OTAS LIVE

Supporting Events and Professionals at Every Stage

Martyn's Law: what to do before the guidance lands

The regulator's final guidance on how it will enforce Martyn's Law is still to come. The duties are expected to start in spring 2027, and the Home Office guidance on what you must do is already out. What event teams can do in the next 20 weeks

Correct as of 9 November 2026

Start before the guidance lands.

800 or more at once, staff included [3]

A crowd walks out through an open gate in a perimeter fence. OTAS style image, generated from real photography. Not a record of a specific event.

The law in numbers

800

or more at once, staff included [3]

2027

spring, expected start [2]

£18m

maximum penalty, or 5 percent of qualifying worldwide revenue if greater [9]

01

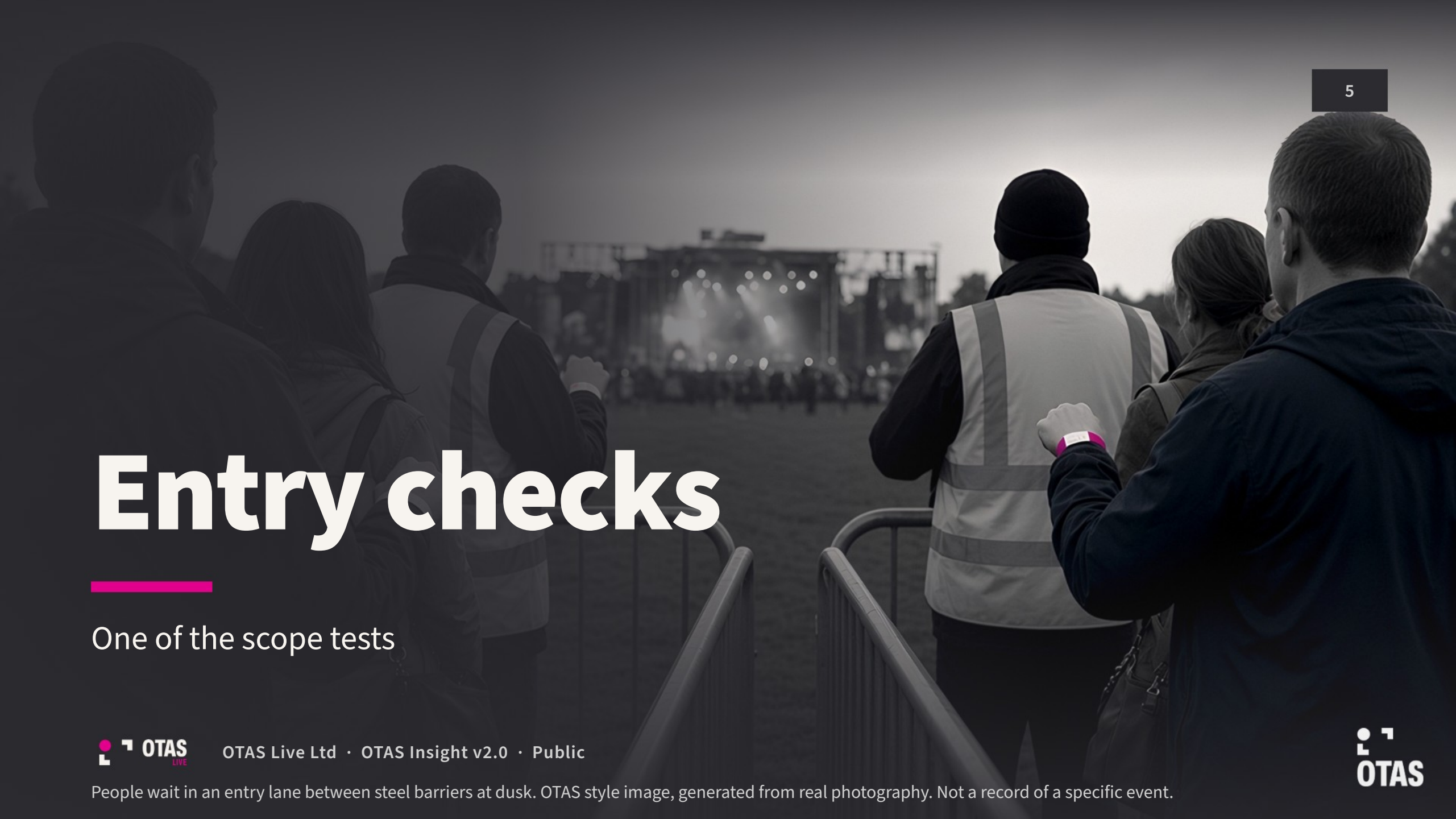
Where things stand

PUBLISHED

- The Act and its guidance [10][19]
- Notification rules, July 2026 [33]
- SIA planning tool and template, 9 November [25][26]

STILL TO COME

- Final SIA guidance [4][6]
- Scope tool [8]
- The start date [2]



Entry checks

One of the scope tests

People wait in an entry lane between steel barriers at dusk. OTAS style image, generated from real photography. Not a record of a specific event.

What the law says

IS IT IN SCOPE?	WHAT YOU MUST DO
Public can attend [10]	Four procedures [12]
Entry checks [10]	Four measures [13]
800 or more at once [10]	A document to the SIA [14]



The document

Procedures and measures

Binders and a site plan on a desk in a site office. OTAS style image, generated from real photography. Not a record of a specific event.

03

The two tiers

STANDARD TIER	ENHANCED AND EVENTS
200 to 799 people [2]	800 or more [2]
Four procedures [12]	Procedures and measures [13]
£10,000 maximum [9]	Document to the SIA [14]

Four tests make an event qualifying

1 Public can attend

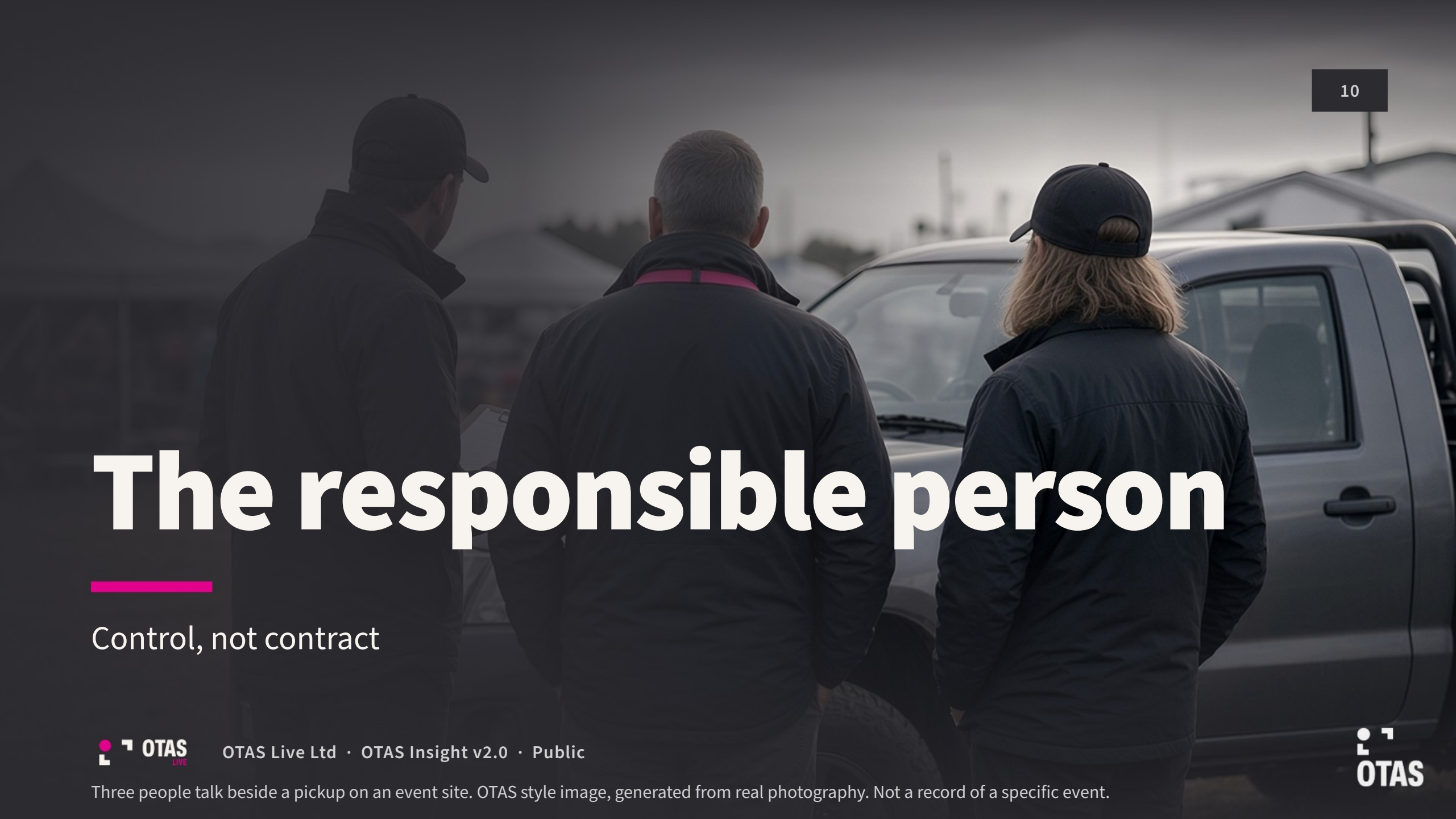
2 Entry checks

3 800 or more at once

4 Not at enhanced tier or excluded sites

5 Qualifying event

From section 3 of the Act and Home Office guidance [3][10]. OTAS summary, not legal advice.



The responsible person

Control, not contract

Three people talk beside a pickup on an event site. OTAS style image, generated from real photography. Not a record of a specific event.

05

Responsible person

WHO IT IS

- Controls the premises [11]
- Senior individual, if an organisation and enhanced duties apply [29]
- Duty not delegable [16]

WHO THEY WORK WITH

- Landowners cooperate [24]
- Others coordinate [24]
- Cooperate and coordinate: both so far as is reasonably practicable [24]
- Notify the SIA [15]

06

Signs you are not ready

OTAS guidance, drawn from the Act and Home Office guidance.

01 **No scope check**

02 **No named person**

03 **Fire plan only**

04 **Staff not told**

05 **Waiting to buy**

07

20 weeks, from scope to briefed staff



STAGE 1

Scope

Weeks 1 to 4

STAGE 2

Responsibility

Weeks 5 to 8

STAGE 3

Procedures

Weeks 9 to 12

STAGE 4

Measures

Weeks 13 to 16

STAGE 5

Brief, check

Weeks 17 to 20

From the plan in this Insight. OTAS guidance.

08

The 20 week plan

WEEKS 1 TO 8	WEEKS 9 TO 20
Count and scope	Draft procedures
Name the person	Draft the document
Check contracts	Brief, then check

09

The four procedures

MOVE PEOPLE	HOLD AND TELL
Evacuation [12]	Lockdown [12]
Invacuation [12]	Communication [12]

What to do at each level

Operational

Know the procedures

Report concerns

Free awareness course

Tactical

Draft procedures

Include the queues

Brief and test

Strategic

Check scope

Name the person

Prepare the document

The checklist

SCOPE AND PEOPLE

- Each event tested
- Responsible person named, and senior individual if needed [11][29]
- Staff briefed

PAPER

- Procedures written, contracts checked
- Plan checked against the SIA planning tool or template [25][26]
- Final guidance when published [4]

“

Neither the SIA nor the Home Office is able to endorse or recommend specific companies or services for compliance with this legislation…

