



S12 – Security Guarding Industry Leadership Group

Minutes Lobbying Workstream Meeting

Date:	19 August 2026
Time:	2:00pm (BST)
Location:	Microsoft Teams (Video Conference)
Workstream Chair:	Alex Booth – Security Guarding Leadership Group

Attendees

Alex Booth – Workstream Chair	Leigh Turner (External)
Anisah Mehmood - S12 (Secretariat)	Richard Harris (External)
Jenna Smith – S12 (Comms)	

Apologies

Paul Fullwood – S12 COO	
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Item 1. Welcome and Previous Actions

1.1 Review of Previous Actions

The Chair welcomed attendees. Previous actions were reviewed and noted as having been incorporated into ongoing work and updates presented during the meeting.

Item 2. Workstream Rebrand and Future Direction

2.1 Workstream Rebrand

Members agreed that the term *Lobbying Workstream* no longer accurately reflects the group's purpose following the successful petition campaign. It was agreed that the workstream will be renamed '**Protecting the Frontline**' to better reflect its focus on improving protection, standards and support for frontline security officers.

2.2 Scope and Objectives

Members discussed the future scope of the workstream and recognised that some activities overlap with other S12 workstreams, particularly those relating to training



and standards. It was agreed that responsibilities should be aligned where appropriate.

Item 3. White Paper Update

3.1 White Paper Progress

Alex Booth provided an update on the white paper, which incorporates industry data, stakeholder feedback and case studies gathered from workstream members and S12 organisations.

3.2 Engagement with the Home Office

Members were advised that two rounds of discussions had taken place with the Home Office. Feedback was positive, with officials acknowledging the value of the evidence presented and using the paper to inform ongoing discussions and stakeholder engagement.

Item 4. Legislative Reform Proposals

4.1 Assaults on Emergency Workers Act 2018

An update was provided regarding proposals to extend protections under the Assaults on Emergency Workers Act 2018 to security officers. The matter has been raised with the Ministry of Justice through the Home Office and discussions remain ongoing.

4.2 Clarification of Existing Legislative Protections

The Home Office has agreed to provide clarification regarding the application of existing aggravating factors and the inclusion of SIA licensed security officers within the retail worker protections framework.

4.3 Self-Defence and Use of Force Framework

Members discussed the need for greater clarity on self-defence and use-of-force guidance. It was noted that the issue is receiving further consideration within government discussions.

Item 5. Regulatory Reform Proposals

5.1 Incident Reporting and Data Collection

Members discussed proposals for mandatory reporting of incidents involving frontline security officers and improvements to industry-wide data collection. It was agreed that consistent reporting would help demonstrate the scale of assaults and abuse experienced by security personnel.



5.2 ACS and Wider Industry Accountability

Discussion took place regarding whether reporting obligations should be linked solely to the Approved Contractor Scheme (ACS) or applied more widely across the security sector. Concerns were raised regarding reliance on voluntary accreditation schemes and the need for sector-wide accountability.

5.3 Police Recording and Data Sharing

Members discussed the potential introduction of:

1. A security officer victim flag within police crime recording systems.
2. Improved sharing of assault data between police forces, the Home Office and the SIA.

These measures were considered important in improving visibility of risks faced by frontline security officers.

Item 6. Operational and Training Considerations

6.1 Training Standards

Members reviewed proposals relating to:

1. Conflict management and de-escalation training.
2. Threat recognition and risk assessment.
3. Refresher training requirements.

It was agreed that many of these matters sit more naturally within the Training Malpractice Workstream and should be progressed through that forum.

6.2 Frontline Support Measures

Members discussed a range of support measures including:

- Body-worn video deployment.
- Bleed control and trauma response equipment.
- Post-incident welfare and psychological support.
- Enhanced partnership working with police and crime reduction initiatives.

These measures were recognised as examples of good practice that could improve officer safety and wellbeing.

Item 7. Stakeholder Engagement and Communications

7.1 Case Studies and Evidence Gathering

Members emphasised the importance of continuing to gather case studies and supporting evidence to strengthen engagement with government and industry stakeholders.



7.2 Industry Engagement

Discussion took place on improving engagement with:

1. Frontline security officers.
2. Security buyers and client organisations.
3. Major business and retail stakeholders.

Members agreed that increased education and awareness activities would help support the workstream's objectives.

7.3 Communications and Information Gathering

Consideration was given to developing communications activity to encourage frontline officers to share experiences and contribute case studies for future evidence gathering.

Item 8. Workstream Development

8.1 Revised Workstream Objectives

It was agreed that the workstream objectives would be refreshed following the rebrand. Revised objectives will be circulated to members for review and feedback.

8.2 White Paper Review

Members agreed that wider review and feedback on the white paper would assist in refining recommendations ahead of further stakeholder engagement.

Item 9. Any Other Business

9.1 National Business Crime Centre Engagement

Richard Harris advised that he expects to become more involved with the National Business Crime Centre and may be able to provide further data, insights and stakeholder contacts to support the workstream.

Item 10. Next Meeting Date

10.1 Next Meeting – 1 October 2026

Item 11. Close of Meeting

The Chair thanked members for their contributions and closed the meeting at 3:00pm.



Action Summary

Action Reference	Action Description	Meeting Date	Owner	Deadline
1.16	Rebrand the workstream as ‘Protecting the Frontline’ and update associated objectives.	19 August 2026	Alex Booth / Jenna Smith	September 2026
1.17	Circulate revised workstream objectives to members for review and feedback.	19 August 2026	Alex Booth / Jenna Smith	September 2026
1.18	Distribute the white paper to members for review and comment.	19 August 2026	Jenna Smith	ASAP
1.19	Review the white paper and provide comments, recommendations and suggested amendments.	19 August 2026	Richard Harris / L. Turner	Before September 2026
1.20	Continue engagement with the Home Office, SIA and relevant stakeholders regarding legislative and regulatory recommendations.	19 August 2026	Alex Booth	Ongoing
1.21	Provide additional case studies, evidence and data to support the white paper and ongoing workstream activity.	19 August 2026	All Members	Ongoing
1.22	Explore communications and information-gathering opportunities to collect	19 August 2026	Jenna Smith / Workstream Leads	Ongoing



	frontline experiences and case studies.			
1.23	Share relevant intelligence, stakeholder engagement and data arising from National Business Crime Centre involvement.	19 August 2026	Richard Harris	Ongoing