

# ADVISORY SERVICES Weekly Digest



26<sup>th</sup> April 2023

# Agenda

1

Terrorism  
and Threats

2

World News

3

Industry News

4

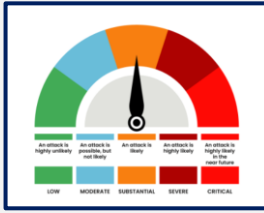
Activism

5

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.

## UK Joins US and EU Imposing Further Sanctions on Iran and IRGC (GOV.UK 24<sup>th</sup> April) <sup>1. 2.</sup>

The UK, US and EU announced further sanctions against Iran on Monday bringing the total number of designations against the regime to 300 since October 2022. Sanctions include asset freezing and travel bans on 'individuals and entities'. A recent addition to the list, for human rights violations over the recent protests in Iran, is the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) in its entirety and four of its commanders specifically. Announcing the further designations, Foreign Secretary James Cleverly said:

*"The Iranian regime are responsible for the brutal repression of the Iranian people and for exporting bloodshed around the world. That's why we have more than 300 sanctions in place on Iran, including on the IRGC in its entirety...The UK and our international partners are again making clear today that we will not overlook the regime's brutal oppression. We will continue to take a range of action to hold the regime to account for its actions."*

## Member of the UK Armed Forces Charged with Official Secrets Act Breaches (BBC News 23<sup>rd</sup> April)

36-year-old Thomas Newsome, a serving member of the British Armed forces, appeared at Westminster Magistrate's court at the weekend charged with two counts of Official Secrets Act breaches. Newsome is accused of being in possession of a hard copy and a USB containing 'highly sensitive military information' which the prosecution alleges would pose a,

*"real and immediate threat to the lives of British citizens outside the UK...(and) facilitate the targeting of personnel"*.

Newsome is believed to have shared the information with a civilian and photographed the documents, sending the images via social media. He was remanded in custody until his next hearing on Friday.

## GovAssure Launches to Protect Administration Against Cyber Threats (GOV.UK 20<sup>th</sup> April)

The UK government launched its new cyber security regime last week to help protect itself from cyber-threats. Known as GovAssure it will allow all government departments to improve their cyber-resilience and get help against "growing hostile cyber-threats", allowing them to "have their cyber security reviewed under new, more stringent measures." The new regime will be run by the Government Security Group with assistance from the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) and is part of the new Government Cyber Security Strategy (GCSS). Announcing the launch in Belfast, The Rt Hon Oliver Dowden, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster said,

*"Today's stepped up cyber assurance will strengthen government systems, which run vital services for the public, from attacks. It will also improve the country's resilience; a key part of our recent Integrated Review Refresh."*

Headline 1:  
Foreign Secretary James Cleverly  
(Reuters 2023)



Headline 1:  
IRGC (Reuters 2023)





# World News

## **“Let’s Finish The Job” US President Joe Biden Announces Bid for 2024 Presidency (Independent 25<sup>th</sup> April) <sup>3.</sup> <sup>4.</sup>**

Joe Biden, the 46<sup>th</sup> President of the United States has announced his bid to become the 47<sup>th</sup> and oldest US President (at 80 years-old he will be 86 when his turn of office ends). A recent national NBC News poll suggested 26% of Americans want him to run again and 70% do not. In the same poll (which followed Trump’s recent arrest) 46% of US Republican Party Primary voters have expressed their intent to vote for Trump as the Republican presidential candidate. 31% expressed intent to vote for his closest rival, Florida Governor Ron De Santis. Despite a current approval rating of 41%, US news agencies report a likely win for Biden in the Democratic candidate Primaries with only two other contenders having entered the race so far (compared to 11 Republican candidates) and Kamala Harris confirmed as his running mate. In his 3-minute video to the nation announcing his run, President Biden said:

*“Every generation has a moment where they have had to stand up for democracy. To stand up for their fundamental freedoms. I believe this is ours. That’s why I’m running for reelection as President of the United States. Join us. Let’s finish the job.”*

## **CBI Boss Apologises for Toxic Culture as it Suspends Activity Until June EGM (Guardian 24<sup>th</sup> April) <sup>5.</sup> <sup>6.</sup>**

The Future of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) is uncertain this week as 50 companies appeared to have withdrawn or suspended their membership in the wake of allegations of a toxic work culture and sexual assaults within the organisation emerged. The CBI responded by suspending ‘all policy and membership activity’ until their EGM (Extraordinary General Meeting) in June this year. CBI president Brian McBride apologised to staff and members saying they ‘failed to filter out culturally toxic people’, ‘badly let down staff’ and ‘made mistakes’. A spokesperson for the company stated:

*“This work and the cultural reform will be the entire and urgent focus of the organisation over the coming weeks“.*

The lobby group employs 300 people and represents 190,000 businesses in the UK, the majority of its funding comes from membership fees. The future of the CBI was exasperated further with comments from Chancellor Jeremy Hunt who said:

*“There’s no point engaging with the CBI ... we want to engage with a body that speaks for business. It’s incredibly important for me, when I’m constructing budgets, to have someone I can turn to who speaks for British business.”*

## **Mike Lynch Faces 20 Years in US Prison for Fraudulent Autonomy Sale (Reuters 21<sup>st</sup> April) <sup>7.</sup> <sup>8.</sup>**

British tech entrepreneur and Autonomy founder Mike Lynch has ‘no grounds to appeal’ his extradition to the US to face criminal charges of fraud says a British high court. Lynch faces charges relating to his sale of Autonomy to Hewlett Packard (HP) in 2011 for USD 11.1billion. HP claim Lynch over valued the company by USD 8.8billion and in 2022 a UK High Court found Lynch had ‘masterminded an elaborate fraud’ inflating the value of the company. In the UK the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) declined to prosecute part of the allegations against Lynch due to lack of evidence available and ceded other charges to the US courts. In 2019 Autonomy Finance Director Sushovan Hussain was sentenced to five years in a US prison for his part in the value inflation. Lynch maintains his innocence and intends to appeal to the European Court of Human Rights. If found guilty he faces up to 20 years in prison.

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

### MUSEUMS

#### **Statues Defaced after National Trust Hand Out Crayons to Children (LBC 26<sup>th</sup> April) <sup>9</sup>.**

A 230-year-old statue depicting the Roman Naiade, Sabrina, in Coade stone by John Bacon was defaced this month after National Trust staff distributed crayons to children as part of an activity pack for a family day. The incident at the Easter weekend event at Croome Court left The Trust “dismayed” at the vandalism, but a spokesperson remarked,

*“Disappointing as they are, incidents like this are very rare considering the millions of visitors who enjoy and respect the places in our care.”*

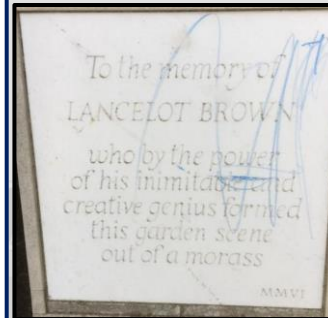
Advice was taken from conservators on how to clean the sculpture and the crayon markings were successfully removed.



### ACTIVISM/EVENTS

#### **Activists Arrested at Scottish Grand National as London Marathon sees No Disruption (Reuters 23<sup>rd</sup> April) <sup>10</sup>. <sup>11</sup>.**

Over 20 animal rights activists from group Animal Rising were arrested at the Scottish Grand National at the weekend, managing to breach the race-track but not delay the event. The activists, who scaled fences and climbed under barriers to access the track were stopped before fixing themselves to the fences and causing further disruption. The following day, London’s marathon went off without a hitch after threats from campaign group Just Stop Oil (JSO) did not materialise. JSO did follow up on their promise to disrupt the capital following Extinction Rebellion’s weekend protests and were seen carrying out a number of small group, slow marches and sit-ins across the capital’s roads on Monday and Tuesday this week. JSO have expressed their intent to continue this disruption well into the summer. For more information and social media monitoring of JSO’s action please contact [Advisoryservices@WilsonJames.co.uk](mailto:Advisoryservices@WilsonJames.co.uk).



### SECURITY/HEISTS

#### **No Arrests and Few Details Emerging after USD Gold Heist at Toronto Airport (CBC News 21<sup>st</sup> April) <sup>12</sup>. <sup>13</sup>.**

Thieves have managed to steal USD 15million in gold and other ‘high value items’ from a storage facility at Toronto’s International airport last Monday, making it one of the country’s largest gold heists. There are no details regarding the origin, destination or owner of the cargo but an aircraft container housing the goods is believed to have been stolen from a warehouse after it was unloaded from an arriving aircraft. The gold, stored at a facility managed by a third party, fell outside the airport security perimeter and in a ‘break in protocol’ allowed the theft to take place. The thieves did not get access to the airport itself and public and passenger safety was not compromised say sources at the airport.

