

ADVISORY SERVICES Weekly Digest



1ST March 2023

Agenda

1

Terrorism
and Threats

2

World News

3

Industry News

4

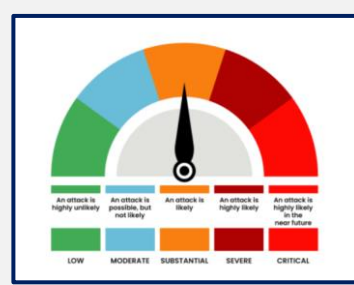
Activism

5

SOP Guidance
-Protect Duty
-Protests

Terrorism and Threats

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).



'Jihadi Paul' Trial Starts at Old Bailey (Daily Mail 27th February) ^{1. 2.}

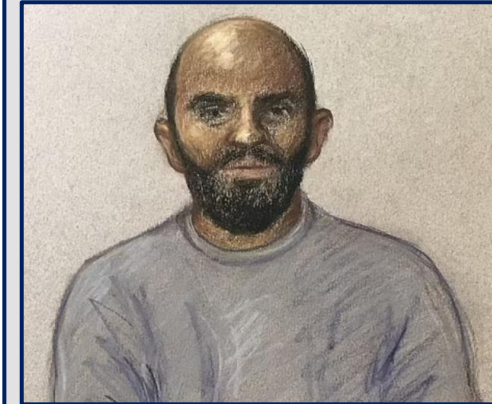
ISIS member and 'Fourth Beatle' Aine Davis appeared at the Old Bailey this week for the start of his trial on terror charges. Legal arguments are expected to delay the beginning of the case that sees him charged with offences contrary to sections 15, 17 and 57 of the Terrorism Act 2000. He faces charges in relation to fundraising for the purposes of terrorism and possession of a firearm for terrorist purposes. Davis only spoke to confirm his name. The trial is expected to last two weeks.

Sixth Man Arrested over Attempted Murder of PSNI Officer in Omagh (BBC News 26th February) ^{3. 4.}

Arrests following the attempted murder of 48-year-old Detective Chief Inspector John Caldwell now totals six, as a 71-year-old man from the Omagh area joins five other men aged between 22, and 47 currently in custody. Det Ch Insp Caldwell was shot ten times in front of his son after coaching an under-fifteens football team and is currently heavily sedated and in critical condition in hospital. Caldwell was aware he was a potential target for dissident Republicans after receiving threats following a number of high-profile investigations he led, including the Lyra McKee shooting by the 'New IRA' in 2019 and the murder of PSNI Officer Ronan Kerr with a car bomb in 2011 by the 'Provisional IRA'. Following the attempted murder over 1,000 people gathered at a rally in Omagh to show their support for the injured officer. The Terror Threat Level in Northern Ireland had been reduced (for the first time in ten years) in line with the National level following little activity from dissident republican groups like the new IRA. The aftermath of the Lyra McKee shooting and arrests made through the joint MI5 and PSNI Operation 'Arabacia' supporting the murder investigation, saw a clampdown on IRA activity and the organisation was regarded, says BBC news, as being in complete disarray. This latest incident together with a previous car bomb attack against police officers near Omagh in November last year may indicate an escalation in activity as an agreement on the Northern Ireland Protocol is made and tensions mount.

19-Year-old Arrested in Portsmouth on Terror Charges (Hampshire Live 21st February) ^{5. 6.}

Met's Counter Terrorism Command and the Eastern Region Special Operations Unit (ERSOU) confirmed the arrest last week of a 19-year-old man in Portsmouth on terror charges. Describing the arrest "as part of a proactive operation" Met Police confirmed he was arrested on suspicion of disseminating terrorist publications. Officers are believed to have searched another address in Essex in relation to the arrest and confirmed the offence was related to Islamic terrorism.



