

24th February Weekly Digest



Advisory
Services
Newsletter



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Terrorism Update

The current threat level for the UK is 'SUBSTANTIAL', meaning a terror attack is 'likely'. For further information see [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

Angela Rayner – 'Shoot Your Terrorists and Ask Questions Second' (Sky News 18th February)

Labour Party Deputy leader, **Angela Rayner** has come **under fire** for her views on law and order, after comments she made on Matt Forde's [Political Party Podcast](#) regarding '**shoot to kill**' practises when dealing with terror and crime. Rayner said:

Britain's terror police should "shoot first" and "ask questions second",

The comments were met with much criticism from her own party with Diane Abbot tweeting:

"Is Angela suggesting a mandatory death sentence for suspected (but not convicted) 'terrorists'?"

But others point out Ms Rayner is a Manchester MP and the impact of the MEN arena attack in 2017 has had a lasting effect on its politicians and constituents with shadow Justice Secretary Steve Reed stating:

"Police professionals have to take split-second decisions sometimes and Angela was talking about active terrorists there, not suspect terrorists." ¹

Man Sentenced for Planting Bomb in Edinburgh in 2018 (GB News 17th February)

35-year-old **Nikolaos Karvounakis** from **Edinburgh** has been **jailed** for **eight years and four months** after being found guilty of **planting a homemade bomb** in the Princes Street Gardens area of Edinburgh in **January 2018** causing a major security alert. Karvounakis **claimed to be** from **Mexican Eco-Terrorist** group [ITS](#) (Individualistas Tendiendo a lo Salvaje or Individuals Tending to the Wild) and left the pipe bomb-styled-device which contained 57 cut-in-half nails in a public gardens. He was identified by DNA evidence found on the tape used in the box. ²



Headline 2 – 35 year-old- man sentenced to over eight years for planting bomb (Daily Record CROWN OFFICE 2022)

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Today, Thursday 24th February, Russian President Vladimir Putin declared war on the country of Ukraine after launching a full scale invasion into the region with reports of explosions being heard in the cities of Kharkiv, Odesa, Kramatorsk, Mariupol and the capital Kyiv.

In his [address to the nation](#), Putin warned other countries not to interfere or risk “consequences you have never seen”, adding his aim was to ‘demilitarise’ not occupy.

Hostilities between Russia and Ukraine escalated this week after President Putin recognised the independence of the two Ukrainian separatist regions of Donetsk and Luhansk.

