

ADVISORY SERVICES Weekly Digest



5th April 2023

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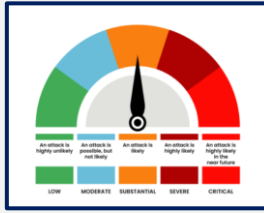
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SOP Guidance
-Protect Duty
-Protests

Terrorism and Threats

PROTECT UK



The current threat level for the UK MAINLAND is 'SUBSTANTIAL', meaning a terror attack is 'likely'
The current threat level for Northern Ireland is 'SEVERE', meaning a terror attack is 'highly likely'
For further information see GOV.UK.

MEN Arena Bombing Victims to Sue Conspiracy Theorist after BBC Exposé (BBC NEWS 4th April)

Manchester Arena bombing 'hoax' conspiracy theorist, Richard D Hall is to be sued by victims of the 2017 bombing after he admitted during a BBC Panorama interview to following a number of the bombing victims and observing them at their place of work and home. Hall is being sued for defamation and harassment by Martin Hibbert and his daughter Eve in a landmark prosecution which could open the doors to similar prosecutions against other fantasists who post outlandish conspiracy theories online. Mr Hall, responding to the Panorama programme appears to be unwavering regarding his suspicions and regularly posts on 'true crime' events such as the disappearance of Nicola Bulley. Following the Panorama exposé, a number of terror attack victims reported a reduction in trolling and conspiracy theories online. When confronted about the civil action by the BBC, Mr Hall refused to comment.

Nationwide Test of Public Emergency Alert Expected in April (BBC News 19th March)

Advisory Services repeat the previous announcement highlighted last month in our digest regarding the Public Emergency Alert test.

There will be a nationwide testing of the Public Emergency Alert system this month that will see a ten second 'siren-like' alert sent to every mobile phone in the UK in the early **evening of Sunday 23rd of April**. The sound will come through even if the phone is on silent and is also expected to vibrate as the government test the warning system which went live last month. The system will alert users to a severe 'weather related event' in their local area and will consider the possibility of including terror incident alerts after appropriate consultation. The service will not collect personal data and will have an opt out option. Further details and an example of the 'siren' sound are available [here](#).

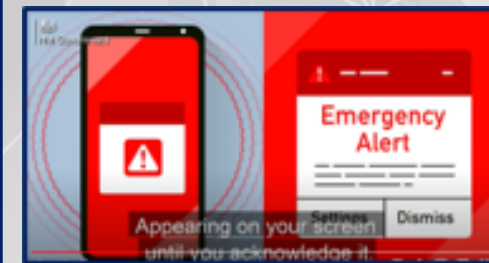
Police Detention Officer Pleads Guilty to Terror Offences Supporting UDA (Independent 15th March)

A Huddersfield Police detention officer has pled guilty at Westminster's Magistrates Court to 'publishing an image of two flags on September 11, 2022 "in such a way or in such circumstances as to arouse reasonable suspicion that you were a member or supporter of" the banned loyalist Ulster Defence Association (UDA) terror group.' The officer also pleaded guilty to 'sharing grossly offensive messages on Twitter'. Counter Terrorism Policing North East opened an investigation last year after a referral by his force, he was released on unconditional bail until his sentencing on 19th April.



Headline 1:
Mr Hall and Journalist Marianna
Spring (BBC 2023)

Headline 2
Emergency Alert
YouTube (2023)



World News

TRUMP Becomes First Ex-President in US History Indicted on Criminal Charges (Sky News 4th April) [1.](#) [2.](#) [3.](#)

Former President Donald Trump was arraigned in New York City yesterday and became the first ex-US President to be indicted on criminal charges. Trump has pleaded not-guilty to 34 counts of falsifying business records, the records relate to hush money paid to three people towards the end of his first presidential campaign, in an attempt to suppress negative stories. Manhattan District Attorney (DA) Alvin Bragg who leads the case against Trump, addressed the US nation yesterday shortly after the arraignment stating:

"The People of the State of New York allege that Donald J Trump repeatedly and fraudulently falsified New York business records to conceal crimes that hid damaging information from the voting public during the 2016 presidential election."