Headline 1:
Jihadi Paul, Aine Davis
(Daily mail 2023)



Headline 2:
Demonstrators in Omagh
(BBC 2023)

World News

NI Protocol Renegotiated as Windsor Framework Announced (Independent 28th February) [7.](#) [8.](#) [9.](#)

Northern Ireland held its breath on Monday as European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen met with Rishi Sunak and agreed the new Northern Ireland (NI) Protocol. Following the PM and President's meeting, they then completed the agreement in the presence of His Majesty King Charles III at Windsor. Announcing the 'Windsor Framework', on Monday afternoon, UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak detailed how the amended agreement 'removes any sense of a border in the Irish Sea'. Goods and medication etc for use in Northern Ireland will now travel through a proposed 'Green Lane' and goods with a destination in the EU will be subject to restrictions via a 'Red Lane'. The framework also includes: less checks on foodstuffs, the removal of custom restrictions for parcels, the removal of pet travel extra documentation and adopting UK rules governing VAT. The bare minimum of EU laws will now apply to the province with the inclusion of a 'Stormont brake' (to be pulled in case of emergency) as a mechanism to trigger the UK Government into vetoing or applying a questioned EU rule that would restrict NI access to UK goods or services. All eyes are now on the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) with commentators wondering if the new framework will be enough to see their return to the power sharing executive they have continued to boycott in protest against the original protocol. Speaking on LBC today the PM was asked what would happen if the DUP refused to engage with the Windsor Framework, he replied:

'it is "not necessarily about me or any one political party" but "what is best" for the people and businesses of Northern Ireland'.

Iranian Schoolgirls Poisoned to Stop Protests (Independent 27th February) [10.](#) [11.](#)

News sources are reporting at least 30 schools across four cities in Iran have recorded 'hundreds' of cases of 'respiratory poisoning' of schoolgirls requiring their hospitalisation. Victims are reporting mild symptoms such as nausea, headaches, coughing, difficulty breathing and heart palpitations. The pattern of poisonings was noticed in November 2022 (including as many as 50 girls in one high school) and is regarded as a 'deliberate attempt to keep girls out of school'. Iran's Deputy Health minister appearing to confirm the speculation by laying the blame at the feet of hardliners within the regime, saying: "*certain individuals sought the closure of all schools, especially girls' schools*". Only one boy's school has been targeted in the poisonings which are widely thought to be in retaliation for recent protests in Iran. Protests erupted in September 2022 following the death in custody of Mahsa Amini and some believe female students have been blamed for instigating the protests with one doctor reportedly saying: "*they want to take revenge on schoolgirls who are the pioneers of the recent protests*". The 'mild' poison is not believed to be weapons grade.

Another Major Quake Hits Turkey (Aljazeera 27th February)

An earthquake with a magnitude of 5.6 on the Richter scale hit Eastern Turkey on Monday making it the fourth significant quake to hit the country as the region still tries to recover from the devastating quake of three weeks ago. The latest quake hit the Malatya region, killing one person and injuring 69 others. The latest significant tremors (10,000 aftershocks have been recorded since 6th Feb) continue to worry and scare the over one million displaced citizens of Turkey and Syria currently living in alternative or makeshift accommodation. The death toll from the original quake has now reached over 50,000.

[Headline 2](#)
[Classroom in Iran \(Daily Mail 2023\)](#)



[Headline 2](#)
[City of Qom first reported incidents](#)



The 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

Bristol Kill the Bill Protestors Receive Combined Sentence of 11 Years (The Canary 24th February) ^{12.} ^{13.}

Four Kill the Bill protestors, responsible for rioting and violent disorder during the March 2021 protest in Bristol have been sentenced to a total of eleven years in prison for the offences. One defendant was handed a sentence of more than four years for a (rarely used) rioting offence and the other three received sentences of 20 months plus for violent disorder. The demonstration was organised to protest against the introduction of the Police Crime Sentencing and Courts Bill (now law) and saw 44 police officers attacked and city statues vandalised or torn down causing over GBP200,000 worth of damage. So far 30 people have received prison sentences for offences during the protest.

ENERGY/WORKPLACE SAFETY

Oil Rig Worker Loses Arm in Workplace Incident (EO Digital 23rd February) ^{10.}

An offshore oil rig worker in Norway had to have his left arm amputated due to a workplace incident while carrying out repairs to a dragchain (linked cable/pipe tray). The worker was attempting to fix a damaged side plate on the outer part of a drag chain on the Odfjell Technology operated Linus jack-up rig, when it collapsed on top of him trapping his arm and head with potentially two tonne of weight. An investigation into the incident concluded last week with serious concerns raised about the manner in which the work was carried out. Petroleum Safety Authority Norway (PSA) stated that the underlying causes of the incident:

“were a lack of control and management of technical condition, lack of job control, deficiencies in governing documents and procedures, and inadequate handover routines and clarification of roles and responsibilities”.

PROTECT DUTY/SECURITY

1,000 Manchester Venue/Events Staff and Security Complete ACT Course (IFSECGlobal 22nd February)

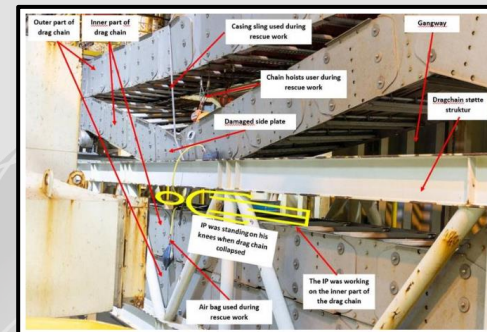
In anticipation of the upcoming launch of the UK Government’s Protect Duty law, the SIA together with Manchester City Council launched an initiative in 2021 to train as many venue staff as possible to equip them to “better identify, mitigate and respond to terror attacks”. The Action Counters Terrorism e-learning security Course consists of five modules which examine staffs’ role in counter terrorism; current terrorist attack methods; incident response planning and identifying and responding to suspicious activity. Manchester City Councillor Lee-Ann Igbon stated:

“I am so proud of the venues who have already signed up and recognise what a fantastic achievement it is to have trained more than 1,000 people. However, there is always more work to be done and I am confident in the coming months even greater numbers can be reached.”



Headline 3

Location and Diagram of Oil Rig Incident
(EODigital 2023)



Activism Updates

ACTIVISM

Friday 3rd of March – Fossil Finance Action

Location: Nationwide targeting local branches and offices of HSBC and Barclays

Cause: On the 2nd March, XR will be taking action to mark 50 days until the Big One targeting the finance sector. There is a general call out for groups taking action on finance to join the action over the coming weeks before the media is targeted on the 22nd March.

Details: [XR](#)

Friday 3rd of March – Global Climate Strike

Location: [Events Nationwide](#) and Globally

Cause: Stop Fossil Fuel Financing

Details: [FridaysforFuture](#)

Saturday 4th March – Britain is Broken

Location: Dover train station @14:00

Cause: Protest against illegal immigration

Details: [TWITTER](#)

Tuesday 7th March – Not My King

Location: Colchester Castle @10:00

Cause: Loud protest against royal visit

Details: [TELEGRAM](#)

Wednesday 8th March – Silver Voices UK

Location: Parliament Square, London@TBC

Cause: Pension and Retirement age protest.

Details: [SilverVoices.co.uk](#)

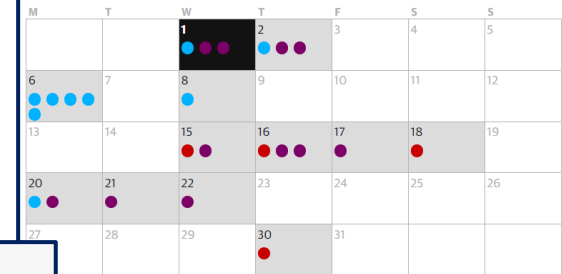
STRIKES

[Guardian 2023](#)

Upcoming strikes

● Transport ● Health ● Education ● Mail ● Civil service ● Other

March



Wednesday 1 March

Health NHS (1 strike) - RCN Thousands of nurses in cancer wards, A&E departments and intensive care units in England represented by The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) begin a 48 hours strike action.

Higher education Universities (1 strike) - UCU Staff at more than 150 universities across the UK continue strike action.

Education Schools (1 strike) - NEU Teachers represented by NEU continue strike action in East Midlands, West Midlands

Monday 6 March

Health NHS (1 strike) - Unite Ambulance workers who are members of Unite in West Midlands ambulance trust continue industrial action.

Health NHS (1 strike) - Unite Ambulance workers who are members of Unite in North-east ambulance trust strike continue industrial action.

Health NHS (1 strike) - Unite Ambulance workers who are members of Unite in East Midlands ambulance trust continue industrial action.

Health NHS (1 strike) - Unite Ambulance workers who are members of Unite in Wales

Wednesday 8 March

Health NHS (1 strike) - Unison NHS staff including nurses, paramedics and blood collection workers who are UNISON members will strike as part of an ongoing dispute with the government over pay.



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

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.



Contact
Advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk