



Please find attached some advice in relation to spiking incidents which have been widely discussed in the media recently.

1. Increased door searches – please see note below
2. Additional SIA on the floor rather than the door
3. Continue to operate and publicise Ask For Angela
4. Daily briefing with door staff and bar / floor staff around suspicious activity – customers bumping into people repeatedly, not settling at a seat but roaming round, overheard conversations.
5. Prepare an action plan for a suspected spiking of first aid, ambulance, try and get their details and inform police immediately - there is an issue with spiking drugs such as GHB and Rohypnol getting out of the victim's system before urine or blood samples can be taken for forensic examination and with potential victims leaving with friends prior to police and ambulance attending and without anybody getting contact details. Staff training to ensure that all staff are aware of the premise procedure
6. Use of cup covers where customers are given a cover for their drink ranging from improvised cling film to a more formal self-adhesive commercial model with a straw
7. Use of paper GHB detection wristbands where a dab of drink contaminated with GHB makes the wristband change colour
8. Use of 'spikeys' where the premise uses plastic straws
9. Staff to monitor bins for discarded items. Please seize and seal the item in a bag or envelope, noting time and location of the item and contact Police
10. Dedicate a member of staff to address vulnerability with regular walk throughs of venues.

Under UK law, a door supervisor has few powers beyond those of the general public: Door supervisors, as part of their SIA licence, have the power to perform searches, but said searches must be conducted upon entry to the venue, not at any other time. Searches must also be limited to bags, pockets and outer layers of clothing. Door supervisors must not, for example, check a person's underwear for hidden items. Door supervisors have the power to confiscate any illegal items (e.g., drugs or weapons) that they find while searching a person. In such incidents, they can also detain that person until the police arrive. This is also the case in incidents wherein a serious crime has been committed.

Door supervisors cannot forcibly search a person under any circumstances.

SIA / Gov Guidance on Trans Customers

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/929624/sia-ds-trans-guide.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/929624/sia-ds-trans-guide.pdf)

If you suspect or catch someone with the tools or substances to commit spiking crimes etc.:

Detain them and call police on 999.

Seize the items and place them in a sealed bag or envelope with details including time and date of seizure and who has made the seizure.

Complete incident report  
Download CCTV

For victims, remove them to a safe place to safeguard them and any friends with them.

Try to confirm that the victims' "friend" is not the perpetrator.

Try to distinguish between someone being drunk and someone that has been spiked.

Contact emergency services



Elite Security (NW) Ltd, Lewth Stables, Lewth Lane, Woodplumpton, Preston, PR4 0TD

**Subject: Complaint handling & dealing with "spiking" or assaults**

Hi all

You are probably aware of the 'Boycott Nightclubs' campaign that is gaining traction on social media, particularly amongst students, and now national news outlets have latched onto the story, people are taking even more notice.

In terms of your role within the industry, we ask that you please do not make the situation worse by putting anything on your social media platforms in regard to what is a terribly serious, but also extremely rare occurrence! We are, by now, acutely aware of the how the public reacts to media scaremongering because we all saw the queues to buy toilet role in 2020, and similar queues to get fuel more recently.

However, operationally, we have to be more vigilant and aware, and take every complaint seriously! Every complaint **MUST** be assumed to be legitimate, whether that be accusations of alleged 'spiking', sexual assaults, or other serious incidents.

As a company we operate a zero-tolerance approach to drug use in all forms, and this must carry through to the way in which we handle **ALL** situations.

Any person that makes such a complaint should be taken to the side but not isolated from friends, staff must be accompanied by at least one other person and one member of staff should be the same gender as that which the victim identifies as. Establish the facts as far as you are able, and investigate as fully as possible on the night. Venue management **MUST** be made aware so they can begin checking CCTV footage and where necessary calling the emergency services.

In addition, as a company, we, working alongside our clients, need to ensure we maximise our efforts to reduce the possibilities of such incidents occurring in the first place. Can you please brief this message out to all Door Supervisors and particularly Head Door Supervisors at larger or late night venues where issues are more likely to occur. Venue managers are also likely to begin asking if we have a policy in place and this document can be made available to them on request.



21/10/2021

GK/spiking/001



Elite Security (NW) Ltd, Lewth Stables, Lewth Lane, Woodplumpton, Preston, PR4 0TD

The below is a list of actions we, as a responsible supplier of Door Staff, must ALWAYS follow:-

**Steps to be taken but the venue & door staff**

Additional searches upon entry including pocket and bag searches (as per the requests of the client).

Zero tolerance to drugs at all times.

Know the emergency procedure in case someone is unwell.

Any drinks left unattended to be removed no matter how full.

Additional security /management surveillance.

Find out if the venue has nominated crew members who act as safety advocates in the case of a reported spiking incident. This is not a role for Door Supervisors to play!

Groups leaving the premises will be monitored to look out for vulnerable individuals, and may be asked to verify their connection to one another.

**Where there is an opportunity, try to explain to the public:-**

Why searches are necessary.

To never leave drinks unattended.

To be mindful of who is around you.

To watch out for people in your group, know where they are and who they're with.

