Bodies of the Scheme Owner. Where a Licensed Partner for this scheme is a trading name of the Scheme Owner or a Related Body, a Responsible Person that has received consultancy, implementation, documentation drafting, training or gap analysis services from that partner within the period at 6.9.4 shall be assessed by an Authorised Assessor who is not an employee, director or contractor of the Scheme Owner or of any Related Body, under an arrangement in which the Scheme Owner's role is confined to scheme administration, technical review by an external reviewer under 6.8.2, and issue. The disclosure at 6.9.7 states this arrangement and names the partner concerned.

6.9.4 Consultancy separation. No Assessor shall assess a Responsible Person which, within the period beginning 24 months before the assessment date and ending on expiry of the outcome, has received security consultancy, advisory, implementation, documentation drafting, gap analysis or training services from that Assessor, from the Assessor's employer, or from a Related Body of the Assessor.

6.9.5 Template provision and the gap analysis tool. Issuing the template paperwork forming Part B of this scheme, unmodified and available on the same terms to every Responsible Person, does not constitute consultancy. A Responsible Person's own use of the gap analysis tool published under the Martyn's Law Assurance Framework, without a Licensed Partner's personnel completing or interpreting it, does not constitute consultancy. Tailoring a

template, drafting a procedure, populating a vulnerability assessment, completing the gap analysis on the Responsible Person's behalf, or advising on how to raise a score does constitute consultancy and engages 6.9.3 and 6.9.4.

6.9.6 Register of Related Bodies. The Scheme Owner shall maintain a register of Related Bodies, reviewed annually and on any change of control, directorship or standing commercial arrangement, and shall list every trading name of the Scheme Owner on it. The register is disclosed to any licensing authority, insurer, landlord, event owner or Safety Advisory Group on request.

6.9.7 Declaration. Before assessment begins, the Scheme Owner shall disclose in writing to the Responsible Person, and to any party commissioning the assessment, the existence of every Related Body providing services in the security field and the arrangement at 6.9.3. The disclosure is made whether or not the Responsible Person has used that body.

6.9.8 Prior relationship. An Assessor shall not assess a Responsible Person in which the Assessor, or a person connected to the Assessor, holds a financial interest, a directorship, an employment relationship, or a family connection, or for whose premises or event the Assessor has acted as a security contractor, steward supplier or Counter Terrorism Security Adviser within the period at 6.9.4.

6.9.9 Referral. The Scheme Owner may refer a Responsible Person requiring consultancy to a Licensed Partner or another provider, and shall not receive a fee, commission or other benefit for the referral beyond the Licensed Partner fee under WMA-FEE-001.

6.9.10 Emergent conflict. Where a conflict arises during an assessment, the Assessor shall stop, notify the Scheme Owner, and record the matter. The assessment is reassigned or terminated. It is not completed by the conflicted Assessor.

6.9.11 Declaration before assessment. The Assessor shall complete WMA-AAP-001 Form B before each assessment, recording any relationship with the Responsible Person, its personnel, its counterpart duty holders, its security contractors, or any party commissioning the assessment. The declaration is retained on the assessment file.

6.9.12 Fee structure. Assessor remuneration shall not vary with the outcome awarded. The Scheme Owner shall not offer, and shall not accept, a fee arrangement contingent on a Responsible Person achieving a particular outcome.

6.9.13 Commissioning party. Where an assessment is commissioned by a landlord, event owner, licensing authority, insurer or franchisor in respect of a Responsible Person, the Assessor's obligations of accuracy run to both. The Assessor shall not discuss emerging findings with the commissioning party before the assurance statement is issued, and shall not accept direction from either party on the scope determination, the sample, the scoring, or the outcome.

6.10 Assessor conduct

Conduct obligations governing hospitality, contemporaneous recording, confidentiality during assessment, the handling of security-relevant information obtained during assessment, and the testing of adverse findings are at Section 15.

7. The assessment process

7.1 Stages

Stage	Purpose	Output
1. Enquiry and eligibility	Establish that the enquirer is, or expects on commencement to be, the responsible person for premises or an event within Section 2	Eligibility record
2. Scope determination	Apply the gateway tests and the override register, fix the tier and the responsible person	Scope determination record, signed by the Responsible Person and the Assessor
3. Scoping	Fix the product, the premises or event, the control set version and the assessment terms	Signed assessment agreement
4. Pre-assessment submission	Obtain the documentary set	Submission log
5. Site examination	Examine the premises or event across the operating pattern, perform the direct verifications, interview personnel, inspect measures	Evidence record against each control, direct verification results
6. Findings testing	Give the Responsible Person opportunity to produce further evidence against any adverse view	Response record
7. Scoring and technical review	Apply the criteria, record the independent opinions, review the file, confirm the outcome	Scored assessment, reviewer sign-off
8. Issue	Issue the assurance statement or the finding report	Statement or report, register entry

Stages are sequential. An Assessor shall not score a control before the findings testing at stage 6 has been completed in respect of that control. For a Standard Premises Declaration, stage 5 is a desk review and remote interview and stage 2 is performed on the documents submitted. For a qualifying event, stage 5 spans the build, show and break phases and stage 8 follows close-out.

7.2 Enquiry and eligibility

7.2.1 The Scheme Owner shall establish at enquiry that the enquirer controls, or on commencement will control, premises or an event within the applicability at Section 2, and on what basis.

7.2.2 A person with no control of any premises or event within scope shall not be assessed. The standard assesses arrangements for a place. It does not assess a consultancy, a security contractor or a template.

7.2.3 Where premises are not yet open, or an event has not yet been publicised, the Scheme Owner may offer a readiness review. A readiness review produces no outcome, carries no certificate, appears on no register, and shall not be represented as an assessment.

7.3 Scope determination

7.3.1 Before any control is scored, the Assessor shall apply the gateway tests at Annex E of the control set: GT-1 to GT-4 for premises, or GT-E for an event, and shall then apply the override register at Annex B. The determination records the profile selected, the Schedule 1 paragraph relied on, the attendance figure and its method, the exclusion check, the tier, and the responsible person.

7.3.2 The determination is recorded whichever way it falls. Premises found not to qualify, or an event found not to qualify, receive a recorded out-of-scope determination, which is a deliverable in its own right and is not an outcome under Section 11.

7.3.3 The Assessor forms an independent view at each gateway. Where the Assessor's view differs from the Responsible Person's, the Assessor's view governs the assessment, the difference is recorded, and the Responsible Person may proceed under the Assessor's determination or withdraw.

7.3.4 Where a determination is disputed between the Responsible Person and a counterpart duty holder, the SIA or any other interested person, the assessment records the dispute, proceeds on the responsible person and tier as presented, and notes on the assurance statement that section 11 of the Act provides the route to a binding determination. The Assessor does not resolve the dispute.

7.3.5 Where a site with no building is presented as premises, GT-1 routes it to GT-E and the event product. Where an event is presented at premises found to be enhanced duty premises, GT-E condition 2 fails and the event is examined through the venue's premises duties, with the organiser's role assessed under ML-STD-12.

7.4 Scoping

7.4.1 Scope is fixed after the scope determination and before assessment begins, and is recorded in the assessment agreement. It shall state the product at 2.2, the legal entity assessed and, where it is a body, the senior individual, the premises by address or the event by name, venue and date, for a portfolio, each premises separately, the version of WMA-PSA-CAT-001 applying, and the sections in scope with any section recorded as not applicable and the reason.

7.4.2 Where the Assessor finds on site that the tier is wrong, that the premises extend beyond the address scoped, or that the responsible person is other than as presented, the assessment is suspended and rescope.

7.4.3 Scope shall not be narrowed after the site examination has begun in order to exclude an entry point, an area, a phase or a worker category the Assessor has selected for examination.

7.5 Control set version currency

7.5.1 An assessment is conducted against the version of WMA-PSA-CAT-001 extant on the date the assessment agreement is signed.

7.5.2 Where a new version is issued after signature and before the assessment concludes, the assessment continues against the version at signature. The Assessor records the superseding version on the assessment file and notes it on the assurance statement.

7.5.3 An outcome awarded against a superseded version remains valid until its expiry date. It is not withdrawn or downgraded by the issue of a new control set.

7.5.4 Reassessment is conducted against the version extant at the date the reassessment agreement is signed.

7.5.5 Where commencement regulations, regulations under section 32, or the SIA section 12 guidance introduce a requirement the Scheme Owner judges to be of immediate effect, the Scheme Owner may issue the new control set with a stated application date and may require holders to confirm their position on the affected controls at the next annual declaration. Activation of DC-P7 and DC-P8 on commencement is provided for in this standard and requires no such issue.

7.6 Pre-assessment submission

7.6.1 The Responsible Person shall submit, before the site examination:

- The scope determination record and the documents it relies on: lease, licence, management agreement or hire contract, occupancy or capacity evidence
- The four public protection procedures and the appropriateness record
- The rota or staffing plan covering the operating pattern, identifying the quietest realistic staffing level and the initiation authority on each shift or phase
- Training and briefing records across all worker categories, and the drill and exercise record for the assessment period
- The co-ordination agreement and counterpart contact list where ML-STD-12 applies
- The notification pack, or after commencement the notification and acknowledgement

- At the enhanced tier: the vulnerability assessment, the measure records for each category, the compliance document with its version history and revision log, the senior individual designation and minute, and the record set index
- For an event: the event footprint, the crowd management plan, the stewarding plan including contractor-supplied stewards, and any Safety Advisory Group correspondence

7.6.2 The assessment period is the twelve months preceding the assessment date, or the period since the premises opened or the Responsible Person took control, whichever is shorter. For an event, it is the period since the event was first publicised, together with the records of any previous occurrence of the same event.

7.6.3 Where the Responsible Person withholds a document, the Assessor records the withholding, the reason given, and the effect on the evidence available. Clause 7.12 governs the treatment.

7.7 Site examination

7.7.1 Enhanced premises. The Assessor shall, on one visit set by the day banding at WMA-FEE-001: walk every entry point on the lockdown schedule, inspect every designated invacuation area against its selection reasoning, walk the primary and alternative evacuation routes to the assembly or dispersal arrangements, examine the immediate vicinity including queue lines, approaches and vehicle routes, observe at least one peak period, and inspect the physical measures relied on in the vulnerability assessment.

7.7.2 Direct verifications at enhanced premises. The Assessor shall perform, and record the result of: a timed securing of every scheduled entry point with the workers on duty, one full communication cascade with a live public address and radio test across the areas the coverage schedule claims, including any recorded dead zone, the retrieval of three records named by the Assessor from the record set, and the Assessor's own open-source exposure check performed before the visit. A failed direct verification caps the linked control at 1 whatever the documents show.

7.7.3 Qualifying events. The Assessor shall examine the documents no later than 28 days before the event, verify during the build phase that the perimeter, entry points, invacuation areas and communication infrastructure exist as documented, observe ingress at peak during the show phase, check the briefing of stewards including contractor-supplied stewards, and perform a communication test, and review records, the incident log and lessons at close-out.

7.7.4 Standard premises declaration. The Assessor shall review the scope and tier determination, the four procedures, the appropriateness record and the training record, and shall conduct one remote interview with the procedure owner and one with a front-line worker. No site visit is made, and the register entry states so.

7.7.5 The Assessor selects what is examined. The Responsible Person may propose and shall not direct the selection of entry points, areas, periods, workers or records.

7.8 Evidence

7.8.1 Evidence falls into the four categories defined at 5.2 together with direct verification. The Assessor draws on more than one category across the assessment as a whole, and on direct verification for every control the control set marks for it.

7.8.2 Corroboration. A score of 2 against any control requires corroboration. A single document, a single interview, or a single observation does not corroborate itself. Corroboration is the distinction between this standard and a documentary compliance review, and it is applied without exception.

7.8.3 Record evidence generated during normal operation carries greater weight than material produced in response to the assessment. The Assessor records which of the two a given item is. A drill record dated within the month before the assessment, with no earlier drill on file, is recorded as produced for the assessment.

7.8.4 The Assessor shall not accept a statement of intent as evidence of practice. A procedure describing what workers will do evidences the existence of the procedure. Evidence that it operates is drawn from drill records, direct verification, observation and interview.

7.8.5 The section 27 guidance. Where the Responsible Person's arrangements follow the statutory guidance, the Assessor records the correspondence in the assessment file, so the record supports the Responsible Person under section 27(5). Departure from the guidance is not itself a shortfall where the appropriateness record explains it and the Assessor's independent opinion at ML-STD-09 supports the alternative.

7.9 Interviews

7.9.1 The Assessor interviews, as a minimum: the senior individual or the accountable individual at 6.1, separately from the procedure owner, the procedure owner, and at least three front-line workers, including one casual, agency or volunteer worker where the workforce includes them, and one worker in their first month or first event where such a worker is on duty. For an event, at least one contractor-supplied steward is interviewed.

7.9.2 Front-line workers are interviewed without a manager present, unless the worker requests otherwise. Where a Responsible Person declines to permit this, the Assessor records the refusal and the confidence level is capped at Limited.

7.9.3 Interviews test understanding rather than recall of document titles. A worker who cannot name the procedure but names the invacuation area for their position, the lockdown action for their nearest entry point, and one circumstance in which they would invacuate rather than evacuate, evidences the outcome the requirement seeks.

7.9.4 The senior individual is asked, without prompting, to name the invacuation areas, the lockdown initiation authority, and the date of the last drill. The result is recorded against ML-STD-11.

7.9.5 Where ML-STD-12 applies, the Assessor contacts one counterpart duty holder to confirm that the co-ordination arrangement exists from their side. The contact and its result are recorded.

7.10 Observation

7.10.1 For an enhanced premises assessment or a qualifying event assessment, the assessment shall include observation of the premises or event in use at a peak period. Observation at a quiet period alone does not satisfy this clause.

7.10.2 The Assessor shall identify from the rota the quietest realistic staffing level and shall test, by calculation against the timed lockdown and by interview, whether the procedures can be executed at that level. The result is recorded against ML-STD-07 and ML-STD-10.

7.10.3 Where a measure recorded as present is found absent, defective or unstaffed on observation, the finding caps the linked control at 1 and is recorded on the assurance statement.

7.11 Findings testing

7.11.1 Before scoring, the Assessor shall put every adverse view to the Responsible Person in writing, identifying the control, the evidence examined and the shortfall found, and shall allow ten working days for further evidence.

7.11.2 Further evidence is examined on the same terms as the original submission. A document produced at this stage that did not exist at the site examination is recorded as produced for the assessment and does not lift a direct verification result.

7.11.3 For a qualifying event, findings testing takes place between the show phase and close-out, and the ten working days may be shortened by agreement so the outcome can issue in a useful time.

7.12 Limitations

7.12.1 Where a document is withheld, an area or entry point cannot be examined, a direct verification cannot be performed, a worker category is unavailable for interview, or a counterpart duty holder cannot be contacted, the Assessor records the limitation and its effect.

7.12.2 A limitation that prevents corroboration of a control caps that control at 1. A limitation that prevents a direct verification caps the linked control at 1. Two or more limitations of either kind cap the confidence level at Limited.

7.12.3 Every limitation appears on the assurance statement.

8. Evidence and scoring

8.1 The scale

Every control in WMA-PSA-CAT-001 is scored on a three point scale. The scale is reconciled to the five maturity anchors carried against each control.

Score	Label	Maturity	Meaning
0	Absent	None or Informal	The control is not met. Either nothing is in place, or an arrangement exists in people's heads only, or something documented does not operate.
1	Established	Documented	The control is met. It is written, current and approved. Evidence that it operates rests on a single source, or it operates on some shifts, phases or worker categories and not others.
2	Embedded	Practised or Embedded	The control is met, evidence is corroborated from more than one source, the control operates across the whole operating pattern and every worker category, it has been exercised within the last twelve months, and every direct verification linked to it succeeded.

No half marks, no intermediate values, and no fourth score. Where an Assessor is undecided between two scores, the lower applies. The maturity level is recorded alongside the score, and the distinction between Practised and Embedded is reported to the Responsible Person without affecting the score.

8.2 What each score requires

Score 0

Awarded where any of the following is found:

- Nothing is in place addressing the control
- A document exists describing the control, with no record, observation, direct verification or testimony that it operates
- The control operates on some part of the premises or at some times and is absent from the operating pattern examined
- Practice observed contradicts the documented position
- A procedure is the fire evacuation plan, or a template, with the name changed and no fit to the premises

Score 1

Awarded where the control is met and one or more of the following applies:

- Evidence comes from a single source, uncorroborated
- The control operates on some shifts, phases or worker categories and is missed on others
- The control operates through the personal practice of an individual with nothing to sustain it if that individual is absent
- Records exist but are incomplete across the assessment period, or no drill, walkthrough or test has taken place within the last twelve months
- A direct verification linked to the control failed, or a measure recorded as present was found absent, defective or unstaffed
- The Responsible Person acted correctly following a prompt from a counterpart, an authority or a contractor rather than through its own process

Score 2

Awarded only where all of the following apply:

- The control is met
- Evidence is corroborated in accordance with 8.3
- The control operates across the whole operating pattern examined, including the quietest realistic staffing level, and across every worker category present

- The control has been exercised within the last twelve months, by drill, walkthrough, test or live use, with a record
- Every direct verification linked to the control succeeded
- The control operates through the Responsible Person's own process rather than through external prompting

8.3 Corroboration

8.3.1 Corroboration means evidence of the same matter drawn from more than one independent source.

Independence is judged by origin rather than by document count. Two documents produced by the same person on the same day for the same purpose are one source.

8.3.2 The following are independent of one another: a drill record, and testimony from a worker who took part in it, testimony from a front-line worker, and the Assessor's observation or direct verification of the practice described, a record held by the Responsible Person, and confirmation from a counterpart duty holder, a procedure, and the Assessor's inspection of the entry point, area or route it describes, a training register, and a worker in their first month describing their role.

8.3.3 The following do not corroborate: a procedure and a checklist derived from it, two workers repeating a briefing they received together, with no record and no observation, a completed template with no evidence that the activity it records took place, testimony from the author of the document being tested, a drill record with nothing earlier on file, dated within the month before the assessment.

8.3.4 Corroboration is required for a score of 2 and is not required for a score of 1.

8.4 Direct verification

8.4.1 Where the control set marks a control for direct verification, the Assessor performs the verification and records the result. The verifications and the controls they attach to are: the timed securing of every scheduled entry point (ML-STD-07), the live communication cascade and coverage test (ML-STD-08), the retrieval of three records named by the Assessor (ML-ENH-08), and the Assessor's own open-source exposure check (ML-ENH-04).

8.4.2 A failed direct verification caps the linked control at 1. A direct verification that could not be performed is a limitation under 7.12 and caps the linked control at 1.

8.4.3 A direct verification result is recorded with its method, its timing, the workers involved and the outcome. It is not re-run on the day to obtain a better result. Where the Responsible Person remedies a failure after the visit, the remedy is verified at the Conditional verification visit or at reassessment.

8.5 Consistency across the operating pattern

8.5.1 Consistency is assessed across the operating pattern rather than across a project sample. A control that operates at the peak period with a full team and cannot be shown to operate at the quietest realistic staffing level scores 1. A control known to permanent staff and unknown to casual, agency or volunteer workers scores 1.

8.5.2 For a qualifying event, consistency is assessed across the build, show and break phases and across contractor-supplied stewards as well as the promoter's own workers.

8.5.3 For a portfolio, each premises is scored on its own. Consistency across the portfolio is not scored, and a corporate procedure evidenced at one premises does not score at another.

8.6 Controls that do not apply

8.6.1 A control is recorded as Not Applicable where the structural condition it addresses is absent: ML-STD-11 where the Responsible Person is an individual, ML-STD-12 where responsibility for the premises is neither split nor nested, and ML-STD-01 for a qualifying event.

8.6.2 Not Applicable is a finding of fact and requires evidence drawn from the scope determination. An assertion by the Responsible Person is not sufficient.

8.6.3 A control recorded as Not Applicable is removed from both the points achieved and the points available for the section. It is never scored as though met.

8.6.4 P4 and P5 are outside the standard premises declaration by product, not by applicability. They are recorded as not assessed and their weight is redistributed under 10.4.

8.6.5 Where a circumstance recorded as Not Applicable subsequently arises, in particular where responsibility for the premises becomes split or a body becomes the Responsible Person, the Responsible Person shall notify the Scheme Owner within twenty working days. Section 13 governs the review that follows.

8.7 Controls linked to a Disqualifying Condition

8.7.1 Controls marked in the control set as linked to a Disqualifying Condition oblige the Assessor, on a score of 0, to test whether the condition at Section 12 is met. A score of 0 does not of itself establish the condition.

8.7.2 Where the condition is established, Section 12 applies and no outcome of Westmark Protected Premises Mark, and no Declared outcome, is available irrespective of the score achieved.

8.8 The scoring record

For every control, the Assessor records:

Field	Content
Control reference	The WMA-PSA-CAT-001 identifier
Score and maturity	0, 1, 2, Not Applicable or Not Assessed, with the maturity level
Evidence relied upon	Each item examined, identified sufficiently to be retrieved from the file
Sources	The origin of each item, and whether the sources are independent of one another
Operating pattern	The shifts, phases and worker categories across which the control was examined, and the position on each
Direct verification	Where applicable, the method, timing and result
Corroboration	Present or absent, with the basis where present
Findings testing	Whether an adverse view was put to the Responsible Person, and its response
Assessor note	The reasoning where the score is not self-evident, and for ML-STD-09 and ML-ENH-05 the independent opinion recorded under 9.4

A score recorded without an evidence entry is incomplete and shall not pass technical review.

8.9 Section and overall scoring

8.9.1 A section score is the points achieved divided by the points available within that section, expressed as a percentage. Points available is twice the number of controls scored, after removal of any recorded as Not Applicable or Not Assessed.

8.9.2 The overall score is the weighted sum of the section scores, using the weightings at Section 10.

8.9.3 Scores are calculated to one decimal place and reported to the nearest whole number. Rounding is applied once, at the overall score.

8.9.4 An overall score falling within one percentage point below a threshold at Section 11 shall be reviewed by the Technical Reviewer, who examines whether any single scoring decision determines the outcome and tests that decision specifically. The threshold is not adjusted.

8.10 What the Assessor does not do

8.10.1 The Assessor does not advise the Responsible Person how to raise a score, draft a procedure, select a measure, or identify which control to address first. Improvement actions attached to a Conditional outcome state what is deficient. They do not state how to remedy it.

8.10.2 The Assessor does not score a Responsible Person against a control outside the assessed product, against a superseded control set version, against a technical publication as if it were a requirement of the Act, or against the Assessor's own view of good practice where that view exceeds the control as written.

8.10.3 The independent opinions at ML-STD-09 and ML-ENH-05 are opinions on whether the Responsible Person's arrangements meet the statutory test at the premises examined. They are recorded in the assurance statement and are the specialist judgement the outcome rests on. They are not advice, and they do not describe what the Responsible Person should do instead.

8.10.4 Where an Assessor considers a control in WMA-PSA-CAT-001 to be unclear, wrongly calibrated or out of date, the Assessor scores it as written and raises the matter with the Scheme Owner for consideration at the next review of the control set.

9. Evidence sufficiency by control type

9.1 Purpose of this section

Section 8 sets the scale. This section sets what an Assessor accepts as evidence for each type of control, so that a score of 2 for a scope determination carries the same meaning as a score of 2 for a physical measure. Each control in WMA-PSA-CAT-001 carries a type marker, and the sufficiency rules below attach to the marker.

Marker	Control type	Controls
D	Determination	ML-STD-01, 02, 03
P	Procedure	ML-STD-05, 06, 07, 08
J	Judgement	ML-STD-09, ML-ENH-05
H	Human readiness	ML-STD-10
G	Governance and co-ordination	ML-STD-11, 12
M	Measure	ML-ENH-01, 02, 03, 04
R	Record and document	ML-STD-04, ML-ENH-06, 07, 08

9.2 Type D, determination

What is being tested: that the Responsible Person knows what the premises are, which tier they fall in and who is responsible, and reached that position by reasoning that survives the Assessor's own examination.

Score	Sufficiency
0	No determination, or a determination citing the wrong Schedule 1 paragraph, the wrong tier or a responsible person contradicted by the override register
1	A written determination with the correct paragraph, figure and person, resting on a single source or not reviewed within twelve months
2	A written determination corroborated by an independent source (lease, licence, occupancy data, hire contract), reviewed within twelve months or on change, and matching the Assessor's own view formed at 7.3.3

Sensitivity. Where the attendance figure lies within 20 per cent of a threshold, recorded reasoning for the side of the line chosen is required for a 2. Where the Assessor's own figure would put the premises on the other side, the Assessor's tier governs and the control scores 0.

9.3 Type P, procedure

What is being tested: that each of the four procedures exists, fits the premises, and can be executed by the workers on duty.

Score	Sufficiency
0	No procedure, a procedure that is the fire plan or a template with the name changed, or practice contradicting the document
1	A written procedure fitted to the premises, with staff trained, but no drill or walkthrough within twelve months, or a failed direct verification, or executable at peak staffing only
2	A written procedure fitted to the premises, drilled or walked through within twelve months with a record, direct verification passed, executable at the quietest realistic staffing level, and described unprompted by front-line workers

Pairing. The evacuation and invacuation procedures share their decision prompts. Where the prompts differ between the two documents, both score 1 at most. Communication is tested against each of the other three, and a failure in the live test caps ML-STD-08 at 1 whatever the paperwork shows.

9.4 Type J, judgement

What is being tested: that the Responsible Person has applied the statutory test of what is appropriate and reasonably practicable to the procedure set and, at the enhanced tier, to the measure set, and recorded the reasoning.

Score	Sufficiency
0	No appropriateness record or vulnerability assessment, or one that does not name characteristics of the premises the Assessor can see
1	A written record linking the arrangements to the premises, with options rejected recorded, but not revisited within twelve months or after material change, or resting on a vulnerability the Assessor found unaddressed
2	A written record linking the arrangements to the premises, revisited within twelve months and after material change, with decisions traceable into the procedures or measures, and consistent with the Assessor's independent opinion

The independent opinion. For each Type J control the Assessor records, in the assessment file and in the assurance statement, an opinion on whether the arrangements meet the statutory test at the premises examined. The opinion is formed after the site examination and before scoring, and it is the point at which a specialist assessor's judgement enters the outcome. A vulnerability the Assessor identifies that the assessment does not address caps ML-ENH-05 at 1. A procedure set that is a template with the name changed scores 0 at ML-STD-09 regardless of the scores at ML-STD-05 to 08.

9.5 Type H, human readiness

What is being tested: that the people working there know the four procedures and their own role in each, across every worker category and at every staffing level.

Score	Sufficiency
0	No briefing, no record, or front-line workers unable to describe their role when asked
1	Briefing delivered and recorded across all worker categories, and workers able to describe their role in general terms, or one interviewee unable to name their invacuation area or nearest lockdown action
2	Briefing on induction and refreshed within twelve months across all worker categories, at least one drill involving front-line workers in that period, every interviewee able to name their invacuation area, their nearest lockdown action and one circumstance for invacuation over evacuation, and contractor and agency briefing contractually required where such workers are used

The interview governs this type. A training register signed by twenty people, three of whom cannot say where they would take the public if told to invacuate, scores 0 whatever the register shows. Understanding is tested by scenario rather than by recall, and the Assessor asks what the worker would do rather than what the procedure is called.

9.6 Type G, governance and co-ordination

What is being tested: that a named individual holds accountability and exercises it, and that where responsibility for the place is shared, the parties have agreed how their arrangements interlock.

Score	Sufficiency
0	No designation where one is required, or other duty holders present with no contact made
1	A minuted designation with terms of reference, or written co-ordination arrangements with named counterparts, but the individual unable to answer two of the three questions at 7.9.4, or no joint exercise within twelve months, or a route, area or lockdown point in another party's demise absent from the arrangement
2	A minuted designation, the individual briefed within twelve months and answering the three questions, compliance reporting at a defined frequency, and, where ML-STD-12 applies, written arrangements confirmed by a counterpart with a joint walkthrough, drill or tabletop within twelve months

The exercise test. A governance control reaches 2 only where the Assessor can point to an occasion on which the accountability did something: approval of a revised procedure, a decision following a drill finding, resourcing of a measure, or the compliance report reaching the board. Approval of everything submitted without a recorded question evidences signature rather than accountability, and scores 1.

9.7 Type M, measure

What is being tested: that a measure recorded in the vulnerability assessment exists, is maintained, is staffed or operated where it depends on people, and covers what it is recorded as covering.

Score	Sufficiency
0	No measure in the category, or measures accumulated with no link to a vulnerability, or a measure recorded as present found absent on inspection
1	Measures recorded with reasoning, but not maintained or tested within twelve months, or found defective or unstaffed on inspection, or an exposed external queue, or a security-relevant item found publicly available that the exposure review missed
2	Measures recorded with reasoning, inspected by the Assessor and found present and maintained, tested or reviewed within twelve months, staffed and operating during the peak period observed, and the exposure check clean or its findings already known and remediated

Inspection. For measures relied on against a high-vulnerability finding, the Assessor inspects every one. For the remainder, a sample. A measure recorded as present and found absent, defective or unstaffed caps the control at 1. The Assessor does not mark down for the absence of measures the vulnerability assessment rejected on recorded practicability grounds, and does not treat hostile vehicle mitigation, blast-resistant glazing or CCTV as defaults the Act requires.

9.8 Type R, record and document

What is being tested: that a record or document exists, is complete against its statutory or scheme content, is current, and was made when the event occurred.

Score	Sufficiency
0	No record or document, or one reconstructed for the assessment, or a compliance document missing a limb of section 7(1), or a notification pack missing items the Regulations require
1	Record or document present and substantially complete, with minor gaps explained, but not reviewed within twelve months, or one revision traceable end to end, or one of three named records not produced during the visit
2	Record or document complete against its content list, contemporaneous, reviewed within twelve months, one revision traced from trigger to issue, all three named records produced within the stated response time, and consistent with an independent source

Contemporaneity. The Assessor tests whether entries were made at the time. Metadata, sequence, internal consistency and correspondence with dated events all bear on this. A revision log in which every entry carries the same creation date scores 0 irrespective of its content. A compliance document describing a procedure or measure the Assessor found absent on the visit scores 1 at most and is recorded as a section 25 exposure on the assurance statement.

9.9 Evidence the Assessor does not accept for any control type

- A marketing statement, website text, licensing application or Safety Advisory Group submission, as evidence of practice
- A document dated within the assessment period that describes activity before that period, without corroboration
- A template supplied by the Scheme Owner as part of Part B, presented unpopulated
- An assurance given by a security contractor, a steward supplier or a consultant which the Assessor cannot trace to a named person, a date and an activity
- A report from the gap analysis tool published under the Martyn's Law Assurance Framework, as evidence of anything beyond the fact that a self-assessment was performed
- An artefact the Responsible Person declines to allow the Assessor to record on the assessment file

9.10 Weight of evidence where sources conflict

9.10.1 Where documentary evidence and testimony conflict, the Assessor establishes which describes what happens. Testimony from a worker who does the job generally carries greater weight than a record produced by someone who does not.

9.10.2 Where observation or direct verification conflicts with both, observation prevails for the practice observed, and the Assessor records that the conflict was found.

9.10.3 A conflict between sources is itself a finding. Where a Responsible Person's records materially misdescribe its practice, the Assessor considers whether DC-P9 is engaged, and records the consideration whether or not the condition is met.

9.11 Proportionality

9.11.1 A control states an outcome. The Responsible Person chooses the means by which it achieves that outcome. The Act sets no requirement for physical measures at the standard tier, and the section 27 guidance states that standard-tier compliance should be achievable without specialist services.

9.11.2 The sophistication of the means is not scored. A village hall with two doors, one lock and a whistle can score 2 on lockdown and communication. A stadium with forty entry points and a control room can score 0 on both.

9.11.3 An Assessor shall not require a separate document where the outcome is evidenced within an existing one, require a document at all where the outcome is evidenced by observed practice and corroborated record, treat volume of documentation as evidence of control, score down a Responsible Person for holding one procedure document where a larger operator would hold four, or require a role to be held by a different person from the one holding it, beyond what 6.3 provides.