 **Headline: 1**  
Vandalism at Croome Court  
(Worcester News 2023)



# Activism Updates

## ACTIVISM

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April Onwards – Just Stop Oil**

**Location:** Slow Marches in London from 24/4

**Cause:** New campaign by JSO following XR's The Big One

**Details:** [INFO](#)

**From Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April – Long Walk to Peace and Freedom**

**Location:** Glasgow to Westminster

**Cause:** March to the capital from Scotland, 29 expressed intent to join march on Facebook

**Details:** [Facebook](#)

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April – No Fifteen Minute Cities**

**Location:** Huddersfield

**Cause:** Nationwide protest in different locations each week

**Details:** [Telegram](#)

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April – The North Unites**

**Location:** Leeds, Town Hall @13:00

**Cause:** Clean Air Zone Protest

**Details:** [Telegram](#)

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Don't Bank on Apartheid**

**Location:** Barclays AGM, QEII Centre, London @10:00

**Cause:** Pro-Palestine action

**Details:** [INFO](#)

## STRIKES

**Thursday 27 April**

**Education** Schools (1 strike) - NEU Teachers represented by NEU continue strike action across England.

**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.

**Civil service** Civil Service (1 strike) - PCS The DVSA driving examiners' strikes will start in South-east England, South-west England and Wales.

**Sunday 30 April**

**Health** NHS (1 strike) - RCN RCN members in England including nursing staff working in emergency departments, intensive care units, cancer care and other services that were previously exempt begin 48-hour 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.

**Sunday 30 April**

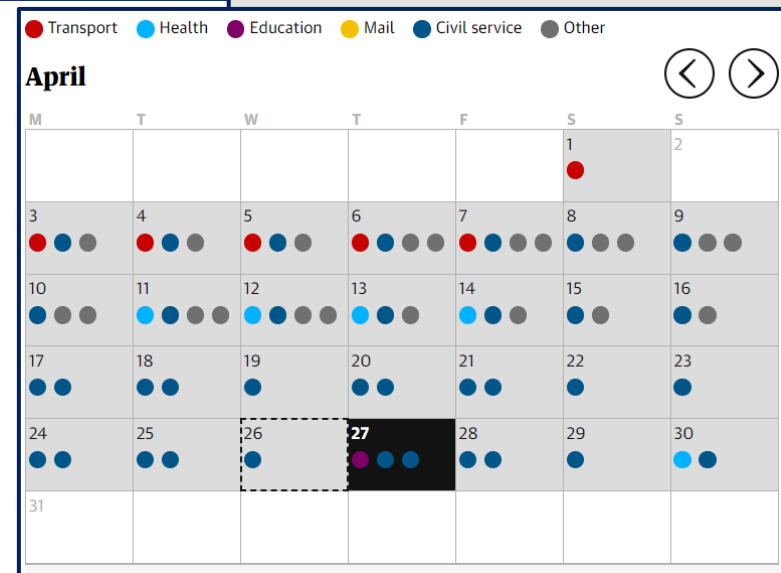
**Health** NHS (1 strike) - RCN RCN members in England including nursing staff working in emergency departments, intensive care units, cancer care and other services that were previously exempt begin 48-hour strike action.

**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.

**Monday 1 May**

**Health** NHS (1 strike) - RCN RCN members in England 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.



WE WILL BE MARCHING FROM GLASGOW 29TH APRIL AND HEADING SOUTH TO WESTMINSTER 23RD MAY - JOIN US ANYWHERE ON ROUTE AT:

- GLASGOW - APRIL 29TH
- MOFFAT - MAY 2ND
- GRETNA - MAY 4TH
- CARLISLE - MAY 5TH
- PENRITH - MAY 6TH
- LANCASTER - MAY 9TH
- PRESTON - MAY 10TH
- BOLTON - MAY 11TH
- MANCHESTER - MAY 12TH
- MACCLESFIELD - MAY 13TH
- STOKE-ON-TRENT - MAY 14TH
- WALSALL - MAY 16TH
- BIRMINGHAM - MAY 17TH
- COVENTRY - MAY 18TH
- DAVENTRY - MAY 19TH
- MILTON KEYNES - MAY 21ST
- LUTON - MAY 22ND
- WATFORD - MAY 24TH

PEACE - With Russia and China  
FREEDOM - From the fear of  
Thermo Nuclear War  
We are going to take the fight  
to them. We are going to March  
from Glasgow to London;  
to Parliament. To tell them  
**'NOT IN OUR NAME!'**

**THE LONG WALK TO PEACE & FREEDOM**

Come JOIN US and GET ACCOUNTING !!

[Telegram \(2023\)](#)

# 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.





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