

## Appendix 2 A: Assessment figure definitions

Note: These definitions are updated for this edition and include **alternative scenarios** in relation to public order and levels of fear and anxiety in the community.

### Assessment definitions – EXPERIENCED

1	<b>Imminent</b>	Corroborated evidence of preparation for crime and disorder – e.g. groups gathering, weapons being prepared etc; Widespread calls at national or international levels for explanation, action or sanction; Community fears are leading to threats and retaliation.
2	<b>High</b>	Substantial evidence of fear of crime and/or disorder along with evidence of preparations to deal with the consequences – e.g. boarding up of shops; Members of the public expressing critical concerns or questioning actions; Sections of the community do not feel able to go about their daily lives as they are very fearful of their treatment by others. Some sections of those communities may be increasingly aggressive.
3	<b>Moderate (high)</b>	Evidence of widespread alarm at current tension levels. Local media reporting that tension is raised with local opinion formers and/or local people stating their fears; Local and national media may have sustained coverage of the issues; Fear and anxiety is sustained and daily activities changed as a result. Communities are increasingly concerned and feelings are running high.
4	<b>Moderate (low)</b>	Corroborated evidence that a significant number of people in the community in question or across communities fear crime and/or disorder. They expect crime and disorder to happen if no action is taken to prevent it and/or another event serves to increase tension; There is widespread discussion of the issue, some polarisation of views is apparent, media interest is regular and may be at the local and/or national level; Fear and anxiety amongst some or all of the community is heightened and leading to changes in their behaviour and strong public statements from members of the community.
5	<b>Above normal</b>	Some corroborated evidence of fear of crime or disorder within the community. The crime and disorder feared would be of low intensity and/or experienced by a limited range of people; There is some evidence of growing levels of discussion, media interest is increasing, may be sporadic but remains at a local level; As a result of local, national or international events, there is an increase in the levels of fear and anxiety in some parts of the community.
6	<b>Normal</b>	Limited community concerns that tension will rise and that, even if it did, the impact will be minor; Discussion is confined to single interest groups with negligible or no media interest; There are no significant differences to the normal levels of fear and anxiety in the community. This may still require attention.

## Assessment definitions – EVIDENCED

1	<b>Imminent</b>	Tension indicators indicating crime and/or disorder to be expected within hours – e.g. stockpiles of weapons discovered, groups gathering on streets, opposing groups planning to demonstrate. Community and/or criminal intelligence suggests disorder is likely to develop within hours; An incident, or rumour, is likely to spark disorder; Communities are no longer able to maintain collective restraint.
2	<b>High</b>	Levels of crime and/or disorder raised along with evidence of serious offences having been committed. Tension indicators showing sustained hostility between particular groups or towards police. There may be evidence of activity by extremists groups. Disorder may have happened in the recent past. Community and/or criminal intelligence suggests disorder or crime likely to develop within days; Very strong views being expressed in the community and via media coverage and increased polarisation apparent; Evidence of an increase in related disorder in other parts of the locality, country or world.
3	<b>Moderate (high)</b>	Substantial rise in crime and/or disorder combined with substantial corroborative evidence of other tension indicators. Particular communities may be targeted. Community and/or criminal intelligence suggests disorder or crime is likely to develop unless responses are developed; There is reporting of an increase in incidents from multiple sources; Communities are changing their behaviour – either by withdrawing from the streets or by expressing increased aggression.
4	<b>Moderate (low)</b>	Crime and/or disorder levels clearly raised above normal. Other tensions indicators – e.g. assaults on police, racist graffiti etc. – providing corroboration. Levels may indicate targeting of specific communities. Levels well above normal. Community and/or criminal intelligence suggests disorder or crime may develop but that steps can be taken to prevent such development. There is evidence of an increase in incidents and reporting of these resulting from the current situation; Information gives evidence of incidents in schools, on estates, in the streets and in community facilities that indicates an increasing level of conflict.
5	<b>Above normal</b>	Evidence that crime and/or disorder levels are raised when compared to the normal levels. Raised levels may indicate targeting of particular communities. Levels not substantially above the normal. Information sources do not suggest that crime and/or disorder will develop; There have been some incidents which are cause for concern in local communities and in the media; Something has happened to increase fear and anxiety in part of the community.
6	<b>Normal</b>	No indication in police crime and disorder reporting that tension is above normal; Media/local pronouncements on issues are minimal/ absent; The level of incidents in the community are similar to how they are normally. This may still require attention.

## Assessment definitions – POTENTIAL

1	<b>Imminent</b>	Local, national or international events, taken alone or in combination, expected to lead to outbreaks of crime and/or disorder within hours; Reputational damage or other organisational damage is likely to be high and is unlikely to be significantly mitigated by intervention options; Community anxiety is leading to conflict.
2	<b>High</b>	Local, national or international events, taken alone or in combination, expected to lead to outbreaks of crime and/or disorder within days. Reputational damage or other organisational impact will potentially be significant and/or intervention options to date have been of limited value; Sections of the community may be seriously anxious about their safety and that of their families and property. A range of responses, including retaliation, could be possible.
3	<b>Moderate (high)</b>	Local, national or international events, taken alone or in combination, expected to raise substantially local experienced and evidenced tension. The expected rise in tension may be localised geographically or within communities; Potential reputational damage or other organisational impact. However this may be limited and may be managed by intervention options; Fear and anxiety is escalating.
4	<b>Moderate (low)</b>	Local, national or international events, taken alone or in combination, expected to raise local experienced and evidenced tension. The expected rise in tension may be localised geographically or within communities; It is likely that there will be a degree of reputational damage or other organisational impact but this is likely to be minimal; It is very likely that some sections of the community may be increasingly anxious or fearful.
5	<b>Above normal</b>	Local, national or international events, taken alone or in combination, may lead to limited experienced or evidenced raising of tension. Any expected tension may be localised geographically or within communities; There is some apparent danger of reputational damage or other organisational impact; Some sections of the community may be fearful of an issue or situation.
6	<b>Normal</b>	No issues locally, nationally or internationally that would impact on local communities sufficiently to cause abnormal tension levels; There is no apparent danger of any reputational or other organisational impact; The impact of existing experience and evidence, or forthcoming anniversaries or events is not considered problematic.

**An example of how a tension summary table might look:**

	Experienced	Evidenced	Potential
The assessment for <b>faith</b> communities is:	6 ▼	6 ▼	5 ▼
The assessment for <b>race</b> is:	6 ►	6 ►	6 ►
The assessment in relation to <b>gang</b> activity is:	5 ▲	5 ▲	5 ▲
The assessment for <b>travelling</b> communities is:	6 ▼	6 ▼	5 ▲
The assessment for <b>guns &amp; knife</b> related issues is:	5 ►	5 ►	5 ▲
The assessment for <b>LGBT</b> communities is:	5 ▲	6 ►	6 ►
The assessment related to <b>disability</b> issues:	6 ►	6 ►	6 ►
<b>The BOCU three figure assessment and trend is:</b>	6 ►	6 ►	5 ▲