9.11.4 Proportionality applies to every assessment. It is not a concession granted to premises below a size threshold, and no size threshold is defined beyond the statutory tiers.

9.11.5 Where an Assessor considers that a control cannot be met proportionately by a Responsible Person of the kind assessed, the Assessor records the observation and raises it under 8.10.4. The control is scored as written.

9.11.6 Where a Responsible Person operates at a scale at which procedures are set centrally and delivered elsewhere, or across a portfolio, the Assessor tests whether the central position reaches the premises and the shift examined. Existence of a corporate procedure is scored at 1 where the premises examined do not evidence its operation. Reach is the test at scale, in the same way that basis is the test where roles are concentrated under 6.3.

10. Section weightings

10.1 Status

Weightings are fixed for the version of this standard in which they appear. An Assessor shall not vary a weighting for an individual assessment, and the Scheme Owner shall not vary one by agreement with a Responsible Person or with a commissioning party.

10.2 Base weightings

Applying to an enhanced premises assessment and a qualifying event assessment.

Ref	Section	Controls	Weight
P1	Scope and registration	4	15%
P2	Public protection procedures	6	35%
P3	Governance	2	10%
P4	Public protection measures	5	25%
P5	Documentation and records	3	15%
	Total	20	100%

10.3 Reasoning

P2 carries the heaviest weight at 35 per cent. The four procedures and their readiness are what section 5 requires of every responsible person at every tier, they are what operates in the minutes after an attack is suspected, and they are the part of the framework the Assessor verifies directly on site. A weighting below this would let strong documentation at P4 and P5 carry a premises whose procedures fail the timed lockdown.

P4 at 25 per cent covers the section 6 measures. It sits below P2 because measures operate beforehand and continuously while procedures operate on the day, and because the most serious failure in P4, the absence of any vulnerability assessment, is handled by DC-P4 rather than by score.

P1 at 15 per cent covers scope, tier, responsible person and notification. An error here misplaces every downstream duty, which is why DC-P1 and DC-P2 sit on it, and the score carries what the disqualifying conditions do not: whether the determination was reasoned, corroborated and kept current.

P5 at 15 per cent covers the compliance document and the records. It is weighted equally with P1 because the compliance document is the single artefact the regulator will read and the record set is what the Responsible Person and the senior individual will rely on personally under section 26.

P3 at 10 per cent covers the senior individual and co-ordination. The weight understates its significance deliberately, because the absence of a designation is DC-P5 and because P3 is Not Applicable in whole or part for many responsible persons, so a heavier weight would distort redistribution.

10.4 Redistribution

10.4.1 Where a section is not assessed by product under 8.6.4, or is recorded as Not Engaged under 10.6, its weight is redistributed across the remaining assessed sections in proportion to their base weights.

10.4.2 Redistribution is calculated at full precision. Rounding is applied once at the overall score in accordance with 8.9.3. The redistribution factor is 100 divided by the sum of the base weights of the assessed sections.

10.5 Standard premises declaration

P4 and P5 not assessed by product. Redistribution factor 100 divided by 60.

Ref	Section	Weight
P1	Scope and registration	25.0%
P2	Public protection procedures	58.3%
P3	Governance	16.7%

Where P3 is also Not Engaged under 10.6, the factor is 100 divided by 50 and P1 carries 30 per cent, P2 70 per cent. The declaration outcome at 11.4 does not depend on the percentage, and the weighting exists so the scoring report can show a position.

10.6 Sections recorded as Not Engaged

10.6.1 P3 may be recorded as Not Engaged where the Responsible Person is an individual, so ML-STD-11 does not apply, and responsibility for the premises is neither split nor nested, so ML-STD-12 does not apply. Both conditions are drawn from the scope determination.

10.6.2 Not Engaged is available for P3 only. No other section may be recorded on this basis.

10.6.3 Not Engaged is declared at scoping under 7.4, before the site examination. The Assessor verifies it on site. Where the examination discloses a counterpart duty holder, a route or area in another party's demise, or a body as the responsible person, the declaration falls, P3 is assessed, and the Assessor records that the declaration was contradicted by the evidence.

10.6.4 Where P3 is recorded as Not Engaged, its weight is redistributed under 10.4, no confidence cap arises, and the assurance statement states the basis.

11. Outcomes, thresholds and confidence

11.1 Outcomes

An enhanced premises assessment or a qualifying event assessment results in one of three outcomes. A standard premises declaration results in one of two. No other outcome is recorded.

Outcome	Product	Basis
Westmark Protected Premises Mark	Enhanced premises, qualifying event	Overall score 80 per cent or above, no section below 50 per cent, no Disqualifying Condition, consistency across the operating pattern under 11.5
Westmark Protected Premises Conditional	Enhanced premises, qualifying event	Overall score 60 to 79 per cent, or the Mark thresholds met but for a section floor or an inconsistency, with improvement actions attached
Not Confirmed	Enhanced premises, qualifying event	Overall score below 60 per cent, or any Disqualifying Condition
Declared	Standard premises	Every assessed control in P1 and P2 scores 1 or above, ML-STD-12 scores 1 or above where it applies, and no Disqualifying Condition
Not Declared	Standard premises	Any assessed control scores 0, or any Disqualifying Condition

11.2 Westmark Protected Premises Mark

11.2.1 The Mark records that the Responsible Person's procedures and measures, at the premises or event examined, meet the requirements of the Act as they will apply at commencement and operate in practice.

11.2.2 The Mark is issued with an assurance statement, a certificate and a confidential scoring report, and the premises or event is listed on the register.

11.2.3 For premises, the Mark is valid for twenty-four months from the date of issue, subject to Section 13. For an event, it is valid for the event and for a repeat of the same event within twelve months at the same premises, on the same footprint and capacity, under the same Responsible Person, on written confirmation of those facts before the repeat.

11.3 Westmark Protected Premises Conditional

11.3.1 Conditional records that the arrangements meet the Act in substance and that specific controls fall short of the standard. It carries improvement actions stating what is deficient.

11.3.2 Improvement actions shall be completable within three to six months. Each carries its own target date, and the verification due date is the latest of them and no later than six months from the outcome date.

11.3.3 On verification of every improvement action, the outcome converts to the Mark under WMA-VER-001 and WMA-CNV-001, with a confidence level recorded on conversion. Validity runs from the original outcome date and is not extended by conversion.

11.3.4 Verification of an improvement action arising from a failed direct verification requires the verification to be re-performed on site. It is not closed on documents.

11.3.5 Conditional is listed on the register as such. Where verification is not completed by the due date, the outcome lapses to Not Confirmed and is removed from the register.

11.3.6 For a qualifying event, Conditional is available only where the improvement actions can be completed before the event opens or, for a repeat event, before the repeat. Otherwise the outcome is Not Confirmed.

11.4 Declared and Not Declared

11.4.1 The standard premises declaration records that the Responsible Person has determined scope and tier, has the four procedures in place and fitted to the premises, and has briefed its workers, verified on documents and by remote interview.

11.4.2 Declared carries no score threshold, no confidence level and no mark. It is listed on the register as Declared with the words "desk verified, no site visit", and is valid for twenty-four months subject to Section 13.

11.4.3 Not Declared is not published. The Responsible Person receives a finding report stating each control scored 0 and any Disqualifying Condition, and may submit again after three months.

11.5 Consistency

11.5.1 Where the Mark thresholds are met and the Assessor finds that the procedures could not be executed at the quietest realistic staffing level, or that a worker category present is not covered by the briefing, the outcome is Conditional with an improvement action on the inconsistency, irrespective of the score.

11.6 Confidence

11.6.1 A confidence level accompanies every Mark outcome, recorded as High, Moderate or Limited.

Level	Meaning
High	Evidence is corroborated across the operating pattern, every direct verification succeeded, and the Assessor would expect materially similar findings on reassessment
Moderate	Evidence is present and sufficient, drawn from a narrower range of sources or a narrower part of the operating pattern, or one direct verification was passed on a second attempt at the Conditional verification visit
Limited	Evidence meets the threshold while resting substantially on stated process, on a single shift or phase, or on corroboration that could not be fully tested

11.6.2 Mandatory caps. Confidence is capped at Limited where any of the following applies: unaccompanied interview with front-line workers was declined under 7.9.2, no observation at a peak period was conducted under 7.10.1, two or more limitations were recorded under 7.12.2, or roles are concentrated under 6.3.3.

11.6.3 Cap at Moderate. Confidence is capped at Moderate where the premises had opened, or the Responsible Person had taken control, less than twelve months before the assessment so no twelve-month exercise record could exist, or where the workforce included no casual, agency or volunteer worker for interview although the rota shows such workers are used.

11.6.4 Where more than one cap applies, the lowest governs. The Assessor records the reasoning for the confidence level on the assessment file in every case.

11.7 Score and outcome are distinct

11.7.1 The score determines eligibility for an outcome. It does not determine the outcome by itself. A Responsible Person scoring 94 per cent with a Disqualifying Condition met is recorded as Not Confirmed.

11.7.2 The numeric score is disclosed to the Responsible Person, by section and overall, and is not published on the register or permitted in any claim, in accordance with Section 14.

11.7.3 Where an assessment is commissioned by a landlord, event owner, licensing authority, insurer or franchisor, the section scores are disclosed to the commissioning party with the Responsible Person's written consent, obtained at scoping. Where consent is withheld, the commissioning party receives the outcome, the product, the confidence level, the independent opinions at 9.4, any improvement actions, and any limitation recorded.

11.8 Summary of determination

The Assessor applies the following in order. The first condition met determines the outcome.

Step	Test	Outcome
1	Is any Disqualifying Condition at Section 12 met?	Not Confirmed, or Not Declared
2	Standard premises declaration: does any assessed control score 0?	Not Declared. Otherwise Declared
3	Is the overall score below 60 per cent?	Not Confirmed
4	Is the overall score below 80 per cent?	Westmark Protected Premises Conditional
5	Does any assessed section score below 50 per cent?	Westmark Protected Premises Conditional
6	Is the operating pattern inconsistent under 11.5?	Westmark Protected Premises Conditional
7	Otherwise	Westmark Protected Premises Mark, with a confidence level under 11.6

12. Disqualifying Conditions

12.1 Effect

12.1.1 An outcome of Westmark Protected Premises Mark, or of Declared, shall not be awarded where any Disqualifying Condition in this section is found, irrespective of the overall score and irrespective of any section score.

12.1.2 Where a Disqualifying Condition is found, the outcome is Not Confirmed or Not Declared. Conditional is not available as an intermediate position.

12.1.3 These conditions are applied consistently across every assessment. They are not subject to waiver, mitigation by performance elsewhere, or agreement with the Responsible Person or a commissioning party.

12.2 Applicability and activation

12.2.1 A condition applies only where the circumstance it addresses arises. DC-P4, DC-P5 and DC-P6 apply at the enhanced tier and to qualifying events. DC-P5 applies where the Responsible Person is a body.

12.2.2 DC-P7 is dormant until section 9(1) of the Act is fully in force and the required time under regulation 3 of SI 2026/793 has run. DC-P8 is dormant until sections 13 to 20 are in force. [Held: the commencement dates are inserted here on the making of the commencement regulations.] Until activation, ML-STD-04 and ML-ENH-06 are scored on readiness under 4.4.

12.2.3 Where a condition does not apply, the Assessor records it as such with the basis, in the same manner as a control recorded Not Applicable under 8.6.2.

12.2.4 A condition is not disapplied because the circumstance arose on a shift, in an area or at a phase the Assessor did not examine. Where the Assessor becomes aware of the circumstance from any source, it is examined.

12.3 Evidence standard

12.3.1 A Disqualifying Condition shall be established on corroborated evidence in accordance with 8.3. A single source does not establish a condition, except that the absence of a document or a designation is established by the Responsible Person's inability to produce it after the findings testing at 7.11.

12.3.2 The Assessor shall put the proposed finding to the Responsible Person under 7.11 and give it opportunity to produce further evidence before the finding is settled.

12.3.3 Every finding of a Disqualifying Condition shall be reviewed by the Technical Reviewer under 6.8, who examines whether the evidence recorded establishes the condition on its own terms.

12.3.4 The Assessor records the condition, the evidence, the Responsible Person's response, and the basis for the conclusion.

12.4 Relationship to scoring

12.4.1 A score of 0 against a linked control obliges the Assessor to test whether the corresponding condition is met, under 8.7.1. It does not establish the condition.

12.4.2 A condition may be established where the linked control scored above 0, because the conditions are drawn more narrowly than the controls and address a specific state of affairs.

12.4.3 Scoring continues to completion even where a condition has been found. The finding report states the score achieved.

12.5 The conditions

Ref	Condition	Test
DC-P1	No scope or tier determination	No recorded determination of whether the premises or event qualify, or of the tier, exists. Or a determination exists and contradicts the override register at Annex B of the control set, or cites a Schedule 1 paragraph the premises are not used for.
DC-P2	No responsible person	No person is identified as the responsible person. Or the person identified is contradicted by a specified-person rule at OVR-05. A genuine dispute between parties recorded under 7.3.4 does not engage this condition.
DC-P3	A procedure absent	Any one of the four public protection procedures required by section 5(3) does not exist in any form. A fire evacuation plan is not an evacuation procedure for this purpose unless it addresses the case of a threat outside the building. This condition is engaged by absence, and a procedure that exists and scores 0 for fit does not engage it.
DC-P4	No vulnerability assessment	At the enhanced tier or for an event, no assessment of the premises' or event's vulnerability to acts of terrorism exists in any form behind the measure set.
DC-P5	No senior individual	At the enhanced tier or for an event, the Responsible Person is a body and no individual concerned in its management or control has been designated under section 10.
DC-P6	No compliance document	At the enhanced tier or for an event, no document addressing the content of section 7(1) exists in any form. A document missing a limb scores 0 at ML-ENH-06 and does not engage this condition.
DC-P7	Notification not made or inaccurate	From activation: the section 9 notification was not made within the required time under regulation 3 of SI 2026/793, or notified information known to the Responsible Person to be inaccurate was not corrected within the period at regulation 6.
DC-P8	Enforcement action unremedied	From activation: a compliance notice, restriction notice or monetary penalty notice under the Act is in force in respect of the premises or event and its requirements have not been met at the assessment date, and any appeal period has expired or an appeal has been determined against the Responsible Person.
DC-P9	Material misrepresentation or obstruction	The Responsible Person provided information to the Assessor, or in an annual declaration to the Scheme Owner, which is subsequently shown to be false or materially misleading. Or the Responsible Person obstructed access to an area, an entry point, a worker category or a record the Assessor required, other than on a ground recognised at 7.12. Or the Responsible Person made a claim in respect of an outcome under this standard which breaches Section 14 and which was not corrected on notice.

12.6 Notes on individual conditions

DC-P1 and DC-P2 are satisfied by absence or contradiction of the register rather than by imperfection. A determination that is reasoned but that the Assessor would have made differently on a marginal paragraph scores at P1 and does not engage either condition.

DC-P3 is the condition most often found among responsible persons new to the Act, and invacuation is the procedure most often absent. The four procedures are named in section 5(3) and the absence of any one is an absence of the section 5 duty in part.

DC-P7 and DC-P8 are the only conditions whose engagement depends on the state of the law rather than on the Responsible Person's arrangements. They are written into this standard now so that activation on commencement requires no revision.

DC-P9 covers three distinct behaviours in one condition because the effect on the scheme is the same in each case. The first limb extends to the annual declaration, which for this scheme includes confirmation of the 30-day provision of revised compliance documents. The third limb applies to a holder of an existing outcome and is the route by which a claim breach reaches withdrawal under Section 13.

12.7 Conditions found after issue

12.7.1 Where a Disqualifying Condition is found after an outcome has been issued, whether during a review under Section 13, at an annual declaration, at a reassessment, or on information received, the Scheme Owner shall examine whether the condition existed at the date of assessment.

12.7.2 Where the condition existed at the date of assessment and was not disclosed to the Assessor, the outcome is withdrawn and DC-P9 is considered in respect of the non-disclosure.

12.7.3 Where the condition arose after the date of assessment, including where DC-P7 or DC-P8 is engaged on commencement, the outcome is suspended and Section 13 governs.

12.7.4 A withdrawal under this clause is recorded on the register for twelve months and is disclosed at any subsequent assessment.

12.8 Notification

12.8.1 The Responsible Person is informed in writing of any Disqualifying Condition found, the evidence, and the basis for the conclusion.

12.8.2 Where the assessment was commissioned by a landlord, event owner, licensing authority, insurer or franchisor, the commissioning party is informed that the outcome is Not Confirmed. The detail of the condition is disclosed to the commissioning party only with the Responsible Person's consent, except where the condition is DC-P3, DC-P8 or DC-P9.

12.8.3 The exception at 12.8.2 exists because the absence of a procedure, an unremedied enforcement notice, and a material misrepresentation to an assessor each bear directly on whether the commissioning party can rely on the Responsible Person for the premises the commissioning party has an interest in.

12.8.4 The Scheme Owner does not report a Disqualifying Condition to the Security Industry Authority, a licensing authority, a police force or any other body, except where required by law or where the Responsible Person consents. The Scheme Owner is not a regulator and holds no reporting duty under the Act. This clause does not displace 2.3, under which an Assessor who observes an immediate danger to life raises it with the Responsible Person on the day. [Held: any position the SIA section 12 guidance takes on third-party assessment or on information received from third parties is reflected here on publication.]

13. Outcome lifecycle

13.1 Validity

13.1.1 A premises outcome, including Declared, is valid for twenty-four months from the date of issue, subject to this section. An event outcome is valid as stated at 11.2.3.

13.1.2 Validity is not extended by conversion of a Conditional outcome, by completion of improvement actions, by any review conducted during the period, or by commencement of any provision of the Act.

13.1.3 An outcome expires at the end of its validity period whether or not reassessment has been sought. There is no automatic renewal and no period of grace.

13.1.4 The Scheme Owner shall notify a holder of impending expiry at four months and at two months before the expiry date.

13.2 Continuing obligations of a holder

A holder shall notify the Scheme Owner of each of the following within twenty working days of it occurring, other than where a shorter period is stated.

Event	Reference	Period
A change in the Responsible Person, or in the senior individual or accountable individual at 6.1	6.1.5	20 working days
A change of control of the premises, including a new operator, lease assignment, franchise or management agreement	13.5.3	20 working days
A physical alteration adding, removing or relocating an entry point, an invacuation area or an evacuation route	ML-STD-05 to 07	20 working days
A change of use, programming or licensing that alters the expected attendance so that it crosses the 200 or 800 threshold, or that alters the Schedule 1 use	ML-STD-01, 02	10 working days
A circumstance recorded as Not Applicable at assessment arising, including responsibility for the premises becoming split or a body becoming the Responsible Person	8.6.5	20 working days
A suspected act of terrorism, or the activation of any of the four procedures other than in a drill	P2	5 working days
A revision of the compliance document and, after commencement, its provision to the SIA	ML-ENH-07	30 days, being the statutory period
Any contact from the SIA under Schedule 3, and any compliance notice, restriction notice, penalty notice or notice of intent	12.2.2	5 working days
A circumstance that would engage a Disqualifying Condition at Section 12	12.7	10 working days
Insolvency, administration, receivership or an arrangement with creditors	13.7.1	10 working days

Failure to notify is itself a ground for suspension under 13.6, and where the failure was deliberate it engages DC-P9.

13.3 Annual declaration

13.3.1 At the twelve month point in the validity period, a holder shall submit an annual declaration on WMA-PSA-ADF-001 confirming that the matters at 13.2 have been notified or that none has arisen, that the senior individual or accountable individual remains in post, or the identity of the successor, that the scope determination remains accurate, including the attendance figure and its method, that the four procedures have been drilled or walked through within the preceding twelve months, with the dates, that any improvement actions verified under 11.3.3

remain in effect, that every revision of the compliance document has been provided to the SIA within 30 days, or that no revision has occurred, and that the information notified to the SIA under section 9 remains accurate, or has been corrected within the required time.

13.3.2 The declaration is signed by the senior individual or the accountable individual at 6.1.

13.3.3 The declaration is a self-declaration. It is not an assessment, it produces no score, and it does not alter the outcome or the confidence level. A false confirmation engages DC-P9.

13.3.4 A declaration not received within twenty working days of the due date results in suspension under 13.6.

13.3.5 Where a declaration discloses a matter engaging 13.4, the Scheme Owner determines the review type under 13.5.

13.4 Triggers for review

The Scheme Owner shall consider whether a review is required on:

- Receipt of a notification under 13.2
- Receipt of an annual declaration disclosing a change
- Information received from a licensing authority, a counterpart duty holder, a landlord, an event owner, an insurer or a Safety Advisory Group
- Information received from any source alleging a matter that would engage a Disqualifying Condition
- A claim by the holder which appears to breach Section 14
- Issue of a control set version with a stated application date under 7.5.5
- Commencement of section 9(1) or of sections 13 to 20 of the Act, in respect of DC-P7 and DC-P8

13.5 Types of review

Type	Conducted by	Scope	Outcome
Desk review	Assessor or Scheme Owner	Examination of documents submitted in response to the trigger	Outcome unaffected, or escalation to targeted review
Targeted review	Assessor	Examination of the sections or controls affected by the trigger, which may include a site visit, interview and re-performance of a direct verification	Outcome unaffected, outcome amended, suspension, or withdrawal
Full reassessment	Assessor	Assessment in accordance with Section 7 against the control set current at the date of the reassessment agreement	New outcome replacing the existing one

13.5.1 The Scheme Owner determines the review type having regard to what the trigger affects and to the evidence available.

