



S12 – Security Guarding Industry Leadership Group

Minutes of the (MBL) Mandatory Business Licensing, (BAS), Data Sharing & Buyer Education Workstream Meeting

Date:	19 May 2026
Time:	9:00am (BST)
Location:	Microsoft Teams (Video Conference)
Workstream Chair:	Peter Harrison – Security Guarding Industry Leadership

Attendees

Peter Harrison – S12 Chair	Paul Fullwood – S12 COO
Anisah Mehmood - S12 Secretariat	Paul Howe – S12 Board Member
Jenna Smith – S12 Comms	Abbey Petkar - S12 Board Member
Simon Alderson - S12 Board Member	Andy Thomas (External)
Muhammad Khan (External)	Leigh Turner (External)
Ben Mumford (External)	Adam Usher (External)
David Brooks (External)	Neil Grimmer (External)
Teresa O'Neill (External)	Sammie Martins (External)
Russell Doyle (External)	Stuart McBride (External)
Bridget Brookfield (External)	Susanne Parker (External)
Dough Edwards (External)	Chris Edwards (External)
Akeem Babatunde (External)	Aurela Trezhnjeva (External)
Richard Harris (External)	

Apologies

None Received	
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Item 1: Welcome and Introductions

The Chair opened the meeting, noting this as the third workstream session, and welcomed attendees. Introductions were acknowledged, including representation from S12 and supporting colleagues.

Item 2: Purpose of the Workstream

The purpose of the group was reiterated as acting as a conduit between industry and government, focusing on Mandatory Business Licensing (MBL/MR8), the Business Approval Scheme (BAS), data sharing, and buyer education.

Item 3: Review of Previous Actions

3.1 The previous action log was reviewed, with several actions carried forward. The proposal to create a database of non-compliant companies was deemed not feasible due to GDPR considerations.

3.2 Progress was noted on the draft MBL manifesto, which is nearing completion and will be circulated shortly for feedback. Engagement with the Home Office is ongoing, with significant data already provided to support understanding of industry costs and impacts.

3.3 Stakeholder engagement continues with the SIA and other bodies. The Buyer Charter is close to publication, and members were encouraged to support wider distribution. Some older actions remain outstanding and require confirmation of completion.

Item 4: Mandatory Business Licensing (MR8) Update

4.1 The group is awaiting the Home Office response to the public consultation, expected shortly, although no confirmed date has been provided.

4.2 There is strong indication of support across industry, the SIA, and government. Members agreed it is critical to maintain momentum and fully utilise the response as a platform for further advocacy.

4.3 It was reiterated that the case for MBL must clearly demonstrate three core elements: public protection, broad industry support, and a proportionate regulatory approach.

Item 5: MBL Campaign and Communications

5. MBL Campaign and Communications

5.1 A key discussion focused on developing a coordinated communications campaign to support MBL. There is a need for consistent messaging, including agreed hashtags, and the creation of a central hub for campaign materials and design assets.

5.2 It was agreed that a dedicated marketing sub-group will be established to support campaign activity. This group will work with the S12 communications lead to develop professionalised outputs and ensure consistency across messaging.



5.3 Campaign content should incorporate case studies, statistical evidence, infographics, and video material, alongside exploring wider channels such as podcasts and social media amplification. Messaging should highlight public safety, labour exploitation, modern slavery, and the risks of operating without regulation.

5.4 It was agreed that communications must be tailored for different audiences, including:

- Security businesses
- Security operatives
- Buyers/end users
- The general public

Item 6: Stakeholder and Industry Engagement

Engagement activity continues with the Home Office, SIA, and HMRC. There is a need to strengthen engagement with MPs, supported by the manifesto and localised examples of industry challenges. Collaboration with trade associations and wider stakeholders will be essential to maximise reach and impact.

Item 7: Business Approval Scheme (BAS)

7.1 A response has been received from the SIA regarding previously raised concerns. While some points have been accepted, further refinement of outstanding issues is ongoing.

7.2 A formal response will be submitted following consolidation of feedback. It was noted that BAS remains important as a fallback option should MBL not progress as anticipated.

Item 8: Data Sharing

No significant updates were provided. However, ongoing challenges remain around ownership and responsibility of data-sharing mechanisms between industry and regulator. A further discussion is planned with the SIA in June to explore a longer-term vision for data sharing across the sector.

Item 9: Key Industry Issues Identified

The following issues were highlighted during discussion as key concerns impacting the industry:

- Labour exploitation and modern slavery practices
- Company “phoenixing” and tax avoidance
- Non-payment within supply chains affecting SMEs
- Limited buyer awareness and cost-driven procurement decisions
- Lack of effective data-sharing infrastructure

Item 10: Buyer Engagement

Buyer engagement was identified as a critical driver for industry change. The group agreed on the need to develop simple, accessible guidance, such as “top tips” for buyers, to encourage better procurement decisions. Messaging should clearly articulate the risks of engaging non-compliant or low-quality providers.



Item 11: Action Summary

Ref	Action	Owner	Deadline	Status
1.0	Circulate draft MBL manifesto for feedback	Peter Harrison / Jenna Smith	June 26	Open
1.1	Establish marketing sub-group and schedule meeting	Jenna Smith / Anisah	June 26	Open
1.2	Draft MBL communications plan	Jenna Smith	June 26	Open
1.3	Gather case studies and supporting data	Leigh Turner / Abbey / Jenna	June 26	Open
1.4	Engage BSIA for supporting data and insights	Jenna Smith	June 26	Open
1.5	Improve engagement with SMEs and wider industry	Jenna Smith	Ongoing	Open
1.6	Finalise and submit BAS response to SIA	Paul Howe	June 26	Open

Item 12: Any Other Business

No items were raised

Item 13: Next meeting date:

Tuesday 16 June 2026

Item 14: Close of Meeting

The Chair thanked attendees for their contributions and formally closed the meeting at 09:38am.