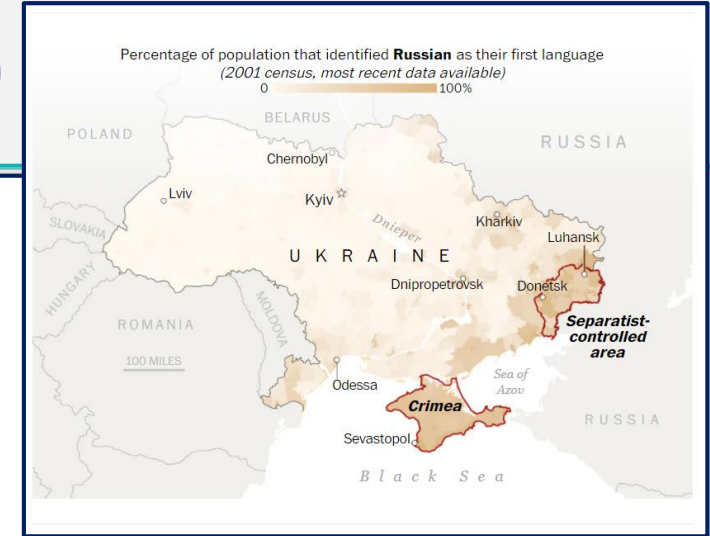
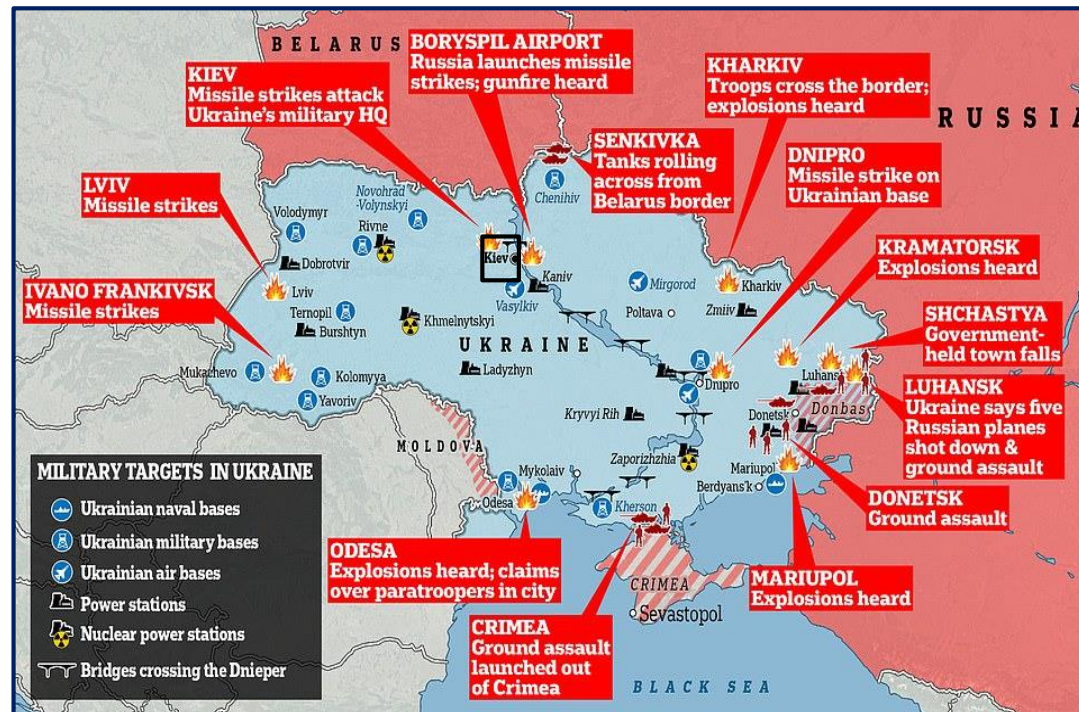
Insisting his incursions were to “keep the peace”, Putin was accused by many world leaders and military experts of creating a ‘[false flag](#)’ scenario’ as a reason to invade. Putin’s actions prompted US president Joe Biden to declare:

“Who in the Lord’s name does Putin think gives him the right to declare new so-called countries on territory that belongs to his neighbours? This is a flagrant violation of international law and demands a firm response from the international community.”

On Wednesday 23rd February, Ukraine’s Digital Transformation Minister announced the country had suffered another DDoS cyber-attacking rendering some banks and government departments inaccessible.

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson has joined world leaders in denouncing the attacks with calls from across the globe to increase the sanctions imposed earlier in the week.

Today's Attacks on Ukraine
(DailyMail 2022)



Map of Ukraine and separatist areas
(Washington Post 2022)



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SANCTIONS CURRENTLY IMPOSED

The **US, UK, Europe, Australia, Canada** and **Japan** have all agreed to impose sanctions against Russia these will include the targeting of Russian banks which facilitate finances within areas of the Russian military. Sanctions will also target the country's "elites", their family members and civilian leaders in Russia.