13.5.2 A change in the senior individual or accountable individual is examined by desk review as a minimum, and by targeted review where the assessment relied on the exercise test at 9.6.

13.5.3 A change of control, and a physical alteration to an entry point, invacuation area or evacuation route, is examined by targeted review as a minimum, and the targeted review re-performs the direct verifications affected.

13.5.4 An attendance change crossing the 800 threshold requires full reassessment at the new tier before the outcome extends to it. An attendance change crossing the 200 threshold downward ends the premises' status as qualifying premises, and the outcome is surrendered under 13.8 with the register recording the reason.

13.5.5 Activation of a procedure other than in a drill is examined by targeted review of P2 and, at the enhanced tier, of ML-ENH-05, and the review records what the activation showed about the procedures' operation.

13.5.6 On commencement of section 9(1), and again on commencement of sections 13 to 20, every holder is examined by desk review against DC-P7 or DC-P8 as applicable, at the Scheme Owner's cost, and the register records the date of that review.

13.5.7 The cost of any other review is borne by the holder in accordance with the scheme terms, and the fee shall not vary with the review's conclusion.

13.6 Suspension

13.6.1 The Scheme Owner shall suspend an outcome where an annual declaration is overdue under 13.3.4, a notification required under 13.2 was not made and the matter has come to light, a Disqualifying Condition has arisen since the date of assessment, under 12.7.3, including DC-P7 or DC-P8 on activation, a review has been triggered and the holder does not provide the evidence or access required to conduct it, or a claim breaching Section 14 has not been corrected on notice, pending the withdrawal decision under 14.8.

13.6.2 Effect of suspension. From the date of suspension the holder shall cease all claim to the outcome in every medium, remove the mark and any Declared badge within ten working days, and inform any licensing authority, insurer, landlord, event owner or Safety Advisory Group to whom the outcome was claimed in a live matter.

13.6.3 The register records the outcome as suspended, with effect from the date of suspension.

13.6.4 Duration. Suspension continues until the matter is resolved. Where it remains unresolved three months after the date of suspension, the outcome is withdrawn.

13.6.5 Reinstatement. On resolution, the outcome is reinstated for the remainder of its original validity period. Reinstatement does not extend validity, and the register records the period of suspension for twelve months following reinstatement.

13.7 Withdrawal

13.7.1 The Scheme Owner shall withdraw an outcome where a Disqualifying Condition existed at the date of assessment and was not disclosed, under 12.7.2, a suspension has run for three months without resolution, under 13.6.4, a claim breaching Section 14 was not corrected, or was repeated, or asserted approval by the SIA, the Home Office or a police force, under 14.8, the holder ceases to exist as a legal entity, or ceases to be the responsible person for the premises, the premises cease to qualify, or the holder requests withdrawal under 13.8.

13.7.2 Effect of withdrawal. The outcome ceases on the date of the withdrawal decision. The obligations at 13.6.2 apply.

13.7.3 The register records the withdrawal for twelve months. Where the ground was non-disclosure of a Disqualifying Condition or misrepresentation, the record is disclosed at any subsequent assessment.

13.7.4 A withdrawn outcome is not reinstated. A Responsible Person seeking an outcome after withdrawal is fully reassessed, subject to any interval this standard imposes where the ground engaged it.

13.8 Voluntary surrender

13.8.1 A holder may surrender an outcome at any time by written notice. Surrender takes effect on receipt, and the obligations at 13.6.2 apply.

13.8.2 The register records the outcome as surrendered, without adverse notation, distinguished from withdrawal. Where surrender follows the premises ceasing to qualify, the register records that reason.

13.8.3 The Scheme Owner shall not accept surrender where a review or an investigation into a Disqualifying Condition is in progress. The review concludes and the outcome is determined under 13.6 or 13.7.

13.9 Reassessment

13.9.1 A holder seeking to maintain an outcome beyond its validity period shall be reassessed before expiry. A Declared holder is re-verified by the standard premises declaration product on the same terms.

13.9.2 Reassessment is a full assessment under Section 7 against the control set current at the date of the reassessment agreement, in accordance with 7.5.4.

13.9.3 The Assessor conducting a reassessment may be the Assessor who conducted the previous assessment. Where the same Assessor conducts three consecutive assessments of the same premises, the fourth shall be conducted by a different Assessor. Where no other Assessor is available, the technical review of that assessment shall be conducted externally.

13.9.4 The previous assessment file is available to the Assessor conducting a reassessment. The Assessor examines whether matters previously found have been sustained, repeats every direct verification, and records the comparison.

13.9.5 A reassessment produces its own outcome. A previous outcome creates no presumption in favour of the same result.

13.10 Appeal

13.10.1 A Responsible Person may appeal against an outcome of Not Confirmed or Not Declared, a finding of a Disqualifying Condition, a confidence level recorded, a scope determination made by the Assessor under 7.3.3, a suspension or withdrawal decision, or an improvement action attached to a Conditional outcome.

13.10.2 Grounds. An appeal shall state which of the following is relied upon: the standard or the control set was applied incorrectly, evidence submitted was not considered, the evidence recorded does not support the finding made, or a procedural requirement of this standard was not observed. Disagreement with a judgement properly made on evidence properly considered, including the independent opinions at 9.4, is not a ground of appeal. A dispute about whether the premises or an event qualify is a matter for the tribunal under section 11 of the Act and is not determined by appeal within the scheme.

13.10.3 Period. An appeal shall be lodged within twenty working days of the decision appealed against.

13.10.4 Independence. An appeal shall be determined by an individual holding a Protective Security authorisation who conducted neither the assessment nor its technical review, and who has no relationship with the Responsible Person engaging 6.9.8. Where the Scheme Owner has no such individual available internally, the appeal shall be determined by an external reviewer appointed under WMA-AAP-001 Form D and bound by the terms at Section 15.

13.10.5 Determination. The appeal is determined within thirty working days of being lodged, or within ten working days where the outcome appealed relates to an event not yet held. The determination may uphold the decision, set aside the decision and substitute a different outcome, confidence level, determination or improvement action, or direct that the assessment, or a defined part of it including a direct verification, be conducted again.

13.10.6 The determination is final within the scheme. It is issued in writing with reasons.

13.10.7 Effect pending determination. A suspension remains in effect during an appeal. A withdrawal takes effect on the decision date and is reversed where the appeal succeeds. An outcome is not issued while an appeal against Not Confirmed or Not Declared is pending.

13.10.8 Fee. An appeal fee is payable on lodging, at the rate stated in WMA-FEE-001. The fee is refunded where the appeal succeeds in whole or in part.

13.11 Complaints

13.11.1 A complaint about the conduct of an assessment, an Assessor, or the administration of the scheme is made in writing to the Scheme Owner, acknowledged within five working days and determined within thirty working days. A complaint about an Assessor is determined by an individual other than that Assessor.

13.11.2 A complaint is distinct from an appeal. A complaint about conduct does not alter an outcome. Where a complaint discloses a procedural failure affecting an outcome, the Scheme Owner refers the matter to the appeal route and informs the Responsible Person.

13.11.3 The Scheme Owner maintains a record of complaints, their determination, and any change to the scheme arising. The record is reviewed at each issue of this standard.

14. Representation of outcomes

14.1 Governing principle

A Responsible Person holding an outcome under this standard may describe that outcome accurately and may not describe it as anything else. The wording at 14.3 and 14.4 is the full extent of what may be claimed. Departure from it, including paraphrase that alters meaning, is a breach of the scheme terms.

This section is binding on the Responsible Person from the date the assurance statement or declaration is issued and continues to bind it after the outcome lapses, to the extent that it governs claims that may no longer be made.

14.2 Elements every claim must carry

A claim made in any medium shall state the outcome awarded, using the label at Section 11, the premises by name and address, or the event by name, venue and date, the product at 2.2, the date of assessment, the version of WMA-PSA-CAT-001 against which the assessment was conducted, the certificate or register reference, and the expiry date of the outcome. A claim omitting any of these is incomplete and is treated as a breach. The requirement exists so that a licensing authority, insurer, landlord or event owner reading the claim can establish which place was assessed, when, and against which control set, without contacting the Scheme Owner.

14.3 Permitted claim wording: short form

For use in email signatures, websites, venue information, hire packs, licensing correspondence and similar. The bracketed fields are completed by the Responsible Person. No other text may be added within or adjacent to the claim in a way that qualifies it.

Westmark Protected Premises Mark, [premises name and address / event name, venue and date]. Independently assessed by Westmark Assurance under the Protected Premises Assurance Standard (WMA-PSA-001) against the requirements of the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, [enhanced premises / qualifying event] product, [confidence level] confidence. Assessed [date] against WMA-PSA-CAT-001 v[x.x]. Certificate [ref]. Valid until [date].

Westmark Protected Premises Conditional, [premises name and address / event name, venue and date]. Independently assessed by Westmark Assurance under the Protected Premises Assurance Standard (WMA-PSA-001) against the requirements of the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, [product], with improvement actions outstanding. Assessed [date] against WMA-PSA-CAT-001 v[x.x]. Certificate [ref]. Valid until [date].

Westmark Protected Premises Declared, [premises name and address]. Standard duty premises. Procedures and briefing desk verified by Westmark Assurance under WMA-PSA-001 against the requirements of the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, no site visit. Verified [date] against WMA-PSA-CAT-001 v[x.x]. Register [ref]. Valid until [date].

A Responsible Person holding Conditional shall state that improvement actions are outstanding wherever the outcome is claimed. A Responsible Person holding Declared shall state that no site visit was made wherever the outcome is claimed. A Responsible Person recorded as Not Confirmed or Not Declared holds no outcome and shall make no claim of any kind arising from the assessment, including any statement that an assessment was undertaken.

14.4 Permitted claim wording: positioning statement

For use in licensing applications and reviews, Safety Advisory Group submissions, insurance proposals, landlord and franchisor reporting, and tender responses. The Responsible Person may delete sentences that do not apply to its product. It may not add to the text.

[Responsible Person] holds the Westmark Protected Premises Mark for [premises / event] under the Westmark Assurance Protected Premises Assurance Standard (WMA-PSA-001), assessed as [product] on [date] against control set WMA-PSA-CAT-001 v[x.x], certificate [ref]. The assessment is an independent, on-site examination of the public protection procedures and, at the enhanced tier, the public protection measures the responsible person has in place

under the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025. It examined the scope and tier determination, the evacuation, invacuation, lockdown and communication procedures and their fit to the premises, the readiness of workers across every category, [the vulnerability assessment, the monitoring, movement, physical security and information security measures, the compliance document and the record set,] and co-ordination with other duty holders. It included direct verification on site, including a timed lockdown and a live communication test, and interviews with front-line workers without managers present. The outcome is a judgement by Westmark Assurance. It is independent of the Security Industry Authority, the Home Office and the police, and it confers no approval, registration or exemption by any of them. It does not discharge the responsible person's own duties under the Act, including notification to the Security Industry Authority, and it does not substitute for any inspection or requirement of a licensing authority, a fire authority or the Security Industry Authority. The current status of this outcome may be verified at [verification address].

14.5 Prohibited claims

A Responsible Person holding an outcome shall not state or imply any of the following. The list is illustrative of the boundary rather than exhaustive.

Standing the outcome does not confer

- Approval, registration, certification, endorsement or recognition by the Security Industry Authority, the Home Office, the National Protective Security Authority, NaCTSO, ProtectUK, a police force or a licensing authority
- That the premises or event is "Martyn's Law compliant", "SIA approved", "SIA registered", "Home Office approved" or "police approved"
- That the section 9 notification has been made or accepted, or that the compliance document has been accepted by the Security Industry Authority
- That a fire risk assessment, a licensing condition, a Safety Advisory Group requirement or any health and safety duty has been met
- Any standing under Secured by Design, the Purple Guide, ISO 22301 or any other scheme, guide or standard the Responsible Person does not separately hold

Confusion with other schemes and authorities

- Any use of a government crest, a Home Office, SIA, NPSA, NaCTSO or police logo, or the ProtectUK mark
- Any statement that the assessor was, or acted as, a Counter Terrorism Security Adviser
- Any use of the phrase "Martyn's Law" within or adjacent to the mark, the certificate title or the register entry, as distinct from descriptive text about the Act

Overreach beyond what was assessed

- Extension of the claim to premises, a building, an area, a floor or an event that was not itself assessed, including any other premises in a portfolio
- Extension of a Declared outcome to imply a site visit, a score, a confidence level or the mark
- Extension of an event outcome to a different event, a different venue, a different footprint or capacity, or a repeat outside 11.2.3
- Extension of the claim to a parent, subsidiary, group company, franchisee, tenant, concession, contractor or steward supplier that was not itself assessed
- Any statement that a counterpart duty holder holds or is covered by the outcome

Currency and precision

- Continued claim after the outcome has lapsed, been suspended, been withdrawn or been surrendered
- Claim against a superseded version of WMA-PSA-CAT-001 without stating the version assessed
- Publication of the numeric score or percentage achieved, of section-level scores, or of maturity levels
- Any statement that the premises or event achieved the highest, or a leading, or a comparative result, or that it is "safe", "secure" or "protected against terrorism"

14.6 Use of the mark

A Responsible Person holding the Westmark Protected Premises Mark or Westmark Protected Premises Conditional is granted a non-exclusive, non-transferable licence to display the mark issued to it, for the duration of the outcome and

at the premises or event assessed. A Responsible Person holding Declared is granted the same licence in respect of the Declared register badge. Conditions of use:

- The mark is displayed only in the form issued under WMA-BRD-001, without alteration to its proportions, colour or setline
- The mark carries the certificate or register reference and expiry date, which are integral to it and shall not be cropped or obscured
- The mark is displayed at, or in material relating to, the premises or event assessed and at no other premises or event
- The mark is not applied to a product, a ticket, an item of merchandise, a vehicle, a uniform, a steward's tabard or an item of security equipment
- The mark is not displayed in a manner suggesting that a tenant, concession, contractor or counterpart duty holder was assessed
- The mark is removed from all media within ten working days of the outcome lapsing, being suspended, being withdrawn or being surrendered

14.7 Verification and the public register

The Scheme Owner maintains a register page for this scheme recording, for each outcome, the Responsible Person, the premises by name and address or the event by name, venue and date, the sector profile, the tier, the product, the outcome label and confidence level, the assessment date, the control set version, the certificate or register reference, and the expiry date. Declared entries carry the words "desk verified, no site visit". Provisional event outcomes are marked provisional until close-out.

The register is available to any licensing authority, fire authority, Safety Advisory Group, insurer, landlord, event owner, franchisor or member of the public seeking to verify a claim. Numeric scores and maturity levels are not published. Suspended, withdrawn and surrendered outcomes are shown as such for twelve months following the change of status. Not Confirmed and Not Declared outcomes are not published. A Responsible Person consents to this publication as a condition of assessment.

14.8 Breach

On becoming aware of a claim outside the terms of this section, the Scheme Owner will notify the Responsible Person in writing identifying the claim and the term breached, require correction within ten working days, or within two working days where the claim is made in a live licensing matter, a live insurance proposal or in material for an event not yet held, and record the breach on the assessment file.

Where correction is not made, or where the breach is repeated, or where the claim asserted approval, registration or endorsement by the Security Industry Authority, the Home Office or a police force, the outcome is withdrawn under Section 13 and the register is updated. The Scheme Owner may notify a licensing authority, insurer, landlord, event owner or Safety Advisory Group to whom the claim was made. Withdrawal for misrepresentation is recorded on the register for twelve months and is disclosed in any subsequent assessment.

14.9 Claims by the Scheme Owner

The Scheme Owner will not name a Responsible Person or its premises as a client, publish a case study, or reference an assessment in its own marketing without the Responsible Person's written consent. Consent is sought separately from the assessment and is never a condition of it. Aggregate and anonymised use is permitted where no premises or event can be identified.

15. Scheme terms, conduct and confidentiality

15.1 The assessment agreement

15.1.1 No assessment begins until the Responsible Person has signed WMA-AGR-001 incorporating this standard and WMA-TRM-001.

15.1.2 The agreement records the scope determination at 7.3, the scoping decisions at 7.4, the fee, and the consents at 15.5.

15.1.3 By signing, the Responsible Person accepts this standard and the control set version stated, consents to the register entry and publication at 14.7, consents to the disclosures at 15.5, undertakes to provide access to evidence, workers, premises, entry points and areas as Section 7 requires, including for the direct verifications, and accepts the continuing obligations at 13.2 for the period any outcome is held.

15.2 Assessor conduct

An Assessor shall:

- Record observations contemporaneously, including the timing and result of every direct verification
- Decline hospitality beyond refreshment taken in the ordinary course of a working day, and offer none
- Decline any gift, benefit, complimentary admission, ticket or inducement, of any value, offered by the Responsible Person, a promoter, or a party connected to either
- Withhold emerging findings from any third party, including a commissioning party or a counterpart duty holder, until the assurance statement or finding report is issued, except that the counterpart contact at 7.9.5 confirms the existence of an arrangement and discloses no finding
- Put any view that may be adverse to the Responsible Person before it is settled, under 7.11
- Comply with the premises' own security, access and safety rules, and with the event's accreditation regime
- Conduct the timed lockdown and the communication cascade at a time agreed with the Responsible Person so that the public are not alarmed, and never during a live incident
- Complete WMA-AAP-001 Form B before the assessment begins
- Raise an immediate danger to life with the Responsible Person on the day under 2.3

An Assessor shall not:

- Advise the Responsible Person how to raise a score, under 8.10.1
- Accept a fee, commission or benefit contingent on an outcome, under 6.9.12
- Solicit consultancy, security contracting or stewarding work from a Responsible Person during or arising from an assessment
- Discuss one Responsible Person's assessment with another, in any degree of anonymisation
- Remove floor plans, procedures, vulnerability assessments or other security-relevant information from the premises, or copy them to the assessment file beyond what is required to evidence the finding
- Photograph entry points, evacuation areas, security equipment or control rooms except where required to evidence a finding, and then under 15.4.4
- Represent themselves as a Counter Terrorism Security Adviser or as acting for any authority

15.3 Assessor status and screening

15.3.1 An Assessor shall hold screening to the Baseline Personnel Security Standard, recorded in WMA-AAP-001 Form C, since the assessment file holds information that ML-ENH-04 classes as security-relevant.

15.3.2 An Assessor accessing information a public authority or a counterpart duty holder has classified shall not accept an assessment requiring access above the level for which they are cleared, and applies 7.12 where such material arises.

15.3.3 The Scheme Owner maintains a record of each Assessor's screening status, reviewed annually.

15.4 Confidentiality

15.4.1 The Scheme Owner and every Assessor shall hold in confidence all information obtained in the course of an assessment, and shall not disclose it other than as permitted at 15.5.

15.4.2 The obligation survives completion of the assessment, expiry of any outcome, and termination of the agreement. It continues for seven years from the date the assessment file is closed, matching the retention at 7.13.

15.4.3 The obligation binds any external technical reviewer appointed under 6.8.2 and any external appeal reviewer appointed under 13.10.4, who shall each be engaged on terms incorporating this section.

15.4.4 Assessment material is security-relevant information within the meaning of ML-ENH-04. The Scheme Owner shall hold it under access controls confining it to the Assessor, the Technical Reviewer and the scheme administrator for that assessment, shall not hold floor plans or vulnerability assessments beyond the period required for technical review, and shall apply the same handling to the register's non-public fields.

15.5 Permitted disclosures

The Scheme Owner may disclose assessment information in the following circumstances and in no others.

Circumstance	Recipient	Extent
Register publication	Any party	The fields at 14.7
Verification of a claim	Any licensing authority, fire authority, Safety Advisory Group, insurer, landlord, event owner, franchisor or member of the public	The fields at 14.7
Assessment commissioned by a landlord, event owner, licensing authority, insurer or franchisor	The commissioning party	Outcome, product, confidence level, independent opinions, improvement actions, limitations. Section scores with the Responsible Person's consent under 11.7.3
Disqualifying Condition DC-P3, DC-P8 or DC-P9 found on a commissioned assessment	The commissioning party	The condition found and the basis for it, without the Responsible Person's consent, under 12.8.3
Counterpart confirmation under 7.9.5	The counterpart duty holder	That an assessment is taking place and that a co-ordination arrangement is being confirmed. No finding
Technical review or appeal	The reviewer appointed	The assessment file
Legal requirement	As required	As required, with notice to the Responsible Person where lawful to give it
Consent	As stated in the consent	As stated in the consent

15.5.1 The disclosure at row four is made without the Responsible Person's consent. The Responsible Person's signature on the assessment agreement is its acknowledgement of that term, and the term is drawn to the Responsible Person's attention at scoping.

15.5.2 The Scheme Owner shall not disclose a finding to the Security Industry Authority, a licensing authority, a police force or any regulator, except under the legal requirement row. The limit on the Scheme Owner's role at 12.8.4 governs. [Held: revised on publication of the SIA section 12 guidance where that guidance addresses information from third parties.]

15.6 Obligations of the Responsible Person

The Responsible Person shall:

- Provide the pre-assessment submission at 7.6 by the date agreed

- Provide access to workers for interview, including unaccompanied interview under 7.9.2, across every worker category on the rota, and for an event to contractor-supplied stewards
- Provide access to the premises across the operating pattern, to every entry point, area and route, and for an event to the build, show and break phases
- Permit the direct verifications at 7.7.2 and 7.7.3, and make the workers on duty available to perform them
- Give accurate information, and correct any information found to be inaccurate
- Notify the Assessor of any matter that would engage a Disqualifying Condition
- Obtain a counterpart duty holder's agreement to the contact at 7.9.5, and inform the Assessor promptly where it is refused
- Inform the Assessor of any restriction on disclosure arising under 7.12, and the ground for it

15.7 Data protection

15.7.1 Assessment material includes personal data, including the names and positions of the senior individual, the procedure owner, the initiation authorities and counterparts, training records, rota extracts and interview notes.

