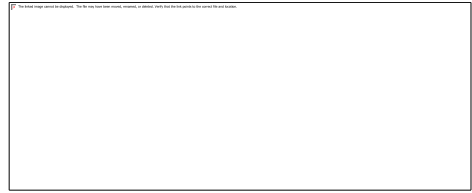


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SIA Update, November 2012

Welcome to the latest edition of *SIA Update*, the SIA's newsletter for people with an interest in the private security industry. We hope you find it informative and useful. If you have any suggestions on how we could improve it, please [let us know](#).

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SIA News

Future of Regulation: Consultation



The Home Office is seeking views on the Government's preferred option for reforming the regulation of the private security industry: a phased transition to a business regulation regime.

In a video message to the industry, SIA Chief Executive Bill Butler said:

"The aim of the Government's recommended proposal is for more efficient and cost effective regulation, which continues to reduce criminality, protect the public and improve standards within the industry.

"We want to ensure that before committing to any action, we have listened to your views, to ensure that we have identified all the relevant issues before committing to any action. This is why we encourage everyone who is involved in the private security industry, at whatever level, to take part in the consultation. This is your industry and this is an

opportunity for you to have a say on its future direction."

The consultation closes on 15 January 2013.

[Take part in the consultation](#)



[Watch the video message](#)



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Training Reminder for Door Supervisors

From 4 February 2013, all door supervisors with a qualification obtained before summer 2010 will need to pass the new 'Up-Skilling for Door Supervisors' award before they are able to renew their SIA licence.

Tony Holyland, SIA Competency Development Manager said:

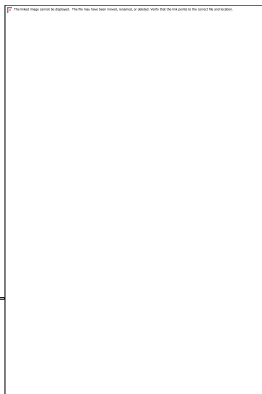
"In the interest of public safety, additional training, which includes physical intervention, will be a compulsory requirement for anyone who has not already completed it when they renew their licence."

Being trained in the appropriate techniques and how to use them will help door staff to manage difficult situations, minimising the risk of injury to members of the public and to themselves."

Reminder letters are being sent to door supervisors whose licences are up for renewal and we encourage those requiring additional training to ensure they have obtained the qualification.

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New SIA Board Member



Professor Sir Desmond Rea has joined the SIA as a Non-Executive Board Member to represent the interests of Northern Ireland.

Sir Desmond will work closely with the SIA Chairman and board in relation to the new regulatory regime being proposed by the Government. He will also be contributing to the overall strategic direction of the SIA and to ensuring that we carry out our duties effectively and efficiently.

SIA Chairman Ruth Henig said:

"It is vital that the SIA has someone who will represent the interests of Northern Ireland in relation to the private security industry, as well as support it in providing an external perspective and challenge to the SIA's work."

[Read about the SIA Board](#)

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PASS Commissions Door Staff Research

PASS, the national proof of age accreditation scheme, has commissioned a large new research project to understand how door supervisors can best verify the age of young adults. The research is being carried out by the specialist on trade research agency, CGA Strategy Limited, who will conduct both qualitative and quantitative research with door supervisors across the UK.

PASS Director Kate Winstanley said

"This research will seek to understand the pressures that door staff face when deciding whether to allow a customer into a bar. How effectively do licensees brief their door staff on company admission policies and does the message sink in? Are PASS cards easy to recognise on a busy evening? Are security staff aware that PASS is recommended by both the Home Office and Police as the preferred method for providing proof of age?"

It is anticipated that the research will be completed before the end of the year and published in early 2013.

[Go to the survey](#)



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Fact or Fiction?



"The SIA should do more to look after the people that pay for it. It should take our side if we're accused of assault and it should fight to get us better pay."

Fiction: The SIA is responsible for regulation **of** the private security industry in the UK. It isn't a trade union or a trade association **for** the private security industry. Many people working within the industry expect us to act as a voice for them, but that is not what a regulator does.

The first of our five organisational objectives is "protecting the public" and our vision is that *"criminality is reduced and standards are raised in the private security industry so that the public is, and feels, safer."* We are here to ensure that the people responsible for keeping members of the public and their property safe have undergone certain identity and criminality checks, and have been trained to a specified standard.

We are interested in improving wages and working conditions and can provide support and encouragement to organisations involved in the promotion of these issues. However, we do not have the authority to impose these changes and that is not what Parliament created us to do.

Spotlight On...the Criminal Record Indicator



Our Criminal Record Indicator is part of our step-by-step guide to applying for a licence: it allows potential licence applicants a 'no cost' way of determining whether or not they will pass our criminality criteria. The logic of the indicator mirrors that which is used by members of our licensing team when they make their decision.

The system now includes:

- New questions at the start that identify at an early stage those people whose criminality would not affect their chances of being granted a licence. This saves them time because it means that they don't have to go through the rest of the indicator.
- A search function so that users can more easily find offences.
- New results screens for REFUSE and CONSIDER ADDITIONAL FACTORS decisions which display the offences that have been taken into consideration.
- A new feature that tells the user when their result may change.

We encourage anyone who is thinking of applying for an SIA licence and who has offences on their record to try our criminal record indicator before they apply.

Applicants who are likely to be refused a licence and who fall within the 'consider additional factors' category may now supply character references and evidence of rehabilitation when they apply.

[Try the Criminal Record Indicator](#)

Enforcement News

This month we conducted compliance checks across West Yorkshire and Staffordshire.

Checks on door staff and taxi marshals working in Hanley, Stoke and Burslem found all operatives compliant with licensing regulations. SIA investigators joined officers from Staffordshire Police to carry out the inspection at 10 venues that included a town hall, pubs and clubs. All 37 door staff checked were correctly licensed.

Five people were found working illegally during a police-led operation in Huddersfield, Batley and Dewsbury. Two licensees, who were employing in-house door supervisors without holding an SIA licence, were found in Huddersfield and Dewsbury. Also at these venues, two unlicensed door supervisors were discovered. The fifth door supervisor was found working illegally in Dewsbury. Enquiries are on-going. Seven door supervisors were also issued with warnings for failing to display their licence whilst on duty.

As the busy festive period for approaches, we will be carrying out a number of targeted and random checks on security operatives across the UK. We and our partners want the festive season to be a safe and enjoyable time for the public. Look out for more details in the next edition.

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Approved Contractor Scheme

Changes to Self Assessment Workbook



The *Standard* route to ACS approval begins with a self-assessment that is then verified by an independent assessor from an SIA-approved assessing body. In January 2013 we will be introducing some changes to the self-assessment - specifically, to section six of the Self Assessment Workbook ('People').

The new requirements become mandatory on 1 April, but from 1 January failure to meet these requirements will be identified as 'improvement needs' (which must be addressed with a defined action plan and timelines).

Approved contractors may wish to review the changes by downloading the *Self Assessment Workbook: Changes Effective 1 January 2013* guidance document.

[Read the document](#)



(PDF, download size: 358kb)

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ACS Engagement

Following their recent attendance at the National Community Safety event in Coventry, members of the ACS team were also out and about in London, promoting the ACS at the Local Government Procurement Network showcase (LGPN).

[Find out more about Local Government Procurement Network](#)



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Licensing Matters

The CRB is Changing

We conduct criminal record checks on everyone who applies for an SIA licence. Many of these checks are processed by the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB).

On 1 December 2012, the CRB is merging with the Independent Safeguarding Authority to become the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). If you apply for or renew an SIA

licence after this date, the criminal record disclosure you receive may feature the new DBS logo and may look different to any CRB disclosures you've received in the past.

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Licence Processing Times

We aim to process a minimum of 80% of all correctly completed applications within 25 working days.

In October 2012, **89%** of applications were processed within 25 working days.

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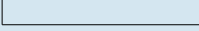
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