

PART A

UK Vaccine Security Programme – Threat Intelligence and Risk Roles

1. Introduction

This report provides a summary of the roles and responsibilities involved in Threat Intelligence and Risk within the UK Vaccine Security Programme. The programme was designed to protect the COVID 19 vaccine supply chain and infrastructure from a range of threats, including criminal interference, state-level disruption, and public misinformation.

2. Purpose of the UK Vaccine Security Programme

The UK Vaccine Security Programme was established to:

- Safeguard vaccine supply chains, storage, and distribution.
- Monitor and mitigate threats of sabotage, theft, or disruption.
- Address disinformation and misinformation about vaccines.
- Coordinate multi-agency responses to threats, including anti-vaccine protest activity.

3. Key Responsibilities in Threat Intelligence and Risk Roles

3.1 Threat Intelligence Collection and Analysis

- Monitoring online and offline threats (e.g. extremist groups, hostile states).
- Using OSINT, SIGINT, and HUMINT to assess risk.
- Producing threat assessments and briefings for key stakeholders.

3.2 Risk Modelling and Mitigation

- Conducting risk assessments of vaccine infrastructure.
- Identifying vulnerabilities in storage and logistics.
- Implementing protective measures like access controls and surveillance.

3.3 Counter-Disinformation Coordination

- Working with the Counter Disinformation Unit (CDU) and DCMS.
- Identifying and tracking harmful vaccine-related narratives online.
- Liaising with social media companies to report and remove dangerous content.

3.4 Strategic Liaison

- Collaborating with MI5, NCSC, CPNI, and law enforcement.
- Supporting Operation Talla with intelligence and risk advice.
- Advising ministers and senior officials on risk posture and mitigation.

4. Strategic Importance

The vaccine rollout was treated as a national security operation. Intelligence and security specialists were engaged to address threats from domestic extremists, foreign disinformation campaigns, and criminal enterprises.

5. Conclusion

The Threat Intelligence and Risk roles within the UK Vaccine Security Programme were vital in ensuring the secure and effective deployment of vaccines across the UK. These roles

provided operational resilience and protected public health efforts from multiple categories of threat.

PART B

UK Vaccine Security Programme – Responsible Government Departments

6. Introduction

This document outlines the UK Government departments and agencies responsible for the design, coordination, and implementation of the UK Vaccine Security Programme during the COVID 19 pandemic. The programme was a national priority and required coordinated action across multiple departments.

7. Lead Department

7.1 Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)

- Held overall strategic responsibility for the vaccine rollout and its security.
- Managed public health policy, logistics, and oversight of vaccine deployment.
- Employed or contracted professionals for threat intelligence and risk analysis.

8. Key Partner Agencies and Departments

8.1 UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)

- Responsible for public health surveillance and biosecurity.
- Oversaw vaccine data monitoring and epidemiological threat modelling.

8.2 Cabinet Office / Civil Contingencies Secretariat

- Coordinated national emergency preparedness and resilience.
- Oversaw multi-agency pandemic response planning.

8.3 Home Office

- Provided oversight of national security, counter-terrorism, and public safety.
- Worked through MI5 and Counter Terrorism Policing to counter threats from hostile actors.

8.4 Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI) / National Protective Security Authority (NPSA)

- Delivered protective security guidance for critical sites such as vaccine storage and distribution centres.

8.5 National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC)

- Ensured cyber security of vaccine-related infrastructure, including data systems and logistics networks.

8.6 Counter Disinformation Unit (CDU) – Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)

- Monitored and countered online disinformation campaigns against vaccines.
- Liaised with platforms and intelligence services on harmful narratives.

8.7 NHS England

- Implemented the vaccine programme operationally.
- Worked with police and DHSC on security and logistics at vaccination sites.

9. Operational Policing Support

9.1 Operation Talla

- The national police response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Ensured site-level protection, response to threats and public order concerns at vaccine centres.

10. Summary of Responsibilities

Below is a summary of departmental responsibilities within the Vaccine Security Programme:

Function	Responsible Body
Strategic oversight & delivery	DHSC
Health security & surveillance	UKHSA
Emergency planning & coordination	Cabinet Office
Threat intelligence & counter-terrorism	Home Office, MI5
Physical & cyber security	CPNI/NPSA, NCSC
Disinformation monitoring	CDU (DCMS)
Public order & site protection	Operation Talla / Local Police

11. Conclusion

The UK Vaccine Security Programme was a cross-government effort led by the DHSC and supported by intelligence, security, public health, and policing agencies. This structure reflects the critical importance of vaccine deployment as a matter of national security.

Ethical Approach UK

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