

Kingston Parish Council

Guidance in the Event of a Firearms or Weapons Incident

If you are alerted to a firearms or weapons attack, stay calm, RUN or HIDE, only when it is safe TELL the police

RUN

- Consider your safest options.
- Escape if you can.
- Is there a safe route? RUN, if not HIDE.
- Can you get there without exposing yourself to greater danger?
- Insist others leave with you, but don't let their indecision slow you down.
- Leave belongings behind.

HIDE

- If you cannot RUN, then HIDE.
- Find cover from gunfire.
- If you can see the attacker, they may be able to see you.
- Cover from view does not mean you are safe, bullets go through glass, brick, wood and metal.
- Find cover from gunfire e.g. substantial brickwork/heavy reinforced walls.
- Be aware of your exits.
- Try not to get trapped.
- Be quiet, silence your phone.
- Lock/barricade yourself in.
- Move away from the door.

TELL

- Call 999 - What do the police need to know? If you cannot speak or make a noise listen to the instructions given to you by the call taker.
- Location - Where are the suspects?
- Direction - Where did you last see the suspects?
- Descriptions – Describe the attacker, numbers, features, clothing, weapons etc.
- Further information – Casualties, type of injury, building information, entrances, exits, hostages etc.
- Stop other people entering the building if it is safe to do so.

ARMED POLICE RESPONSE

- Follow officers' instructions.
- Remain calm.
- Can you move to a safer area?
- Keep your hands in view.

OFFICERS MAY

- Point guns at you.

- Treat you firmly.
- Question you.
- Not be unable to distinguish you from the attacker.
- Officers will evacuate you when it is safe to do so.

If you are required to evacuate or lockdown a venue - use your judgement

- Stay calm.
- Assess the situation, the type of incident, its location, attackers and hazards.
- Is the incident or device inside the venue or outside the venue?
- Establish the location of the safest place.
- If you evacuate take the safest route, do so in an orderly manner, insisting others go with you, but don't let their indecision slow you down.
- If you lockdown, go to a safer area, secure all entrances and exits to the premises where possible.
- Communicate to all present what is happening and advise as to the most appropriate action.
- Stay out of sight and away from windows.
- Place your phone on silent, lock yourself in a room if possible.

Follow the RUN HIDE TELL principles – Inform the police, call 999

(guidelines provided by the National Counter Terrorism Security Office)

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