LEON GUARDING

Security, compliance and risk intelligence from Leon Guarding & FM Limited

Issue 7 | July 2026

LEON INSIDER

THIS MONTH

An awarding organisation responsible for a large share of the industry's entry-level training has lost its recognition. If any of your officers trained through it, this affects you directly.

LEAD STORY | UNPRECEDENTED ACTION ON TRAINING MALPRACTICE

The SIA has terminated its awarding organisation recognition agreement with BIIAB, citing serious and persistent material breaches that are not capable of being remedied. It is the first action of its kind.

How it unfolded

- **2 July** — Ofqual issued a formal Direction preventing BIIAB from registering new learners on its level 2 door supervisor, door supervisor refresher and security officer qualifications
- **9 July** — the SIA removed the affected BIIAB courses from its course finder tool
- **14 July** — the SIA gave notice terminating the recognition agreement entirely, with immediate effect on new registrations
- **10 August 2026** — the date from which BIIAB must not issue any new licence-linked qualifications at all

What triggered it. The SIA carried out a series of intelligence-led, unannounced inspections of training centres under Operation RESOLUTE. Those inspections uncovered serious examples of training malpractice among providers registered with BIIAB. Ofqual separately determined that BIIAB had failed, and was likely to continue to fail, to comply with its conditions of recognition.

The scale. Across the sector, 158,000 licence-linked security qualifications were issued in the 2025–26 financial year by six recognised awarding organisations. BIIAB accounted for a substantial share of door supervisor training specifically. Five awarding organisations remain, and the SIA says it is working with Ofqual and the others to ensure enough capacity for learners.

For learners already in the system: anyone registered on an affected course on or before 2 July can complete it, but the qualification must be completed by 10 August 2026 to be recognised by the SIA.

Source: GOV.UK, SIA and Ofqual, July 2026

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR EMPLOYERS

ACTION CHECKLIST FOR JULY

This is not only a training-provider story. If an officer's underlying qualification is in doubt, so is the licence that sits on top of it.

1. Identify which of your officers hold BIIAB-awarded door supervisor, security officer or refresher qualifications, and when they were issued
2. Check whether anyone is mid-course, and confirm their registration date in writing with the training centre — the registration date, not the booking date
3. Anyone who must complete by 10 August needs that flagged now, not in August
4. Before booking any new training, check the awarding body against the SIA's live course finder rather than assuming last year's provider still qualifies
5. Review renewal dates: refresher training is mandatory for many door supervisor and security guard renewals, and capacity across the remaining five awarding organisations will be under pressure

The broader signal.

The SIA's business plan for this year commits to a significant increase in training centre inspections, several national compliance operations, and hundreds of risk-led business inspections. Training provenance is now an active enforcement front, not a paperwork detail.

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Source: GOV.UK, SIA and Ofqual, July 2026

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MARTYN'S LAW | FIRST PILOT INSPECTIONS COMPLETED

The SIA published a progress update this month confirming that its first pilot inspections under Martyn's Law have been completed, with more planned and further opportunities for organisations to take part.

The regulator has also onboarded its digital partner and begun building the notification platform. It is asking for volunteers to help test both the inspection approach and the digital system.

On the consultation that closed in June: the SIA received nearly 200 detailed responses and engaged with over 1,800 people and organisations through its webinar programme. Final Section 12 guidance and a full consultation report are due in autumn 2026.

The SIA's stated approach is supportive, proportionate and risk-based — but it has also said it will be uncompromising in enforcement where necessary, and expects to use the full range of powers it has been given.

BY THE NUMBERS

158,000
licence-linked security qualifications issued in 2025–26

6 → 5
recognised awarding organisations following the BIIAB termination

10 August 2026
deadline for affected learners to complete

~200
detailed responses to the SIA's Martyn's Law consultation

1,800+
people and organisations engaged through the consultation webinars

Source: GOV.UK, SIA and Ofqual, July 2026

FROM LEON GUARDING

Ilford & Redbridge Business Awards 2026

We are pleased to confirm that Leon Guarding has entered the Ilford & Redbridge Business Awards 2026. The awards recognise businesses making a contribution to the borough, and we are proud to put our name forward alongside so many other local firms.

Public voting opens shortly and runs until 30 September, with winners announced at the awards ceremony on 3 December. We will share the voting link with clients, partners and colleagues once it goes live — and we would be grateful for your support.

In the community | HOPE Family Barking food bank

Our team volunteered again at the HOPE Family Barking food bank in July, continuing a monthly commitment now running into its second year.

PRACTICAL TIP | AUDIT YOUR TRAINING RECORDS THIS MONTH

Most security companies can tell you that an officer is trained. Fewer can tell you, within an hour, which awarding organisation issued the qualification, when, and through which centre. That is the question being asked now.

A quick self-test

01 Can you produce certificates for every deployed officer, or only a sample?

02 Do your records capture the awarding organisation and training centre, or just the course name?

03 Do you know which officers have refresher training falling due in the next six months?

04 If a training centre were suspended tomorrow, could you identify everyone affected the same day?

If the answer to any of these is no, the work to fix it is a data exercise, not a compliance overhaul — but it needs doing before someone asks.

Leon Guarding holds training and qualification records against each officer's profile in INDEL alongside licence status, with refresher dates tracked and flagged ahead of renewal. Clients can request the records for officers deployed on their sites at any time.