Knowledge and Skills Specification: Security Guarding Refresher Training

This document was published in October 2024

Foreword

The Security Industry Authority (SIA) recognises that it is essential for security personnel to have undergone a structured programme of learning and education resulting in recognised qualifications if they are to be effective and professional in their role.

This specification includes key areas that will keep current licence holders up to date with the new licence-linked qualifications requirements.

This document is intended to provide a clear specification on the approach that has been agreed by the SIA and industry stakeholders in relation to the core learning and resulting qualifications required by SIA licensing.

Section 1: Learning programme overview

Training leading to an SIA licence-linked qualification for security guards must include the following areas:

- Session 1: Searching
- Session 2: Terror threat awareness
- Session 3: Protecting vulnerable people

Section 2: Learning programme details

Session 1: Searching

Aim:

To understand and demonstrate effective search procedures.

Objectives:

By the end of this session learners will be able to:

- identify the different types of searches carried out by a security officer
- explain a security officer's right of search
- identify different types of searching equipment
- state the possible hazards that might be encountered when conducting a search
- state the precautions to take when conducting a search
- state what actions to take if an accident or incident occurs during searching
- demonstrate how to search people and their property
- state typical areas of vehicles to be searched
- identify reasons for carrying out a premises search
- state the actions which may need to be taken in the event of a refusal to be searched
- identity reasons for completing search documentation
- identify actions to take if a prohibited or restricted item is found during a search

Session 2: Terror threat awareness

Aim:

To understand terror threats and the role of the security operative in the event of a threat

Objectives:

By the end of this session learners will be able to:

- identify the different threat levels
- recognise the common terror attack methods
- recognise the actions to take in the event of a terror threat
- identify the procedures for dealing with suspicious items
- identify behaviours that could indicate suspicious activity
- identify how to respond to suspicious behaviour

Session 3: Protecting vulnerable people

Aim:

To know and understand how to keep vulnerable people safe.

Objectives:

By the end of this session learners will be able to:

- recognise their duty of care with regards to vulnerable people

- identify factors that could make someone vulnerable

- identify the actions that the security operative should take towards vulnerable people

- identify the behaviours shown by of potential sexual predators, including use of drugs, and know when to report them

- identify indicators of abuse

- know how to deal with allegations of sexual assault

- know how to deal with anti-social behaviour, including from members of the public (use of force, law appropriate person, theft, etc.)