The offence of falsifying business records is a misdemeanour in the state of New York but if used for the purpose of conducting another crime it is upgraded to a felony and carries a sentence of up to 136 years in prison. After appearing in court Trump headed back to his Florida compound, Mar-a-lago, to give an impassioned speech to supporters in which he condemned the judge and DA, and suggested America was "going to hell". President Ulysses S. Grant was the only serving president to ever be arrested. In 1872 he was stopped on two consecutive occasions for speeding on his horse, after the later he was arrested and admitted the offence. He did not appear at his trial.

Officer involved in Chris Kaba Shooting Referred to CPS for Possible Charges (BBC News 30th March) [4.](#)

The Independent Office of Police Conduct (IOPC) confirmed last week they have referred the case of the London Met Police firearms officer believed to be responsible for shooting Chris Kaba in September last year to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) for consideration. The CPS are yet to confirm if they will press charges against the currently suspended officer who may face a murder trial. London Mayor Sadiq Khan responded to the news stating:

"Chris had his whole life ahead of him and his death has had a huge impact on Londoners, and in particular black Londoners, with anger, pain and fear felt across communities, along with a desire for change and justice...It was vital that the IOPC fully investigated all the evidence before making a decision, and now that they have referred this case to the CPS, I hope it will be considered as swiftly as possible."

Chris' family also released a statement saying:

"We very much hope that the CPS advise in favour of a prosecution and that the truth will emerge, without delay, through criminal proceedings. Our family and community cannot continue waiting for answers."

Outrage in Iran as Woman Covered in Yoghurt for not Wearing her Hijab Correctly (Independent 2nd April)

Two women and a man have been arrested in Iran after the man threw yoghurt in the hair of a mother and daughter for not wearing their hijabs properly. The man was immediately removed from the store where the incident happened by the manager who was later sent "necessary notices" issued by the judiciary to ensure his future compliance with the law. The women were arrested for failing to cover their hair and the man for disturbing public order. The Iranian regime remains steadfast in regard to its stance on the hijab which it considers a religious necessity and Iranian MP, Hossein Ali Haji Deligani has demanded the regime *"come up with measures to put a stop to the flouting of the rules within the next 48 hours."*



Headline 1:
[Trump and Defence Team](#)
([Guardian 2023](#))



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

SUPPLY CHAINS - PHARMA

US FDA finds Violations at Indian Manufacturers of Contaminated Eye Drops (Independent 4th April)

This digest continues to report on the vulnerability of India's pharma supply chain after the US' Food and Drug Administration (FDA) found 'serious violations' following an onsite inspection at the manufacturers' responsible for producing the contaminated eye drops, EzriCare artificial tears. In February, this year we highlighted the deaths of three people in the US after contracting an infection (*Pseudomonas aeruginosa*) following use of the contaminated product. The eye drops left five others with serious vision impairment and approximately 55 people in total are believed to have been affected. Following an inspection at the Indian production site, the FDA released their observations which included the manufacturers not establishing "*the sterilisation process is effective across different manufacturing conditions*", surfaces coming into contact with the packaging were not "*cleaned, sanitised, decontaminated, or sterilised*" and "*the firm did not track or have studies to show how many times garbs could be reused. Discoloured overall, discoloured and worn-out booties were being observed being used in the cleanrooms*".

Global Pharma is yet another Indian company whose manufacturing process has been called into question after deaths in the Gambia, Uzbekistan and potentially Indonesia prompted an investigation into contaminated cough syrups last year.

MARITIME

RV Petrel Vessel Topples Over in Edinburgh Dry Dock (Edinburgh Live 22nd March) ⁵.

A 3,000 tonne, 250ft vessel dry docked at Imperial Dock, Leith in Edinburgh since the beginning of the pandemic toppled over at the weekend injuring 33 and prompting a major incident to be declared at the dock. Onlookers describe being amazed no one was killed when the ship toppled over in high winds. Eight people suffered serious injuries, 23 in total were taken to hospital and 12 were treated at the scene. 12 emergency vehicles responded together with an air ambulance and a special operations team. The RV Petrel's main purpose, prior to the pandemic was to 'explore historically-significant ship wrecks' and is reportedly now owned by the US Navy who bought it in September 2022 for GBP 10million. Dales Marine who were carrying out work on the vessel at the time issued a response to the incident stating:

'Dales Marine is currently dealing with an incident at our Leith dry dock facility at the Port of Leith. We are liaising with the emergency services in dealing with the ongoing incident and cannot comment any further. Dales Marine's priority is to ensure those involved and their families are supported.'

