

**26<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

**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).

## Speculation Grows Over Source of Shetland's Comms Outage (High North News 24<sup>th</sup> October) <sup>1</sup>.

Mystery and speculation still surrounds the source of the subsea cable damage that caused widespread communication outages in the Shetland Islands for a number of hours last Thursday. Whilst experts confirmed the cause of the damage was more than likely trawler nets or an anchor dragging over the cable, the frequency of similar, recent incidents draws suspicion on the 'accidental' appearance of the cause. The Shetland incident last week follows a similar incident on the Faroe Islands the week before and comes two months after attacks on the Nordstream 1 and 2 pipeline cables off the coast of Norway. France are also claiming sabotage for recent damage to their subsea cables off the south coast of the country. Furthermore Germany has recently alleged sabotage after some of their communication cables were cut impacting rail infrastructure earlier in the month. Pall Vesturbu, Head of Infrastructure for Faroese Telecom, stated:

*"We expect it will be fishing vessels that damaged the cable but it is very rare that we have two problems at the same time"*

Tino Hansen from threat analysis firm Risk Intelligence expressed similar concerns stating:

*"The probability of this happening once by mistake is low and the probability of this happening twice is insignificant and (its) non-existent for a third and fourth time when measured against normal trawler behavior"*

## Hyde Park Bomb Plotter Appears at Old Bailey (Independent 22<sup>nd</sup> October)

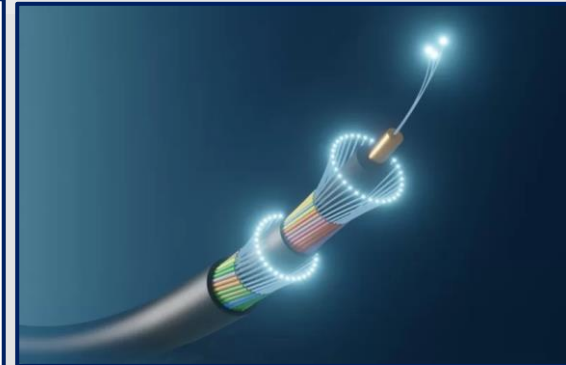
21 year-old Edward Little from Brighton, appeared at the Old Bailey last week charged with preparation of a terrorist offence, after his arrest in connection with a planned attack on London's Hyde Park in September this year. Little was arrested en-route to London from Brighton on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September and had expressed intent to purchase a firearm and kill a Christian preacher at Speaker's Corner. His plea hearing will be heard in February 2023 and his trial expected to take place the following June.

## Cement Company Pleads Guilty to Terror Offences in First of its Kind Case (Politico 20<sup>th</sup> October) <sup>2</sup>.

In the first case of its kind, French cement company Lafarge, has pled guilty to terror offences involving payments to IS and al Nusra Front, in the US last week. The company was accused of paying both groups approximately USD six Billion in protection money to maintain their supply chain by securing facilities and staff at their plant on the Syrian/Turkish border between 2013 and 2014. U.S Attorney Breon Peace stated:

*"In the midst of a civil war, Lafarge made the unthinkable choice to put money into the hands of ISIS, one of the world's most barbaric terrorist organizations, so that it could continue selling cement,"*

As part of a [plea deal](#) the company has agreed to pay approximately USD 778 Million. Their efforts are thought to have earned the company just over USD 70 million in sales.



Headline 1:  
[Subsea Cable \(BBC 2022\)](#)



Headline 3 :  
[Lafarge Cement Truck \(Aljazeera 2022\)](#)

# World News

## Return to Downing Street for Sunak on Diwali (Independent 26<sup>th</sup> October)

On Monday Rishi Sunak was announced as the new leader of the Conservative Party and became our first Asian and youngest PM. Sunak, a Hindu, who's victory over Penny Mourdant – and return to Downing Street - was announced on the same day the Hindu community celebrate the start of Diwali, is particularly significant as Diwali commemorates the triumphant return home of the exiled Lord Rama after his defeat over the evil Ravana. Sunak faces a multitude of issues in his first week, not least of which is picking a cabinet from party members who didn't vote for him in the first leadership race. Sunak's appointment has calmed the financial markets, however he is likely to delay his fiscal statement by a couple of days, presenting it as a full budget next week to coincide with the Bank of England's anticipated interest rate hikes. Speaking outside Downing Street on Monday Sunak said:

*"We now need stability and unity, and I will make it my utmost priority to bring our party and our country together because that is the only way we will overcome the challenges we face and build a better, more prosperous future for our children and our grandchildren"*

## Brittney Griner's Appeal Refused by Russian Courts (BBC News 25<sup>th</sup> October) <sup>3. 4.</sup>

US Basketball Olympic medallist Brittney Griner had her sentencing appeal on drug smuggling charges rejected by Russian Courts this week. Griner, has been in custody in Russia since February of this year, after being caught in possession of vape cartridges containing cannabis oil at an airport near Moscow. She has played regularly overseas in her off season, having appeared for China's Zhejiang Golden Bulls in 2013-14 and Russia's UMMC Ekaterinburg for four years prior to her arrest in February when she returned after COVID restrictions were lifted. The Olympian was sentenced to nine and a half years this August in a trial described by the US government as politically motivated, the legal proceedings a "sham" and the sentencing "excessive and disproportionate". US President Joe Biden stated the sentence was "unacceptable".

Griner, who claims the cartridges were packed in error and she had made a 'genuine mistake' said during her appeal:

*"I really hope that the court will adjust this sentence because it has been very, very stressful and very traumatic...People with more severe crimes have gotten less than what I was given"*

## Interpol Announce Metaverse to Assist with International Police Cooperation (Interpol 20<sup>th</sup> October)

Interpol held their 90<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in New Delhi last week using the event to launch their new Metaverse platform. The platform will allow members to tour the French HQ, engage with onsite staff via their avatars and receive investigative assistance and training. Interpol also announced their Metaverse Expert Group to assist with policing the virtual world. Mr Oberoi, INTERPOL's Executive Director of Technology and Innovation stated:

*"The Metaverse has the potential to transform every aspect of our daily lives with enormous implications for law enforcement...but in order for police to understand the Metaverse, we need to experience it."*



Headline 1:  
Rishi Sunak  
(Proactive Investors 2022))



Headline 2:  
Brittney Griner (BBC 2022)



Headline 3  
Attendees try out Interpol's Metaverse  
(INTERPOL 2022)



Wilson James Health and Safety team have asked all WJ colleagues to view the attached QR link to their Behavioural Safety video and to register their details on completion.



## Industry News

### ACTIVISM

#### [Greenpeace Activists Occupy House of Commons Central Lobby \(Independent 24<sup>th</sup> October\)](#)

Up to 30 activists occupied The Houses of Commons on Monday shortly after Rishi Sunak was announced as the new leader of the conservative party. Activists from [Greenpeace](#) and Fuel Action Poverty gained access earlier in the day as tourists and then stormed the central lobby, staging a sit-in and reading out statements from people who were struggling to pay their energy bills. On duty police officers did not intervene during the protests and the activists left voluntarily after their demonstration.

### SECURITY

#### [Security Officers Save Schoolboy from Stabbing \(LBC 21<sup>st</sup> October\)](#) <sup>5.</sup>

Two security officers have been hailed heroes for stepping into assist a student who was the victim of a stabbing incident last Friday. Mobile phone [footage](#) showing the fracas (between what appears to be a gang of youths and a male teenager) shows one officer launching himself on top of a number of the suspects as they repeatedly attack the victim. The officers gets up and remonstrates further with the suspects as they start to approach him before making off when his colleague comes to assist. One suspect appeared to be in possession of a large machete style knife. The identities of the officers or their employers are not known. The victim had a stab wound to the leg and two other people were hurt in the incident outside a school in East Walsall, West Midlands. A police investigation is continuing.

### CYBER SECURITY

#### [Germany's Cyber-Chief Sacked Amid Fears of Russian Collusion \(Euro News 18<sup>th</sup> October\)](#) <sup>6.</sup>

Germany's interior minister has sacked the head of their national cyber-security agency when questions arose regarding his objectivity, after reports suggesting a historic relationship with ex-spies from Russia surfaced. Arne Schönbohm, president of the Federal Office for Information Security (BSI) since 2016 was sacked after a cyber-security group he co-founded ten years ago was revealed to have ex-Russian spies as members and questions were asked regarding his continued relationship with the company. Germany is concerned about threats to its national infrastructure by Russia after its decision to support Ukraine in the war and has highlighted questionable communication outages in the country, suspecting sabotage. In response to his dismissal Schoenbohm was quoted as saying he did not yet know:

*"what the ministry has examined and what the concrete allegations against me look like".*



Headline 1:  
[Greenpeace Activists at House of Commons](#)  
([Greenpeace 2022](#))



Headline 2:  
[Hero Security Guards](#)  
[and Machete Style](#)  
[Knife Used](#)  
([The SUN 2022](#))



# Activism Updates

## ACTIVISM

### Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October – March of the Mummies

**Location:** Nationwide, **11 locations** (London, Glasgow, Manchester, Leeds, Belfast, Cardiff, Exeter, Norwich, Bristol, Newcastle and Birmingham) **@11am**

**Cause:** Government reform: childcare, parental leave and flexible working.

**Details:** [Pregnantthenscrewed.com](http://Pregnantthenscrewed.com)

### Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October – BBC CHALO

**Location:** Broadcasting House, Portland Place, **London @11:00**

**Cause:** Make your voice loud and let the BBC know they are criminals.

**Details:** [BBC CHALO](http://BBC CHALO)

### Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October – Media is the Virus

**Location:** BBC Media City, **Salford @13:00**

**Cause:** Protest against the BBC's continued anti-Hindu and anti-India bias

**Details:** [TELEGRAM](http://TELEGRAM)

### Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October – Freedom Rally

**Location:** South Inch Pavilion, **Perth @13:00**

**Cause:** Vaccine Freedom Rally

**Details:** [TELEGRAM](http://TELEGRAM)

## DATES/EVENTS TO NOTE

It is likely some of the following list of notable dates or events will see some form of travel disruption. Please check for local updates.

### OCTOBER

#### Just Stop Oil - Westminster Occupation

1<sup>st</sup> October – 10<sup>th</sup> November

#### On-going Pal Action Activist Camps –

PAL Action – Activist camp outside Elbit site - UNIT F, Meridian East, Leicester LE19 1TP

Pal Action - Activist Camp outside Shenstone Factory, Litchfield (#ShutElbitDown) began Sunday August 28th.

**Subscribe today** to receive bespoke threat intelligence and alerts during the XR Campaign and profiles on threat actors involved in October's London activism. [advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk](mailto:advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk)

### STRIKE ACTION NOVEMBER:

**24<sup>th</sup> October – 7<sup>th</sup> November** two weeks of action by **Liverpool dockworkers**

**31<sup>st</sup> October– 4<sup>th</sup> November - GXO.N–Drivers**

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>, Monday 7<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>** (rearranged from 3<sup>rd</sup> due to Poppy Day)- **Network rail** Nationwide strikes. 75% of services expected to be running the following day.

### OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST:

#### Black History Month

1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> October.



[Pregnantthenscrewed.com](http://Pregnantthenscrewed.com)



[TELEGRAM](http://TELEGRAM) (2022)



# PROTECT DUTY

## KNOW YOUR THREAT/KNOW YOUR RESPONSE

### KNOW YOUR THREAT

Know how to spot suspicious behaviour, engage regularly with [PROTECTUK](#) where you can keep up to date on the latest training and guidance.

### KNOW YOUR RESPONSE

Provide updated and regular threat briefings. Maintain an effective risk assessment. Maintain training and engagement with **PROTECT UK**.

#### MARAUDING TERRORIST ATTACK

##### GUIDE

- Know your evacuation routes.
  - Ensure you familiarise yourself with alternative routes should paths become blocked.
- Be able to inform and guide people with clear instructions.

##### SHELTER

- Know your first aid plans and RVPs.
- Lock/barricade yourself in.
- Move away from the door.

##### COMMUNICATE

- Know who to tell - Ensure incident escalations are fully updated with correct contact details and shared appropriately.
- Location, Suspects, Directions, Descriptions.

#### SUSPICIOUS ITEMS

##### CONFIRM

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

##### 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.

#### 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

**Please feel free to engage with Wilson James Advisory Services to further connect to the Protect Duty Program**

**Reach out to us by emailing [Advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk](mailto:Advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk)**

# 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.



# Ukrainian Donations Information

**For those wishing to donate to the war effort in Ukraine or to support the Ukrainian refugees please see the following sites for advice and guidance on how best to do so.**

## **Cash donations:**

A cash donation means charities can help with whatever is needed, source things locally, and transport items quickly. It also means volunteers can concentrate on the response, rather than sorting and transporting donations.

[Red cross Donations](#)

[UNHCR Donations](#)

[UNICEF Donations](#)

## **Helping a Ukrainian friend or family member:**

Please contact the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office:

email [fcdo.correspondence@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:fcdo.correspondence@fcdo.gov.uk)

calling: **020 7008 5000**

## **British nationals who need assistance:**

Consular support is available through the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office 24-hour helpline:

**+380 44 490 3660** (from Ukraine)

**+44 (0) 1908 516666** (from the UK).

# Pakistan Donations Information

**For those wishing to donate to the Pakistan Floods Appeal  
please see the following sites for advice and guidance on how best to do so.**

## **Cash donations:**

A cash donation means charities can help with whatever is needed, source things locally, and transport items quickly. It also means volunteers can concentrate on the response, rather than sorting and transporting donations.

[Disasters Emergency Committee Donations](#)

[RED CROSS Donations](#)



**Contact**  
[Advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk](mailto:Advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk)