

# ADVISORY SERVICES Weekly Digest



7<sup>th</sup> June 2023

# Agenda

1

Terrorism  
and Threats

2

World News

3

Industry News

4

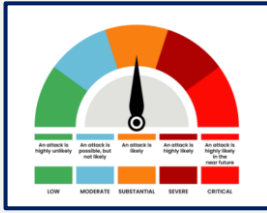
Activism

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.

## Afghan Schoolgirls Targeted in Classroom Poisoning (Independent 5<sup>th</sup> June) <sup>1</sup>.

Approximately 80 girls at two neighbouring primary schools in Sar-e-Pol province, North Afghanistan are believed to have been poisoned in their classrooms, say local police. The girls, aged up to 12 (the age limit for female school attendance in Afghanistan set by the Taliban) are recovering after at least 60 were taken to hospital as a precaution. No details regarding the type or source of the poison have been released, although poison attacks on schools in the country were not uncommon prior to the Taliban takeover in 2021. Authorities have suggested a third party was paid to release the substance, whilst an education official reported the suspect had a 'personal grudge' but did not elaborate. The news comes months after it was reported approximately 13,000 schoolgirls in Iran have been poisoned in classrooms since November 2022.



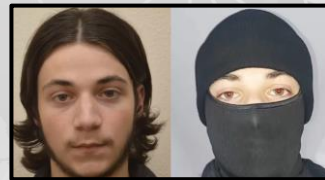
Headline 1:  
Afghan Schoolgirls (Evening Standard 2023)

## 5G Conspiracy Theorist Sentenced to 12 Years in Prison for Terror Offences (Independent 5<sup>th</sup> June)

Right-wing extremist, 60-year-old Darren Reynolds from Sheffield (who applauded the murders of Jo Cox MP and Sir David Amess MP) has been sentenced to 12 years in prison for offences including 'one count of encouraging terrorism, one of disseminating a terrorist publication and six of possessing material likely to be useful to a person committing an act of terrorism' at Leeds Crown Court this week. Reynolds, who was handed a further year on licence was described as possessing "extreme right wing, antisemitic and racist views".

## Matthew King Sentenced to Life for Plotting to Kill Police or Soldiers (BBC News 3<sup>rd</sup> June) <sup>2</sup>.

A British teen under surveillance, after multiple suspicious behaviour reports, including his mother raising concerns to PREVENT, has been sentenced to life imprisonment for 'the preparation of terrorist acts' between December 2021 and May 2022 after pleading guilty in January of this year. Matthew King, 19, from Essex was intending to carry out a terror attack in the UK or abroad 'imminently', said head of counter-terrorism for the London Metropolitan Police, Cdr Dominic Murphy. King had been observed outside locations in Stratford that included the local railway station, magistrates court and a police station and an army barracks in East London. Concerns were raised not only by King's mother but also by members of two Whats App groups he belonged to. King also had his behaviour challenged by three mosques one of which banned him. A Muslim convert who left school with no qualifications, King is believed to have been radicalised during lockdown and was found to have viewed extremist content online, joined an online chat group discussing terrorist funding and travel to Syria, changed his Whats App status to 'kill all non-Muslims' and engaged in a Whats App chat with a teenage girl where he declared he was "training for Jihad" and wanted "to kill people". King was arrested in May 2022 and remanded in custody until his trial. He was given life with a minimum tariff of six years (minus time spent on remand), but Judge Lucreft KC warned the convicted terrorist this did not mean his immediate release after the minimum time served. Praising his mother for her courage, the judge said



Headline 3:  
Matthew King (BBC 2023)

*"She took the very bold step of alerting Prevent when she had concerns for her son. That cannot have been an easy thing to do in the first place and in my view she absolutely the right thing."*

Whilst on remand King threatened to behead the prison Imam and kill staff.

# World News

## **Locals Help Save Over a Thousand Lives after India's Deadliest Train Crash (Independent 7<sup>th</sup> June)** [3.](#) [4.](#)

The death toll from India's worst train disaster this century continues to rise as revised figures released by officials claim the dead now number 288. The Coromandel Express passenger train, enroute to Chennai crashed into a freight train in Balasore City, Odisha, in the East of the country on Friday night (derailing up to 12 carriages). Another Superfast Express passenger train then got caught in the melee and derailed two carriages, the three-train crash killed 288 and injured hundreds. Initial investigations suggest the cause of the disaster was a signalling error with other news sources reporting the railway line was 'partially corroded' in the vicinity of the crash. Chief Minister for Odisha state thanked locals for their help assisting the injured claiming they saved over a thousand lives by their swift action, a survivor of the disaster added:

*"The local people really went out on a limb to help us. They not only helped in pulling out people but retrieved our luggage and got us water."*

The investigation into the cause of the crash continues.

## **"97 not Enough" Spotted on Back of Man U Fan at Wembley and Sparks Arrest (Sky News 4<sup>th</sup> June)** [5.](#)

A 33-year-old man wearing a Manchester United shirt with the words "97 not enough" was arrested at last weekend's FA Cup final at Wembley after police were alerted to his clothing choice by Liverpool fans on social media. James White from Warwickshire was charged with 'displaying threatening or abusive writing likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress'. The shirt appeared to be in reference to Liverpool FC losing 97 fans at the Hillsborough football stadium disaster during an FA Cup semi-final in 1989 and has been the source of many 'tragedy chants' by rival football fans over the years. The terrace chanting prompted both Manchester United and Liverpool football clubs to appeal to fans to end the habit earlier this year with Manchester United manager Ted Hag remarking:

*"It is unacceptable to use the loss of life - in relation to any tragedy - to score points, and it is time for it to stop...Those responsible tarnish not only the reputation of our clubs but also, importantly, the reputation of themselves, the fans, and our great cities."*

White has been released on bail and is due to appear before Willesden Magistrates court on 19<sup>th</sup> June.

## **Uganda Accused of State Sponsored Homophobia After Passing Law (BBC News 29<sup>th</sup> May)**

Homosexuality is already illegal in Uganda, but the new law now includes life in prison if convicted for having gay sex and the death penalty for aggravating factors including anyone having gay sex with someone under 18 and/or engaging in gay sex if suffering from HIV or AIDS. The news prompted criticism from the US, President Biden called it "a tragic violation of universal human rights" and the US announced it was now considering sanctions against the country with Ugandan lawmaker Asuman Basalirwa already having her visa revoked before a scheduled trip to the US. Ugandan commentators in favour of the law say it will preserve the 'sanctity of the family' whilst commentators against the move have called it nothing short of state sponsored homophobia. The law is likely to have a grave impact on the country's HIV and AIDS sufferers whose access to treatment is expected to be affected.



Headline 1:  
[Indian Crash Site \(Independent 2023\)](#)



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

### CYBER SECURITY

#### Lace Tempest Hack Affecting BBC, British Airways and Boots (The Guardian 5<sup>th</sup> June)

A Russian-linked threat actor group, Lace Tempest, is believed responsible for the recent zero-day cyber-security attack on MOVEit software used by third-party payroll provider, Zellis, say Microsoft's Threat Intelligence team. It is understood Zellis' clients Boots, British Airways and the BBC have all been affected. Staff payroll details including national insurance numbers and dates of birth appear to have been stolen by the group. Cyber-security experts suggest ransom demands for the return of the sensitive data are imminent as the group has a long history of hacking and extortion and regularly use the Russian based extortion site CLOP. MOVEit have confirmed they have already corrected the vulnerability the group used for access. Eight Zellis customers in the UK and Ireland are believed to have been affected. For technical details regarding the hack, please see [here](#).

### AVIATION

#### More Strikes Expected by Heathrow Security Officers this Summer (Travel Weekly 5<sup>th</sup> June)

An official announcement (later retracted) by Unite the Union last week alluded to the possibility of 33 days of strike action this summer by some striking security officers at Heathrow airport. Airport Campus security staff, security staff from terminal five and potentially more security staff from terminal three are expected to engage in strikes this summer as approximately 2,000 staff are likely to vote in favour of the industrial action. The union ballot for further strikes opened on Tuesday this week and is expected to close 20<sup>th</sup> June suggesting strike action could begin in early July. A Heathrow spokesperson played down the likely disruption stating:

*"Unite has already tried and failed to disrupt the airport with unnecessary strikes on some of our busiest days and we continue to build our plans to protect journeys during any future action."*

### ENERGY

#### The British Museum Ends Sponsorship Deal with BP (Guardian 2<sup>nd</sup> June)

The British Museum has ended its 27-year sponsorship deal with energy giant BP, joining UK institutions such as The National Portrait Gallery, The TATE, The Royal Shakespeare Company, The Scottish Ballet and The Royal Opera House in severing ties. The move leaves the Science Museum, London as the only major museum or gallery in receipt of their philanthropy. Climate campaign group Culture Unstained claimed it was a:

*"massive victory for all the artists, activists and workers that campaigned for BP's logo to be taken down from the museum's blockbuster exhibitions, with it now joining the RSC, Royal Opera House and National Portrait Gallery in not renewing sponsorship deals with BP that began back in 2016."*



Headline 3:  
[Anti-BP Protests at British Museum \(Guardian 2023\)](#)



# 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](#)

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June – Free Speech Protest**

**Location:** Manchester University @13:00

**Cause:** Anti-woke protest

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

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June – No Fifteen Minute Cities**

**Location:** Regent Street, Swindon @12:30

**Cause:** Piers Corbyn et al nationwide protest against 15minute cities.

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

## STRIKES

- **5-16 June - REFUSE WORKERS** – Sandwell, West Midlands
- **7 June – CIVIL SERVANTS** – Prospect Union members
- **8-10 June - OFFSHORE WORKERS** – Unite Union members

## WARNING: TIKTOK HOUSE BARGING TREND

Following the arrest of the Tiktok star thought responsible for a recent UK craze whereby youths barge into homes and vehicles without the owners' permission, please find some guidance on how to secure your home from such incidents.

Bacari-Bronze O'Garro from Hackney will appear in court today (Wednesday) charged with failing to comply with a community protection order. The order seeks to stop 'unreasonable, ongoing problems or nuisances which negatively affect the community's quality of life'. [7](#). [8](#). [9](#). [10](#).

1. Ensure front door is closed and locked always regardless of how close to the door you intend to be.
2. Make it regular practice to lock the front door when you are inside your home also.
  - Both these actions will also help prevent burglaries especially during summer months when people are likely to spend more time in the garden.
3. Apply the above to other access points such as back doors, gates and windows
4. Maintain awareness in the neighbourhood.
5. Report suspicious activity to police.

## NO FIFTEEN MINUTE CITIES SWINDON, SAT 10TH JUNE

**DEBBIE HICKS**

Debbie is a human and civil rights activist, working over the years on many causes, including the right of rough sleepers and the homeless and for the rights of Palestinians. Debbie has campaigned around the UK over the last year to promote the use of cash and to raise public awareness on the threat to our freedoms from programmable money. Debbie currently mixes her 'Keep it Cash' campaign with raising awareness on the threat of fifteen minute cities. Debbie has previously organised the rally against 15 minute cities in Oxford and is currently touring the UK to promote actions on 15 minute cities and surveillance. <https://keepitcashuk.com/>



[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)