SIA, Understanding Martyn's Law, section Preparing for Martyn's Law [2]

Where the facts come from

1	Trade news interview on preparing for Martyn's Law, Emergency Services Times, 9 November 2026	emergencyservicestimes.com
2	SIA, Understanding Martyn's Law and the SIA's role as regulator, 17 July 2026	gov.uk
3	Home Office, Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 factsheet, scope (events), updated 24 July 2026	gov.uk
4	SIA, Martyn's Law and the SIA's role as regulator, collection page, last updated 9 November 2026	gov.uk
5	SIA, Martyn's Law draft section 12 statutory guidance, consultation page	gov.uk
6	SIA, consultation on its Martyn's Law guidance closes, 16 June 2026	gov.uk
7	Counter Terror Business, SIA's Martyn's Law consultation closes, 18 June 2026	counterterrorbusiness.com

Where the facts come from

8	SIA, Martyn's Law: scope, support and what's next, 11 September 2026	gov.uk
9	Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, section 18, maximum amount of a penalty	legislation.gov.uk
10	Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, section 3, qualifying events	legislation.gov.uk
11	Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, section 4, persons responsible	legislation.gov.uk
12	Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, section 5, public protection procedures	legislation.gov.uk
13	Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, section 6, public protection measures	legislation.gov.uk
14	Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, section 7, documenting compliance	legislation.gov.uk

Where the facts come from

15	Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, section 9, notification requirements	legislation.gov.uk
16	Home Office, Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 statutory guidance (accessible)	gov.uk
17	Home Office, The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, guidance and supporting documents	gov.uk
18	Home Office, supplementary document A, methods for assessing the number of people present, updated 25 August 2026	gov.uk
19	Home Office, Martyn's Law guidance published to help businesses, 15 April 2026	gov.uk
20	ProtectUK, Martyn's Law scope	protectuk.police.uk
21	ProtectUK, Martyn's Law frequently asked questions, 27 October 2026	protectuk.police.uk

Where the facts come from

22	ProtectUK, ACT Awareness e-learning	protectuk.police.uk
23	Manchester Arena Inquiry, Volume 1, Security for the Arena, GOV.UK page	gov.uk
24	Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, section 8, requirements to coordinate and cooperate	legislation.gov.uk
25	SIA, Martyn's Law: enhanced tier template, 9 November 2026	gov.uk
26	SIA, Martyn's Law: standard tier planning tool, 9 November 2026	gov.uk
27	SIA, Martyn's Law: working together to prepare, 9 November 2026	gov.uk
28	Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, Schedule 2, excluded premises and events	legislation.gov.uk

Where the facts come from

29	**Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, section 10, senior individual**	legislation.gov.uk
30	**ProtectUK, unattended and suspicious items**	protectuk.police.uk
31	**HSE, event safety, incidents and emergencies**	hse.gov.uk
32	**SIA, New tools to support preparation for Martyn's Law, 9 November 2026**	gov.uk
33	**The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) (Notification Requirements) Regulations 2026, SI 2026/793**	legislation.gov.uk
34	**Home Office, Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025: notification requirement, 14 July 2026**	gov.uk
35	**Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, section 36, extent**	legislation.gov.uk

Where the facts come from

36	**MI5, Terrorism threat levels**	mi5.gov.uk
37	**SIA, Martyn's Law: keeping up the momentum, 5 August 2026**	gov.uk
38	**ProtectUK, Martyn's Law resources, 27 August 2026**	protectuk.police.uk
39	**UK Parliament written answer 34237, 19 October 2026**	questions-statements.parliament.uk

Web sources opened 9 November 2026 and labelled by source type. Links are for checking only. Listing a source does not mean it endorses OTAS or has worked with OTAS.

OVER TO YOU

If your biggest event next summer were inspected tomorrow, who in your team would answer for it?

If you need support getting your events ready for Martyn's Law, reach out to us to see how we can support you.

OTAS Live Ltd.
By OTAS Insights. Edited by Kris Dailly.

OTAS LIVE