October 2026

The Sentinel

Your Monthly Bulletin from the ASC



Delivering

Insights, Updates, and Opportunities.

Introduction

Events, Engagement and **What Comes Next**



Simon Crane
ASC Chair, International Development & CSyP Lead

September has been a very active month for the Association, with opportunities for our members and wider network to come together, share experience and consider some of the issues shaping the security profession.

Our Summer Seminar at the British Library opened the month with a discussion around a question that is becoming increasingly important: how do we turn the growing amount of information available to security teams into better decisions? The day brought together consultants, technology specialists and industry professionals to look beyond technology itself and consider how insight, experience and professional judgement need to work together.

Our partnership with DSSL for the Technology Day at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium has provided another opportunity to examine a very current issue, with the ASC delivering a dedicated CPD-accredited conference on Martyn's Law. Bringing together minds from the Home Office, SIA and other specialists, the event reflects the importance of informed discussion as organisations prepare for the requirements ahead.

One thing that has stood out to me this month is the range of issues now sitting within the remit of the modern security professional. The conversations we are having increasingly extend beyond traditional security disciplines and human factors into the same discussion.

ConSeC 26 gives us a good opportunity to examine this in more detail. The smart city is not simply a technology project; it is an environment in which multiple systems, organisations and responsibilities intersect. That creates new considerations for security consultants and their clients, particularly around how risks are identified and managed before they become operational problems. It should make for a worthwhile discussion in October.

As the Association continues to develop, our aim remains straightforward: to provide opportunities for independent security professionals to learn, contribute and connect. Events are one part of that, but the conversations that continue afterwards are just as important. I look forward to seeing many of you at the events ahead.

In the meantime, welcome to the **October edition of *The Sentinel*.**

Spotlight



ConSeC 26 Conference of Security Consultants

Smart Cities
Smart Security

Where Urban Innovation Meets Intelligent Solutions

28 DAYS UNTIL THE DOORS OPEN!

We are well aware cities are becoming more connected by the day. Traffic systems, public transport, buildings, CCTV, access control, communications networks and increasingly intelligent technologies are no longer operating in isolation.

That creates opportunity but it also changes the security question.

When more systems are connected, a problem in one part of the city can have consequences far beyond it. A technology designed to improve convenience can introduce a new vulnerability. This is where “smart” needs to mean more than connected. It needs to mean secure, resilient and well considered.

ConSeC 26 brings these issues together through two seminar streams, alongside a specialist exhibition. Rather than looking at individual technologies in isolation, the programme considers the wider picture: **how systems interact, where new risks emerge?**

250+ **Delegates in attendance**

40+ **Organisations represented**

30+ **Expert speakers and contributors**

REGISTER HERE

29th OCT 2026
8:30am - 4:15pm

Join us at
hinxton hall conference centre

Price:
ASC Members: **FREE** /
Guests: **£60.00 (inc VAT)**

Mark your **Calendars!**
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Hear from our Board:



Frank Doherty

ASC Director - Treasurer & Membership Lead

I have been a member of the ASC for almost 14 years now and I have seen the association go from strength to strength, and as membership director I have seen the membership increase again this year.

It has been a continued period of growth and transformation for the ASC, further grounding our position as the primary industry body for consultants, we have expanded our scope through new membership categories and I welcome the diversity and specialist skill sets that manufacturers, corporate and executive security professionals bring which broadens our reach and increases the depth of expertise across our membership.

The move of our Seminars to the British Library has proved to be a success. In addition, the increased focus on UK partner events and on our international presence, is extending our network and influence globally which will better support members wherever they are based.

I am looking forward to ConSeC this year, this will be again held at Hinxton Hall Conference Centre, the theme this year focusing on how security is shaping the cities we live and work in, we have an impressive lineup of speakers and exhibitors this year.

In closing, I am confident the ASC will continue to grow and offer more benefits to the members going forward and I feel privileged to represent the association as a board member.





Sentinel Scholarly

Dennis Roe RISC

ASC Director - Academic Engagement and Professional Development Lead

Shape the Future of Professional Development at **ConSeC 26**

On the 29th of October, the Association of Security Consultants will bring the security community together at ConSeC 26. Alongside the conference and exhibition, this year's event will feature a dedicated Professional Development Arena – a space focused on careers, learning, mentoring and the future development of our profession.

The ambition is simple: to create stronger connections between education, industry and the wealth of experience that already exists within the ASC and the wider security community.

For students and those considering a career in security, the Arena will provide an opportunity to explore potential career pathways, understand the range of roles available across the sector and connect with people already working within it. For established professionals, it will offer the chance to consider the next stage of their careers, discover training and development opportunities, and benefit from the experience and guidance of others.



