

THE BRIEF

APR - JUN 13



Threat Levels

The current threat level towards the UK from International Terror Groups remains at **Substantial** with the threat towards the UK from Irish groups being reduced to **Moderate**. The remaining industries we gauge as **LOW**. We actively encourage the reporting of suspicious behaviour, no matter how trivial it seems.

Transport Security Newcastle university students are currently carrying out explosive testing on railway carriages. "They are using low-cost, simple solutions that can be put on existing trains which could not only save lives but also reduce the attractiveness of our railways for potential terrorist attacks. Videos of these can be found on www.rail.co



DNA tagging: Selectamark has developed a pistol or rifle based DNA tagging system. This means that police can tag an offender from a distance of approx 30 -40m using a coded pellet. Police officers can use the system in riot and crowd situations or tag a fleeing offender and apprehend later at a less confrontational time. Have a look at selectadna.co.uk/selectadna-high-velocity-dna-ing-system.htm



Cyber Security: There is a huge element of trust involved in internet interaction. People trust that their personal information and account details are going to be held in a safe and private database behind a firewall of antivirus security. Unfortunately, this doesn't always happen. Cyber crime costs the UK approx £27billion per year. Check out www.getsafeonline.org for advice.



Top 3 Travel Errors: 1, Lost Passport - Make 2 photocopies and leave 1 at home and the other within your hotel safe. 2, Excessive Clothing - Keep holiday clothes to a minimum why not try a vacuum pack to reduce your suitcase size. 3, No travel insurance - travelling without cover could cost millions in the long term.



Driving Standards: On March 18th 2013 a number of changes were made to the medical driving standards within the UK. Please check these changes via the www.dvla.gov.uk it may effect you! They have retained the requirement to be able to read a number plate from 20m.



4b or not 4b: More than two million motorists within the UK are unwittingly getting behind the wheel with an out-of-date driving licence that could land them with a fine of up to £1,000. The problem stems from drivers wrongly believing that the photo-identity card they carry is for life. In fact, it must be renewed every ten years. Check with www.dft.gov.uk/dvla. If you still possess the paper type it's valid until your 70th birthday unless you need to amend any details. Check ! 4b on your licence.



Mobile Device Security: Ask yourself - if I lost my phone or device could anyone access the information stored within it. The UK has millions of mobile devices that do not have pin code access. These unprotected devices are considerably more valuable to thieves than those with protection. Protect your device with a simple pin-code.



Council Tax payments change: From April 2013 all councils must allow you to pay your bill over a 12 month period instead of the usual 10 months. All you have to do is contact them and inform them that you wish to change from 10 to 12 month payments. However it must be done by **15th April** so you need to be quick.



Food Fraud: If as a customer you have any suspicions about food being offered for sale, for example, if the meat being sold is unusually cheap and you have concerns about where meat has come from, please tell both the local authority and the Food Standards Agency on 020 7276 8527 or foodfraud@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk



Crime Reduction Officers

Cleveland Police CR officers are running initiatives throughout the spring. For further advice contact 101 and ask for your relevant CR officer or email crime.prevention@cleveland.pnn.police.uk.

ctsa@cleveland.pnn.police.uk