Headline 2:
[Topped Vessel in Edinburgh Dock](#)
[\(Edinburgh Live 2023\)](#)



ENERGY

Hamza Yousef Visits Aberdeen and Announces GBP25 Million Investment (Aberdeen Live 4th April)

Scotland's newly appointed first minister Hamza Yousef visited Aberdeen at the weekend to announce an injection of GBP 25 million into the 'Just Transition' Fund for the North-east of the UK. The fund will be used to leverage private investment. Addressing the crowd, he said:

"Scotland is an energy-rich nation and the oil and gas industry has made a vast contribution to our economy, while its workers are some of the most highly-skilled in the world...But Scotland's oil and gas basin is now a mature resource and, as a responsible Government, we must take action to ensure the sector, and the communities it supports, are supported in a transition to cleaner, greener energy system...The north-east has long been known as the oil and gas capital of Europe. It can now become the net-zero capital of the world."

Activism Updates

ACTIVISM

Saturday 8th April – Support Iran’s Revolution

Location: Cavendish Square, London @13:00

Cause: Support revolution against the Iranian regime

Details: [Info](#)

Thursday 6th April – Bond St. Fur and Exotic Skin Trade Protest

Location: Bond Street, Meet outside Pret on Conduit St. @16:00

Cause: Against Fur trade

Details: [Info](#)

WARNING REGARDING ‘TYRE EXTINGUISHERS’ ACTIVIST GROUP

A climate campaign group that seeks to deflate the tyres of SUV’s across the globe has claimed they have deflated the tyres of over 10,000 SUVs worldwide since March 2022.

- The activists **unscrew the dust cap, drop in a lentil and re-screw the cap.**
- A **prolific group** is currently **active** in **Bristol** where they target quiet streets with little CCTV. They claimed to have **damaged 80 vehicles in one hour.**
- This group have expressed their **intent to escalate their tactics.** Insisting they **‘will take their campaign to the next level’** using a **‘diversity of tactics’** expected to include potentially **spray-painting SUV’s .**
- SUV **owners** are advised to **use anti-theft dust caps** and **park in well lit areas,** preferably **with CCTV.**
- Alternatively, a **CCTV warning sign/label** or **fake camera** may be enough to **deter an activist.**

STRIKES

Wednesday 5 April

Transport Roads (1 strike) - PCS National Highways staff in the National Traffic Operations Centre in Quinton, West Midlands strike.

Civil service Civil Service (1 strike) - PCS PCS members working in the Passport Office continue strike action in Belfast, Durham, Glasgow, Liverpool, London, Newport, Peterborough and Southport.

Culture British Library (1 strike) - PCS Staff at the British Library who are members of the PCS continue industrial action.

Thursday 6 April

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Friday 7 April

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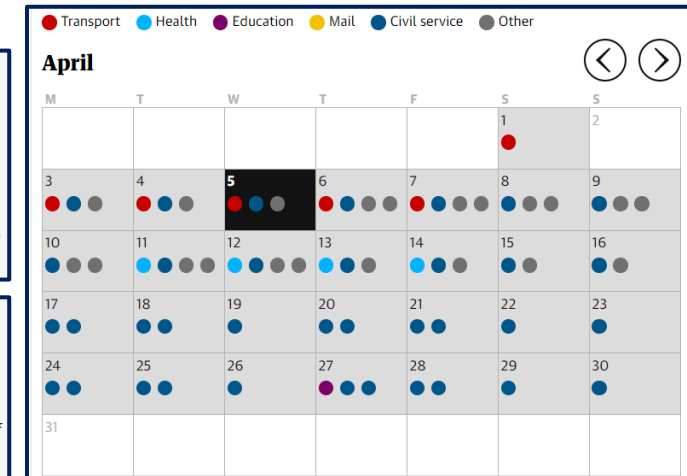
Culture British Library (1 strike) - PCS Staff at the British Library who are members of the PCS continue industrial action.

Tuesday 11 April

Health NHS (1 strike) - BMA Junior doctors in England represented by the British Medical Association continue strike action.

Civil Service Civil Service (1 strike) - PCS PCS members working in the Passport Office continue strike action in Belfast, Durham, Glasgow, Liverpool, London, Newport, Peterborough and Southport.

Culture British Library (1 strike) - PCS Staff at the British Library who are members of the PCS continue industrial action.



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