A key element being explored is a new mentoring scheme, designed to connect people seeking guidance with experienced professionals willing to share their knowledge, perspective and experience. Whether someone is taking their first steps into the profession, considering a change of direction, or looking to develop towards a more senior role, access to the right person at the right time can make a significant difference.

We are now developing the activities that will form part of the Professional Development Arena – and we want those attending ConSeC 26 to help shape it.

Ideas already under consideration include speed networking, practice interviews, career conversations, mentoring introductions, and opportunities to speak with education and training providers. But rather than simply deciding what we think people need, we would like to hear directly from prospective attendees.



What would make the Professional Development Arena valuable to you? What advice, connections or experiences would you like access to? And, equally importantly, if you have experience that could help someone else progress, would you be interested in becoming a mentor?

ConSeC 26 is an opportunity not only to discuss the future of the security profession, but to help build it. We hope the Professional Development Arena will become a place where new connections begin, experience is shared and careers move forward.

We want to hear from you. Whether you are interested in being mentored, becoming a mentor, taking part in one of the activities, or simply have an idea about what you would like to see in the Professional Development Arena, please get in touch at

aaec@ascuk.org.

Your input now will help us shape an Arena that delivers genuine value on the day and beyond.

The ASC Puts the Next Generation Centre Stage at **ConSeC 26**

In a sector first, the Association of Security Consultants is handing the microphone - and the stage - to the next generation of security professionals at ConSeC 26.

When the **ASC** welcomes delegates to its premier conference and exhibition, ConSeC 26, at Hinxton Hall, Cambridge, on the 29th of October, one of the people taking centre stage will not be a long-established industry figure, senior consultant or academic.

She will be a student!



Edie McCoskrie, a final-year Counterterrorism, Intelligence and Cybercrime student at the **University of Portsmouth and participant in the ASCEND scheme,** will chair and **MC ConSeC 26's** academic seminar - introducing speakers and guiding delegates through the programme.

It is a bold move and, for associations in the security sector, a first!

This year, ConSeC 26 will feature two seminar programmes running in parallel. One will explore key issues from the practitioner's perspective, while the second will bring academia and research firmly into the conversation. By placing an ASCEND student at the helm of the academic seminar, the ASC is doing more than simply talking about encouraging young people into security. It is giving them the opportunity, visibility and responsibility to participate at the heart of the profession.

The initiative reflects the ASC's growing engagement with academia and its determination to build stronger bridges between universities and industry. Through ASCEND, the Association aims to increase student participation, broaden awareness of the career opportunities available and help create a more accessible and diverse pipeline of future security professionals.

For Edie, the opportunity provides an invaluable platform to meet and learn from people already shaping the sector - while demonstrating what the next generation can bring to it.

"The opportunity to MC the academic seminar, filled with a room of inspiring individuals, is such an amazing opportunity that I am so grateful for. I believe this will help me meet like-minded people from the industries that I hope to become a part of."

As a member of the ASC's Academic Advisory and Engagement Committee (AAEC), Edie is already helping to strengthen links between students and industry professionals and improve pathways to future careers.

For employers and established professionals attending ConSeC 26, there is another benefit: the chance to see this emerging talent first-hand.

If the security sector wants to attract its next generation, it must do more than invite young people to watch from the sidelines. It must give them a place on the stage.

At ConSeC 26, the ASC is doing exactly that.

Book your place to attend **ConSeC 26** NOW

See Edie in action along with a wide range of activities, presentations, learning, and latest security technologies and initiatives. Even more announcements are coming soon!

ASC News and Updates

01 | CPS World Suicide Prevention Day

Mental health and wellbeing remain central to standard operational resilience. On 10th September 2026, coinciding with **World Suicide Prevention Day,** the ASC proudly joined key partners across the security sector to support the **Consortium for the Prevention of Suicide (CPS)** National Conference.

Alongside the BSIA and mental health professionals, the ASC highlighted wellbeing in high-stress operational roles. The event focused on breaking stigma, spotting early warning signs, and strengthening support networks across the security sector. Mental health remains vital to operational resilience.

02 | ASC X RESILIENCE360°

The ASC was pleased to exhibit at Resilience360, held on **16–17 September 2026** at the **NEC Birmingham**, bringing together leaders across operational resilience, business continuity and critical infrastructure protection.

A key highlight was the closing panel, "**Britain in 2026: Are We Truly Ready for a National Crisis?**", featuring Lee Doddridge, ASC Vice Chair, alongside Figen Murray OBE and Michelle Ohren.





