

- Vessels which appear to be overloaded, particularly with people who are inappropriately dressed
- Vessels being met offshore and items, or people, transferring from one vessel to the other
- Small or motorised vessels arriving late at night
- Abandoned vessels
- Vessels stopping offshore and recovering items from marker buoys
- Vessels crewed by individuals who appear untrained

If you do notice anything unusual:

REPORT your suspicions immediately

NEVER try to get involved or make an approach yourself

DO NOT touch suspicious or abandoned packages

TRY to make a note of any registration numbers, markings or descriptions

TRUST your instincts - It is important to report your suspicions, no matter how insignificant you consider them to be. Trained officers will assess your information and decide whether action needs to be taken.

All information is treated in the strictest confidence

Who should you contact?

If there is an emergency, or the threat is immediate, call 999

If you wish to report unusual or suspicious activity, call the

Confidential Anti-Terrorist Hotline on 0800 789 321 or

Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111



Have You Seen or Heard Anything Suspicious?



**NORTH EAST
COUNTER
TERRORISM UNIT**

Policing Ports in Your Region

Dedicated Ports Officers from the North East Counter Terrorism Unit work alongside local police forces to police airfields and harbours throughout the region. One of their key responsibilities is to ensure those using them comply with the relevant legislation; in particular the Terrorism Act 2000 and the Terrorism Act 2006.

These officers also seek to gather intelligence and information about a wide range of crimes, including offences of terrorism, smuggling, contraband and illegal immigration. To tackle these issues the Unit works closely with police forces and the UK Border Agency, which is responsible for enforcing immigration and customs regulations.

How does Legislation affect you?

Terrorism legislation has given the police greater powers to help prevent and investigate terrorism, including improved Stop and Search powers at ports, bays and estuaries.

These laws impact upon general aviation and maritime users and the responsibilities of aircraft and vessel owners.

Flight Notifications (General Aviation Forms – GARS)

Legislation requires anyone wishing to fly from the Common Travel Area (Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland and Eire) to seek authority a minimum of 12 hours in advance.

It is an offence under the Terrorism Act to fail to comply with this notification requirement.

To prevent problems arising, we recommend that individuals flying from an airfield to any destination outside mainland UK, submit a flight notification to their local Ports Unit.

How can you help?

We all have a responsibility when it comes to countering terrorism. By working together and responding to suspicious behaviour we can help to prevent and disrupt terrorist activities.

- Owners and users of light aircraft or vessels MUST be aware of their legal responsibilities and ensure they comply with them
- Those visiting, or working at ports and small airfields, should be alert at all times. If you spot anything unusual, or have any information regarding possible criminal activity, immediately share your concerns with police
- Local residents, enthusiasts and the general public are encouraged to be vigilant and to report anything suspicious to police

What to look out for

At Airfields:

- Evidence of unauthorised activity at an airstrip, e.g. fresh tyre marks
- Packages being transferred from an aircraft to a vehicle in unusual locations or remote parts of an airfield
- Activity or sightings of aircraft at night, or on unused airstrips
- Strangers trying to hire aircraft – or those belonging to flying club members
- Strangers using, or seeking permission to use, any airstrip
- People seeking flying lessons – do you doubt their motives or behaviour?
- Evidence of attempts to adapt or conceal aircraft

At Harbours:

- Suspicious or unusual activity surrounding ports and inlets, e.g. boats arriving late into the harbour with no lights on
- A vessel with its name obscured, or no country of origin displayed on its flag