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CPNI - Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure

About the Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure

The Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI) protects national security by providing protective security advice. Protective security is 'putting in place, or building into design, security measures or protocols such that threats may be deterred, detected, or the consequences of an attack minimised'.

We provide advice on physical security, personnel security and cyber security/information assurance. Most importantly, we explain how these components combine together and reinforce each other - and their relationship to the threat. CPNI's protective security advice is built on a combination of things including:

- what science tells us (our research and development programme)
- our understanding of the national security threat
- our experience and expertise
- effective relationships with private and public sector partners
- policy considerations.

We prioritise to whom we give advice through various mechanisms for example a sector approach for national infrastructure, a criticality scale and CONTEST Protect's seven current themes for counter terrorism.

CPNI in context

Policy considerations are one of the building blocks for CPNI's protective security advice. There are various Government policies which impact our work.



The national infrastructure

The UK's national infrastructure is defined by the Government as: "those facilities, systems, sites and networks necessary for the functioning of the country and the delivery of the essential services upon which daily life in the UK depends".



Who we work with

CPNI has effective relationships with private and public sector partners. We work in close collaboration with some key partners such as the National Technical Authority for Information Assurance (CESG) and the police - National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) and the Counter Terrorism Security Advisor (CTSA) network.



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