15.7.2 The Scheme Owner processes that data as controller for the purpose of conducting the assessment, maintaining the register, and administering the scheme. The lawful basis is legitimate interests, being the operation of an assurance scheme the Responsible Person has commissioned, with contract as the basis where the processing is required to perform the assessment agreement.

15.7.3 The Scheme Owner shall not record more personal data than the finding requires. Rota extracts are recorded as staffing numbers by shift, not by name. Interview notes record the substance of what was said and the role and worker category of the speaker. They shall not attribute a statement to a named worker in the assurance statement, the finding report, or any disclosure to a commissioning party.

15.7.4 The Responsible Person shall inform its workers that an assessment is taking place, that they may be interviewed without a manager present, and that interview notes will be held by the Scheme Owner.

15.7.5 Where the site examination involves viewing CCTV or a control room, the Assessor views live or recorded images for the purpose of ML-ENH-01 only and does not copy or retain any image.

15.7.6 Retention follows 7.13. On expiry of the retention period the file is destroyed by a method preventing recovery, and the destruction is recorded.

15.8 Fees

15.8.1 Fees are stated in the assessment agreement by reference to WMA-FEE-001 and are payable irrespective of the outcome.

15.8.2 No fee, discount, rebate or other term shall vary with the outcome awarded, under 6.9.12.

15.8.3 Fees for a review under 13.5, for a verification visit under 11.3, and for an appeal under 13.10.8 are stated in WMA-FEE-001. The reviews at 13.5.6 on commencement are at the Scheme Owner's cost.

15.8.4 The Scheme Owner shall not offer an assessment at a reduced fee in consideration of consultancy, tooling, licensing or any other engagement with the Responsible Person.

15.9 Termination

15.9.1 Either party may terminate the assessment agreement on written notice before the assessment concludes.

15.9.2 Termination by the Responsible Person after the site examination has begun does not produce an outcome, and the Scheme Owner records that the assessment was terminated at the Responsible Person's request.

15.9.3 Where an assessment is terminated after the Assessor has formed a view that a Disqualifying Condition is engaged, the Scheme Owner records that view on the assessment file and it is disclosed at any subsequent assessment of the same premises.

15.9.4 Fees on termination are governed by WMA-TRM-001.

15.10 Liability and insurance

The Scheme Owner's liability in respect of an assessment, and the insurance it maintains, are governed by WMA-TRM-001. An outcome under this standard is a judgement on the evidence examined at the date of assessment. It is not a warranty that an act of terrorism will not occur, that harm will not result if one does, or that the Responsible Person will be found compliant by the Security Industry Authority or any court or tribunal.

16. Standard governance

16.1 Ownership

This standard and WMA-PSA-CAT-001 are owned by the Scheme Owner, which alone may issue, amend or withdraw them. The Martyn's Law Assurance Framework from which the control set derives is maintained by the Scheme Owner as the shared basis for the published gap analysis tool, and a change to either is reflected in the other within one issue cycle.

16.2 Review

16.2.1 The Scheme Owner reviews this standard annually as a minimum, and within one working week of becoming aware of any of the following: commencement regulations under section 37, regulations under sections 4(3), 7(1)(e), 9 or 32, revision of the section 27 guidance, publication or revision of the SIA section 12 guidance, a tribunal or court decision interpreting Part 1 of the Act, or a change to the published national threat level or to NPSA guidance that bears on a control.

16.2.2 A review examines whether each control, disqualifying condition, weighting and threshold remains correctly calibrated, whether the dated legal position at 4.4 remains accurate, and whether any matter raised under 8.10.4 or through complaints requires change.

16.3 Change control

16.3.1 A change to the requirement text of a control, to a disqualifying condition, to a weighting or to a threshold is a major change and produces a new version of the document concerned with a stated application date under 7.5.5.

16.3.2 A correction of an error, a clarification that does not alter a requirement, a change to the dated legal position at 4.4, or the insertion of a held item on publication of the SIA guidance is a minor change and produces a new minor version.

16.3.3 Every change is recorded in the change log at Annex E with its reason, the section affected and the application date.

16.4 Interpretation notes

16.4.1 The Scheme Owner may issue an interpretation note where a question arises on the application of a control that does not require a change to its text.

16.4.2 An interpretation note binds Assessors from its date of issue and is available to Responsible Persons on the same terms as this standard.

16.4.3 An interpretation note shall not extend a control beyond its text, create a requirement, or alter a disqualifying condition. Where the question cannot be resolved without doing so, a major change under 16.3.1 is required.

16.5 Consultation

Before a major change, the Scheme Owner consults holders of current outcomes, Authorised Assessors and Licensed Partners for not less than twenty working days, and publishes a summary of the responses and the position taken.

16.6 Errors

16.6.1 Where an error in this standard or the control set is identified, the Scheme Owner corrects it at the next minor version.

16.6.2 Where an error has affected an assessment already conducted, the Scheme Owner examines whether the outcome would have differed. Where it would, the outcome is reviewed under 13.5 at the Scheme Owner's cost, and any adjustment operates in the Responsible Person's favour where the error was the Scheme Owner's.

16.7 Precedence

Where documents within the scheme conflict, the order is: this standard, WMA-PSA-CAT-001, the control set, interpretation notes, subject to 16.4.3, the Part B templates, guidance issued by the Scheme Owner. The Act, regulations under it and the statutory guidance govern the Responsible Person's own obligations over anything in this scheme, under 5.1.

16.8 Part B templates

16.8.1 The Part B templates WMA-PSA-TPL-001 to 007 are provided to support a Responsible Person in producing the evidence this standard examines. Their use is voluntary.

16.8.2 Use of a template evidences nothing by itself. A populated template is scored on the same terms as any other document, under 9.9.

16.8.3 A Responsible Person may adapt a template to its circumstances. Adaptation does not affect scoring in either direction.

16.8.4 The Scheme Owner shall not adapt a template for a named Responsible Person, since that would constitute consultancy under 6.9.5.

16.8.5 The templates are issued unmodified and on the same terms to every Responsible Person, whether or not it proceeds to assessment.

16.9 Items held pending the SIA section 12 guidance

The following bracketed items are completed and v1.0 issued as a minor change under 16.3.2 on publication of the guidance:

- 3.3: the title and date of the published guidance
- 12.2.2: the commencement dates activating DC-P7 and DC-P8, on the making of the commencement regulations
- 12.8.4 and 15.5.2: any position the guidance takes on third-party assessment or on information received by the SIA from third parties
- Annex D: any inspection-readiness expectation the guidance sets that bears on the output formats or on ML-ENH-08

16.10 Withdrawal of the standard

16.10.1 Where the Scheme Owner withdraws this standard, outcomes current at the date of withdrawal remain valid until their expiry date. The register is maintained until the last outcome expires. Holders are notified not less than six months before withdrawal takes effect.

Annex schedule

Ref	Title	Status	Version line
WMA-PSA-CAT-001	Protected Premises Control Set	Normative	Independent
Annex A	Mapping to the statutory duties	Informative	Standard
Annex B	Mapping to the section 27 statutory guidance	Informative	Standard
Annex C	Part B template index	Informative	Standard
Annex D	Assessment output formats	Normative	Standard
Annex E	Change log	Normative	Standard

Informative annexes assist in reading the standard and carry no requirement. Normative annexes carry requirements and are read as part of the standard.

Annex A. Mapping to the statutory duties

Status: informative. This mapping shows where each duty in Part 1 of the Act is examined. It does not create an entitlement to claim compliance with the Act, which is prohibited at 14.5.

Provision	Controls	Count
Sections 2 to 4, Schedules 1 and 2	ML-STD-01, 02, 03	3
Section 5	ML-STD-05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10	6
Section 6	ML-ENH-01, 02, 03, 04, 05	5
Section 7	ML-ENH-06, 07	2
Section 8	ML-STD-12	1
Section 9 and SI 2026/793	ML-STD-04	1
Section 10	ML-STD-11	1
Sections 12 to 26, Schedule 3	ML-ENH-08	1

Every control maps to one provision as its primary basis. Section 27 is the basis of the citation carried by every control rather than of any single control.

Annex B. Mapping to the section 27 statutory guidance

Status: informative. Paragraph-level citations are carried in the statutory basis field of each control in WMA-PSA-CAT-001. This annex records the chapter-level correspondence at 4.2 and is re-verified at each revision of the guidance under 16.2.1.

Annex C. Part B template index

Reference	Title	Controls supported
WMA-PSA-TPL-001	Scope and Tier Determination Record	GT-1 to GT-4, GT-E, Annex B override register, ML-STD-01, 02, 03
WMA-PSA-TPL-002	Public Protection Procedures Pack	ML-STD-05, 06, 07, 08, 09
WMA-PSA-TPL-003	Self-Assessment Checklist	All controls, with the scoring worksheet at Section 8
WMA-PSA-TPL-004	Staff Briefing and Readiness Record	ML-STD-10

Reference	Title	Controls supported
WMA-PSA-TPL-005	Co-ordination Agreement	ML-STD-12
WMA-PSA-TPL-006	Vulnerability Assessment and Compliance Document	ML-ENH-05, 06
WMA-PSA-TPL-007	Register Pack	ML-STD-04, ML-ENH-07, 08
WMA-PSA-DEC-001	Standard Premises Declaration	Product at 2.2, outcome at 11.4
WMA-PSA-ADF-001	Annual Declaration Form	13.3

Annex D. Assessment output formats

Status: normative. On a Mark or Conditional outcome the Responsible Person receives WMA-STM-001 Assurance Statement, WMA-CRT-001 Certificate and WMA-SCR-001 Scoring Report, in their Protected Premises variants. The statement carries the dated legal position at 4.4, the independent opinions at 9.4, every limitation, and for Conditional the improvement actions in WMA-IAS-001. On Not Confirmed the Responsible Person receives WMA-FND-001 Finding Report only. On Declared the Responsible Person receives a register entry and a declaration certificate face. On Not Declared it receives a finding report only. Conversion is recorded in WMA-CNV-001 and verification in WMA-VER-001. A scope determination that finds premises or an event out of scope is issued as a standalone determination record on WMA-PSA-TPL-001 signed by the Assessor. [Held: any inspection-readiness expectation in the SIA section 12 guidance is reflected here on publication.]

Annex E. Change log

Version	Date	Section	Change	Application date
0.9	September 2026	All	First issue for use, with four held items at 16.9	On issue

End of WMA-PSA-001 v0.9.