- The **US** has imposed **sanctions** on **VEB** and **Promsvyazbank** state owned banks freezing all assets under US jurisdiction.
- The **UK** imposed **sanctions** on five Russian banks (**Rossiya Bank, IS Bank, General Bank, Promsvyazbank** and **Black Sea Bank**) and a number of Russian oligarchs including **Gennady Timchenko, Boris Rotenberg** and **Igor Rotenberg**.
- UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss confirmed the UK would also **ban Russia** from **trading** its sovereign debt in the UK.
- **Germany** halted the certification of the **Nord Stream 2** pipeline.
- **Ukraine** itself has imposed **sanctions** on **351 Russian politicians** who voted to recognise the separatist regions (banning entry to the country and freezing assets).
- The **EU** has **restricted** Russia's **access** to **European markets** and also imposed **sanctions** on the same **351 Russian politicians** as well as **27** other Russian **officials**.
- **Japan/Australia** has **restricted travel** and **frozen the assets** of 'certain **Russian individuals**' involved in the crisis.

WILSON JAMES ADVISORY

In light of the recent escalation of hostilities in Ukraine Advisory Services would like to remind staff of the importance of vigilance when online and our vulnerability to cyber-attack.

Please therefore review our **Monthly Threat in Focus** which this month (February) is **Insider Threats**
Please remember to report suspicious activity to the appropriate Information Security Officer and IT team.
For your information a guidance slide has been added to this week's digest.



Industry News

ENERGY

Price of Crude Oil at Seven Year High Due to Ukrainian Crisis (BBC News 22nd February)

The **price** of Brent **crude oil** has been **climbing** steadily since the reduction of Global COVID pandemic restrictions, supply chain concerns and Russia's invasion of Ukraine with the **price per barrel** reaching as high as **USD102.48** this morning (24th Feb ^{10.}). Financial markets are now reporting that futures trading in the price of oil has climbed to USD96.70 a barrel which is a seven-year high and further increases are expected. After **NATO** and Western leaders confirmed on Tuesday evening the list of **sanctions** against Russia (see our World News section) would **not interfere** with the **energy market** the **futures price** was **expected to stabilise** especially after **OPEC** confirmed oil **reserves** could come **from Iran** if necessary. This stability however was very much dependent on Russia not invading Ukraine. Today's escalation of hostilities in the country heap extra pressure on the energy market reflected in the current price of oil climbing to this morning's high. ^{11. 12. 13. 14. 15.}

British Museum Receives Criticism for BP Sponsorship of New Exhibit (Guardian 20th February)

The British Museum's new exhibit '**The World of Stonehenge**' has opened to rave reviews, but the museum has received **criticism** again for its **ties to** energy giant **BP** and its sponsorship of the new attraction. Running from 17th February to 17th July 2022 the BP sponsored exhibit seeks to "reveal the secrets of Stonehenge, shining a light on its purpose, cultural power and the people that created it." However, climate activist group **Culture Unstained** claim far from distancing themselves from fossil fuel sponsorship the **museum** is '**actively pursuing**' the **oil giant** with the aim of re-negotiating their contract which ends in 2023. ^{16. 17. 18.}

CLIMATE

Sri Lanka Completes Return of 3,000 Tonnes of Years Old Waste to UK (AlJazeera 21st February)

Monday saw the **completion** of the return of **263 containers** of **rubbish** sent to Sri Lanka **from** the **UK** between **2017** and **2019** that according to Sir Lankan customs officials was in violation of international law on the shipping of hazardous material. The rejection of the containers came after an inspection of the contents found **bio-waste** and **body parts** instead of the 'used mattresses and rugs' declared on the customs form.

In January 2020 Malaysia returned 42 containers of illegal waste and Indonesia, Vietnam, Romania, Croatia, Poland and Belgium have all made requests to return waste to the UK also. ^{19.}



Headline 2. Stonehenge Exhibit Protest (The Art Newspaper 2022)



Headline 3 Plastics in Malaysia (GUARDIAN - Lai Seng Sin/Reuters 2020)



Activism Updates

PROTESTS

Saturday 26th February – Save Our NHS

Location: **Nationwide**

Cause: Day of Action to scrap the Health and Care Bill

Details: <https://sosnhs.org/>

Saturday 26th February – Unite For Freedom

Location: Hyde Park Corner, **London** @13:00; St Georges Hall. **Liverpool** @13:00;
Cardiff City Town Hall, Wales @13:00; Dock Park Dumfries, **Scotland** @13:00. Other locations are expected to be added.

Cause: Freedom Protest

Details: <https://t.me/LondonRallies>

Saturday 26th February – Stop the Silvertown Tunnel

Location: City Hall, Newham, **London** @14:00

Cause: Freedom Protest

Details: <https://stopsilvertowntn.com/>

Saturday 27th February – Kill The Bill/Nationality and Borders Bill

Location: March from Home Office to Parliament Square, **London** @Midday

Cause: March against PCSC Bill and NAB Bill.

Details: <https://t.me/joinchat/40SbMWFwfl8yMTg0>

Monday 28th February – Kill The Bill/Nationality and Borders Bill

Location: Parliament Square, **London**

Cause: Vigil for both bills as they go for votes in House of Lords.

Details: <https://t.me/joinchat/40SbMWFwfl8yMTg0>

Save Our NHS
Join the day of action on 26 February
65+ events announced so far, including in:

Birmingham	Leamington	Sheffield
Bristol	Leeds	Southampton
Brighton	Margate	Stoke
Coventry	Middlesbrough	York
Chesterfield	Nottingham	
London	Newcastle	#ScrapNHSBill
(several boroughs)	Portsmouth	#SOSNHS

Unite the UNION logo and a bottle with a skull and crossbones.

[\(SaveOurNHS 2022\)](#)

STOP THE SILVERTOWN TUNNEL! CLIMATE JUSTICE NOW

The £2.2 bn Silvertown Tunnel is the biggest road project in London - and in fact currently the biggest anywhere in the country - and will lock in fossil fuel use, and high levels of pollution in some of the country's most diverse and deprived communities, for decades to come.

We need to act urgently to stop this climate disaster. Transport for London expects to launch the Tunnel Boring Machine in the next few months.

SAT FEB 26: MASS DEMO
2PM @ CITY HALL
Crystal Building, Royal Docks
Newham London E16 1ZE

QR code and social media handles: @SilvertownTn stopsilvertowntn.com

[StopSilvertownTn \(Twitter 2022\)](#)



Insider Threat Guidance

USING DEVICES AT WORK

Managers - Ensure that any team members' systems/information access is appropriate for their role.

- Particularly where there is a change in position or when a team member leaves the business.
- Provide staff with personal account access.
(Not one account username with multiple users.)

All Staff - Only share information when it is appropriate.

- Do not borrow colleagues' logons or passwords.
- Only click on links from trusted sources.
- Be aware of the company policy surrounding data sharing for both Wilson James and the client you are working for.
- Notify the appropriate Information Security Officer if you suspect inappropriate behaviour.
 - Who is the ISO when using a client system.
 - Who is the ISO when using a WJ system.

USING WORK DEVICES AT HOME

- Use the VPN provided by the business
- Ensure you shut down your device fully at the end of a day to enable updates to take place as required
- Do not use the same password for all devices linked to Wi-Fi
 - For example: Doorbell cameras or Virtual Assistance Devices

Sharing Data

- Do not send work emails to your personal email accounts.
- Do not download personal data from private email accounts on a works system.
- Only click on links from trusted sources.
- If required to share personal data ensure your using a registered and approved process as directed by your Information Security Team.

Reporting

- Notify the appropriate Information Security Officer if you suspect any phishing emails have arrived in your inbox.
- Notify the appropriate Information Security Officer if you suspect your system has become subject to a cyber attack.

