

Revised Dec 2024

TIER 1

5.7 Tier 1 events are the smallest and simplest events.

The presence of some of these factors indicates that an event may be in Tier 1:

- duration of a few hours or less
- no activities carrying a risk of injury
- no or minimal alcohol consumption
- no or minimal recreational drug use
- fewer than five hundred attendees
- hospital referrals very unlikely

Cover level

Tier 1 events can often be safely covered without a healthcare professional or an ambulance in attendance. Although in some cases organisers might not need to provide a contracted resource, they should still consider:

- provision of a suitable first aid kit and someone able to use it
- location of the nearest defibrillator and how to access and use it (defibfinder.uk)
- ensuring that appropriate people know how to access emergency assistance

TIER 2

5.8 Tier 2 events are somewhat larger events which often fall within the scope of local authority licensing.

The presence of some of these indicates that an event may be in Tier 2:

- duration more than a few hours but no longer than a day
- low risk of illness or injury from activities
- social drinking of alcohol
- no more than isolated drug use
- up to two thousand attendees
- hospital referrals unlikely

Cover level

Tier 2 events need a dedicated first aid resource, preferably led by a healthcare professional.

Where indicated by the medical needs assessment, provision may include:

- a nominated lead who is responsible for the delivery of the service on site
- supporting first responders or healthcare professionals
- an ambulance with suitably qualified crew if hospital transfers are expected

TIER 3

5.9 Tier 3 are normally larger events with greater potential for illness and injury.

The presence of some of these indicates that an event may be in Tier 3:

- duration more than one day
- moderate risk of illness or injury from activities
- alcohol intoxication likely
- drug intoxication likely
- up to five thousand attendees
- hospital referrals foreseeable

Cover level

Tier 3 events need a dedicated medical resource.

Provision should normally include:

- a clinical lead, who should be a registered healthcare professional with pre-hospital experience
- other healthcare professionals, such as doctors, paramedics and nurses
- first responders
- ambulance(s) with suitably qualified crew if hospital transfers are expected

TIER 4

5.10 Tier 4 are larger and more complex events, where more medical presentations may be expected

The presence of some of these indicates that an event may be in Tier 4:

- duration one to several days
- significant risk of illness or injury from activities

- alcohol intoxication expected
- drug intoxication expected
- up to ten thousand attendees
- hospital referrals likely

Cover level

Tier 4 events need a dedicated medical resource.

Provision should normally include:

- a clinical lead, who should be a registered healthcare professional with pre-hospital experience
- healthcare professionals, such as doctors, paramedics and nurses
- first responders
- ambulance(s) with suitably qualified crew

TIER 5

5.11 Tier 5 are the largest or most complex events, including all mass gatherings, as well as smaller events that have higher risks.

The presence of some of these indicates that an event may be in Tier 5:

- duration several days
- high risk of illness and injuries
- alcohol intoxication expected
- drug intoxication expected
- more than ten thousand attendees
- referrals to hospital expected

Cover level

Tier 5 events need a comprehensive dedicated medical resource.

Provision should normally include:

- a clinical lead, who should be a registered doctor, preferably an emergency medicine specialist
- registered healthcare professionals, including doctors, nurses and paramedics
- first responders

- ambulances with suitably qualified crew
- control staff
- Organisers should ensure that sufficient medical resources are provided to deliver the level of cover required throughout the event. If an ambulance and crew are required to undertake a hospital transfer, this should not compromise the cover left on site.
- Prospective medical providers should submit a specific Medical Needs Assessment which should be used to determine the extent and level of cover required. This will then be used to create a detailed Medical Plan.

REMEMBER: Every event should have an appropriate level of medical cover, set out in a medical plan and based on a comprehensive medical needs assessment

EVENT PLANNING

5.24 Every event is unique. The appropriate level of medical cover should be determined by a medical needs assessment carried out by a competent person who understands the event. This should take account of any requirements of the event licence and organiser's insurer (Appendix 1).

5.25 The medical plan, written by the provider, normally includes:

- name(s) and roles of the medical provider(s)
- named individual(s) with responsibility for coordinating medical provision and normally available on-site during the event
- type of event with reference to audience profile, activities on site and past history
- event location with access and egress routes
- agreed start and finish times of contracted cover
- site plans showing access routes (including routes for emergency access) and delineating medical provider's area of responsibility (agreed with NHS ambulance service)
- specific arrangements for covering campsites
- medical staff numbers and skill-mix
- arrangements for staff camping, catering, showers, toilets, and parking

- communications plan, with command-and-control structure where appropriate
- records policy & GDPR arrangements for information sharing, including RIDDOR reporting
- safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable adults & children
- infection prevention and control measures, including the management and disposal of sharps and other clinical waste
- contingency plans for major or mass casualty incidents
- medical needs assessment and contingency plans for known hazards

5.26 Organisers should ensure that unobstructed access is maintained for emergency vehicles throughout the event.

5.27 Organisers of larger events should liaise with the Director of Public Health and the Local Health Protection teams early in the planning process to identify local health risks and concerns and plan mitigation of them to create a safer environment for all participants.

REMEMBER: The medical provider should carry out a full needs assessment and produce an appropriate medical plan

INCIDENTS

5.72 A Major Incident can be defined as any emergency that requires one or more of the emergency services to implement special arrangements to deal with the operational requirements of that incident. Only statutory services may declare a Major Incident.

5.73 A Critical Incident may be declared by the medical provider in circumstances where it has insufficient available resources to manage an incident or situation without support.

5.74 The organiser should ensure that the event medical provider is equipped and staffed to provide an initial response in any escalation until the statutory services arrive. The provider may then be called upon to provide resources to support the incident, whilst maintaining an adequate service to the rest of the site.

5.75 The organiser should ensure that the medical plan specifies the provider's capacity to perform Ten Second Triage and immediate lifesaving interventions

REMEMBER: Organisers should ensure that the medical plan includes capacity for unexpected contingencies