03 | ASC Summer Seminar 2026

Turning Information into Better Security Decisions

The ASC Summer Seminar, held at the British Library on 3rd September, explored how security professionals can turn data into sound, timely decisions.

Under the theme '***From Insight to Action: Enhancing Decision Making Through Modern Security Technologies***', speakers examined how integrated systems and intelligent analytics improve operational judgment and speed up effective responses.

ASC News and Updates

04 | INTERNATIONAL SECURITY EXPO

Exploring the Future of Global Security

The ASC recently joined industry professionals at International Security Expo 2026 at Olympia London, connecting with visitors and sharing independent security expertise from Stand G123.

ASC also contributed to the International Security & Resilience Conference, with ASC Chair Simon Crane chairing proceedings and ASC Vice Chair Lee Doddridge moderating the panel “Dynamic Lockdown – How can it be achieved and how achievable is it?”

The event provided valuable opportunities to exchange ideas, explore emerging security challenges and discuss practical approaches to strengthening security and resilience across the sector.



05 | dssl group

Technology Day 2026

Martyn’s Law in Focus

The ASC joined DSSL Group for the first time in partnership at DSSL Technology Day 2026, held at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium on 10 September. The dedicated CPD-accredited conference focused on Martyn’s Law and its implications for security professionals.

Sessions from the **Home Office**, **Security Industry Authority, Strategy, Communications and Physical Security** perspectives examined the developing requirements and what implementation could mean in practice.



Upcoming Events

01 Cortech Developments & Secure Logiq

Empowering Senior Decision-Makers in an Unpredictable Landscape

The ASC is pleased to support **Resilience by Design: Business Continuity in Critical Environments**, a free CPD-accredited event organised by Secure Logiq and Cortech Developments.

The event will explore how resilience can be designed into security systems from the outset, covering business continuity, failover, redundancy and long-term operational resilience across critical environments.

7th October 2026

The Lowry, Pier 8, The Quays, Salford, M50 3AZ

Enter Now

02 Total Security Summit

Connecting Security Leaders with Innovative Solutions

A two-day event bringing senior security professionals and solution providers together for pre-arranged meetings, keynote sessions and networking.

The programme covers current security challenges, emerging technologies and practical solutions, with a focus on the issues shaping the sector today.

19th & 20th October 2026

Radisson Hotel & Conference Centre, London Heathrow

Register Now



Upcoming Events

03 | Gala Awards & Dinner Night 2026

Celebrating Excellence Across the Security Profession

Following ConSeC, the ASC Gala Awards Dinner provides an opportunity to recognise the people and organisations making a difference across the security profession.

The evening will feature the presentation of the ASC Awards, dinner, guest speakers and entertainment, alongside the chance to catch up with colleagues and friends from across the industry.

29th October 2026

Hinxton Hall Conference Centre

Learn More



04 | BARCO

CPD Title: Designing Secure and Efficient Control Rooms: Video Walls, Multi-Source Integration & Workflow Tools

This free CPD session for ASC members looks at the technology behind modern control rooms and how it can support day-to-day operations.

The programme combines expert presentations with live demonstrations covering video walls, multi-source integration and Barco CTRL technologies.

12th November 2026

Barco Customer Experience Centre, Bracknell

Register Now

Upcoming Events

05 | ASC Autumn Seminar

Theme: The IMS Approach: Unifying Surveillance, Access & Risk Data

The Autumn Seminar will examine how Integrated Management Systems are bringing surveillance, access control and risk information together within a single operational view.

Expert speakers and practical case studies will explore what this means for security teams and how more connected systems can support better decision-making.

26th November 2026

The British Library, London

Bookings Opening Soon





06 | SECURITY & FIRE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Celebrating Excellence Across Fire and Security

The Security & Fire Excellence Awards recognise the people, teams and organisations making a notable contribution to the fire and security sectors.

The evening celebrates achievements in areas including innovation, leadership and professional excellence, while bringing together colleagues from across both industries.

30th November 2026

JW Marriott, London

Register Your Interest

A Look at the **ConSeC 26 Exhibitors**

Head to the ConSeC 26 exhibition floor to see security solutions in action and speak directly with the teams behind them. Explore new products and services, discover how different solutions work and get practical insights from the people who know them best.

The exhibitor line-up spans the security sector, from technology and integrated systems to specialist consultancy and professional services. Discover new ideas, make connections and see what's happening across the industry.



Looking Ahead

Continuing the Conversation

September has given the ASC community plenty to discuss, and the months ahead promise more opportunities to continue those conversations.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Association's activities this month as speakers, attendees, partners, members and supporters. Your involvement is what keeps the ASC community active and relevant.

We look forward to seeing you next month!

Thank you, as always, for staying engaged.

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