

FEBRUARY 2026



The Sentinel

Your Monthly Bulletin from the ASC



Delivering

Insights, Updates, and Opportunities.

Introduction

Advancing Standards,
Driving Excellence.

Gary Thomas

ASC Chair



As the year begins to settle into rhythm, our focus naturally turns from planning to delivery. This month, the ASC did exactly that by becoming a licensed body of the Register of Chartered Security Professionals. This move aligns the Association with the elite tier of UK security governance, establishing a new baseline for what "excellence" looks like in our profession.

That spirit of rigorous, trusted standards was palpable at our recent Winter Seminar, where the exchange of high-level insight proved once again that our collective expertise is our greatest asset.

Through ongoing engagement and development opportunities, the ASC continues to support both the present and the future of the industry. We are proud to contribute to a profession that is trusted, accountable, and prepared to meet evolving challenges.

In this edition of The Sentinel, we dive into the perspectives that are currently shaping the security landscape. From technical evolution to the "human element" of risk, these pages reflect a community that refuses to stand still.

Thank you to every member, contributor, and partner who continues to fuel the ASC's mission. Your energy ensures that we don't just observe the industry's evolution – we lead it.

Welcome to the **February 2026 edition of The Sentinel.**

Hear from our Board:

Michelle Elkins MBE

ASC Director for Communications



As professions evolve, so too must the structures that support them. For over thirty years, the ASC has championed independent security consultancy in the UK. Becoming a Licensed Organisation of the Register of Chartered Security Professionals reflects our continued commitment to clearly defined professional benchmarks.

This recognition is about more than just status. It strengthens the entire ecosystem across which our members operate. By aligning more closely with a chartered framework, security professionals can reinforce public confidence in independent consultancy. This will help offer clients, partners and government bodies a clearer understanding of what high-level professional security advice looks like.

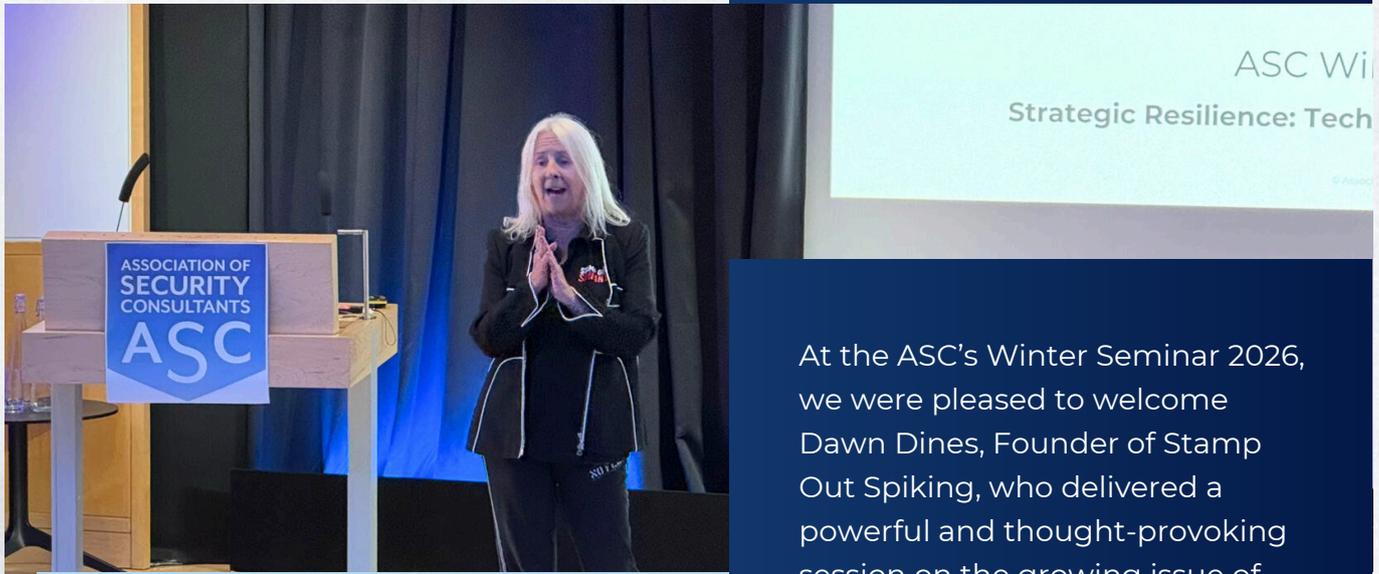
Alongside this, we have broadened opportunities for members to contribute directly to public policy. The Home Office launched a consultation on implementing the Manchester Arena Inquiry's monitored recommendations. We invited our members to share their expertise on proposed changes to the security licensing regime and to take part in the accompanying government briefing session.

Through initiatives such as these, the ASC continues to serve as both representative and advocate – amplifying the voices of independent consultants and strengthening their professional standing.

I encourage you to keep engaging with the Association and taking full advantage of the membership opportunities available.

Strengthening Awareness Around Drink Spiking

ASC News and Updates



Dawn Dines | Stamp Out Spiking

At the ASC's Winter Seminar 2026, we were pleased to welcome Dawn Dines, Founder of Stamp Out Spiking, who delivered a powerful and thought-provoking session on the growing issue of drink spiking.

Drink spiking remains far more prevalent than many realise. Victims are frequently left traumatised and vulnerable, with incidents often underreported and rarely resulting in prosecution. Dawn's presentation underscored the urgent need for greater awareness, industry vigilance, and collective action, particularly for those working across security and public safety.

**STAMP OUT
SPIKING**

To learn more about the campaign and how you can support its work, please visit:



www.stampoutspiking.org

ASC News and Updates



Securing the Future of UK Security Through Collective Leadership



Ollie Curran
SyCom Board Member

Simon Crane
ASC Vice Chair

The Association of Security Consultants formalised its partnership with **the UK Security Commonwealth (SyCOM)** during the **ASC Winter Seminar** held at The British Library on **25th February 2026**.

By aligning efforts, the ASC and SyCOM aim to support a more connected and forward-looking security community, reinforcing collaboration and continued professional development across the UK security sector.



The ASC presented SyCOM with a
£1000 donation

01

CITY SECURITY & SAFETY SUMMIT

 25th March 2026

 Hilton London Canary Wharf

[Register Now](#)

Focus on the unique security challenges of city environments, from transport hubs to corporate offices and discover practical solutions while connecting with security professionals and leading solution providers.



THE MIXER₂₀₂₆

Taking place from 5pm onwards after the City Security & Safety Summit – the premier networking event is designed to bring together industry leaders, innovators, solution providers and decision-makers for an exclusive opportunity to connect, collaborate, and grow.

 The Sipping Room, London

[Register Now](#)

Upcoming Events

02

THE SECURITY EVENT

The ASC is pleased to join The Security Event as an Official Event Partner. The exhibition remains one of the key gatherings for the UK security community, bringing together manufacturers, service providers, consultants, and end users to explore current developments across the market.

Our presence at the exhibition ensures strong representation for independent security consultancy within wider industry conversations.

 28th - 30th April 2026

 NEC Birmingham

[Register Now](#)



03



Security Consultancy of the Year Award

The FSM Awards celebrates excellence and innovation across the fire and security sectors, recognising organisations and professionals contributing to a safer and more resilient environment.

The ASC is proud to support the awards and will present the **Security Consultancy of the Year award** on stage. The evening provides valuable visibility for the profession and an opportunity for members to engage with industry leaders, share insight, and recognise achievement across the wider security community.



2nd July 2026



Coventry Building Society Arena

[Register Now](#)

04

TOTAL
SECURITY
SUMMIT 2026

Connect with senior security professionals from multiple sectors, explore innovative solutions and build valuable connections through targeted one-to-one meetings.



20th & 21st October 2026



Radisson Hotel & Conference Centre London Heathrow

[Register Now](#)


Spotlight

Strengthening

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Association of Security Consultants has been formally recognised by the **Register of Chartered Security Professionals** as its third licensed organisation, joining The Security Institute and ASIS UK Chapter.



The Chartered Security Professional designation is widely regarded as a benchmark of experience, leadership, and continued development. For the Association, it reflects a longstanding focus on supporting practitioners and encouraging professional progression across the industry.



Reflecting on the recognition, ASC Chair Gary Thomas said:

"We are proud to become a licensed organisation of the Register of Chartered Security Professionals. This recognition reflects not only our commitment to professional excellence, but our responsibility to help strengthen trust across the security consulting profession. ASC has always supported security consultants in raising standards, and we remain committed to guiding those working towards Chartered status."

Strengthening standards.
Empowering professionals.
Securing the future.





The ASC was pleased to welcome students from New City College, London, who joined us at the Winter Seminar this February to gain practical insight into the security profession.

By participating in seminars, conferences, and industry events, the students were able to see real-world security practice in action, engage directly with experienced ASC members, and gain a deeper understanding of both academic and professional pathways. This hands-on exposure not only broadens their knowledge but also equips them with the skills, perspective, and confidence to pursue a successful career in the security sector. Experiences like this provide invaluable preparation for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, helping to shape the next generation of security professionals.

Shaping the Next Generation of Security Professionals

Onwards & Upwards

This edition of The Sentinel brings together perspectives that demonstrate the value of collaboration, professional integrity, and practical experience across the Association.

Scan QR



Stay connected and help us shape the future of security.



We hope to see many of you at our upcoming events as we continue to share insight, strengthen relationships, and support the future direction of the profession.

Follow our journey