Protest Guidance

GENERAL ADVICE

- It is recommended you maintain a good awareness of your surroundings if in the vicinity of a demonstration or public gathering as some protests may escalate into violence.
- Anticipate localised travel disruption in the area of the demonstration.
- Allow additional time for journeys or arrange alternate routes to minimise potential delays.
- If in the area of a spontaneous protest, it is recommended to leave the area by the quickest means possible and seek a secure location.
- Continue to monitor media sources for updates and additions to the scheduled events.
- Consider the possibility of regular protests occurring throughout the summer as they are often not isolated events, with activists returning to the same locations time and again.

KEEPING STAFF INFORMED AND PREPARED

- Inform staff that routes to work may be impacted by protest groups.
- Keep staff updated and provide guidance on how to approach the site (e.g. consider dressing down, no identification on display on approach to site, organised travel from transport hubs).
- Morning Briefs to include lockdown measures and scenario discussion to aid confidence in SOPs.
- Escalation and Incident procedures to be brief. Allocated Team Leads to be communicated.
- Named First Aiders on site to be communicated to the rest of the team daily.

ACCESS CONTROL

- Secondary access points to be used, in order to keep main access areas clear.
- Perimeter Surveillance to be proactively undertaken.
- Reinforce security on approach to site.

PATROLS

- To identify suspicious activity in the area.
- Vary patrols by changing routes and frequency.
- Check all exterior perimeter fencing.

STAFF

- Consider increasing the number of staff on duty.
- Consider patrolling in pairs if appropriate.
- Staff access to the building may be prevented. Consideration should be given to working from another location.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND CYBER SECURITY

- Monitor social media platforms for chatter regarding protests in your vicinity.
- Further guidance to staff could be given regarding their personal cyber security to ensure no cyber-attacks via home working Wi-Fi.

Counter-Terrorism Guidance

THE FOLLOWING ADVICE IS FROM THE NATIONAL COUNTER TERRORIST SECURITY OFFICE

GENERAL ADVICE ACT (Action Counters Terrorism)

On identifying suspicions activity, individual, vehicle or suspect object, move away and call 999.

Or use the confidential hotline - **0800 789 321**

- **Provide updated and regular threat briefings**
- Maintain an effective **risk assessment**.
- Maintain training and engagement with **ACT app**.
- Easing Lockdown Vigilance Campaign Toolkit

SUSPICIOUS ITEMS

CONFIRM

- Has it been deliberately hidden
- Is it obviously suspicious
- Is it typical for this location

CLEAR

- Do not touch the item , stay away from the hazard
- Be out of sight of the item or behind hard cover
- Cordon off the area in advance of police arrival.

COMMUNICATE

- Inform your control room/supervisor
- **DO NOT USE MOBILE PHONES/RADIOS** within 15m

CONTROL

- Public should be stopped from entering the area
- Try to keep eyewitnesses on scene.

MARAUDING TERRORIST ATTACK

RUN

- Escape if you can
- Is there a safe route? Run, if not Hide
- Insist others leave with you,
- Leave belongings behind.
- Do not attempt to film the incident. Run.

HIDE

- If you can see the attacker, they may be able to see you. Bullets go through glass, brick, wood and metal. You must still hide, even if you are behind a locked door.
- Be aware of your exits
- Be quiet, silence your phone
- Lock/barricade yourself in
- Move away from the door

TELL

- Call the police
- Nature of the Incident - What is happening?
- Location - Suspects - Direction - Descriptions

BOMB THREAT

- Remain calm and talk to the caller
- Note the caller's number and record the call
- Write down the exact wording and time of call
 1. Where exactly is the bomb right now?
 2. When is it going to explode?
 3. What does it look like?
 4. What does the bomb contain?
 5. How will it be detonated?
 6. who put the device in place?
 7. What is your name?
 8. What is your address?
 9. Do you represent a group or acting alone?
 10. Why have you placed the bomb?

Note the following

The caller's

Sex / Nationality / Age

What threat language was used

Well spoken / Irrational / Incoherent

Caller's voice

Calm / Excited / Accent – note if possible

Background sounds

Street noises/House noises



Contact
Advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk