

# ADVISORY SERVICES Weekly Digest



22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

# Agenda

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and Threats

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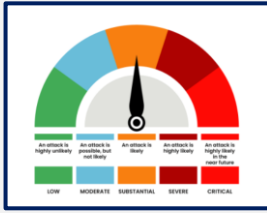
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# Terrorism and Threats

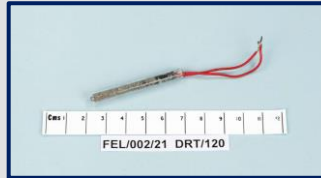
The current threat level for the UK MAINLAND is 'SUBSTANTIAL', meaning a terror attack is 'likely'  
The current threat level for Northern Ireland is 'SEVERE', meaning a terror attack is 'highly likely'  
For further information see GOV.UK.

PROTECT UK



## 20 Arrests Made Following Ugandan School Attack (BBC News 20<sup>th</sup> June) <sup>1</sup>.

ISIS affiliated group, Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) are thought to be responsible for the Ugandan school attack last week, considered the worst terror attack the country has faced since 2010. The Lhubiriha Secondary School in Mpondwe, West Uganda (on the border with the Democratic Republic of the Congo DRC) was attacked late Friday evening by the DRC based group leaving at least 41 dead, at least six students kidnapped and a further 15 unaccounted for. The victims, mostly students were 'hacked, shot or burned' (beyond recognition), the six abducted (including children) were seen to cross over the DRC border with the group. 20 Arrests made in the wake of the massacre include officials from the school and two people suspected of guiding the group to the location undetected. Ugandan and DRC governments launched a joint operation in 2021 to thwart the efforts of the ADF without much success. The group was responsible for a similar attack in 1998 on a school killing 80 and abducting over 100. In 2010 76 Ugandans were killed in bombings during World Cup screenings in the capital by Somali-based IS group Al-Shabaab.



## Austrian Terror Plot Foiled Before Vienna Pride Parade (EuroNews 18<sup>th</sup> June)

Austrian security services foiled a terror plot to disrupt Vienna's Pride parade last Saturday that saw their special forces Cobra group arresting three suspects prior to event which was expected to attract over 300,000 visitors. The three ISIS sympathisers aged 14, 17 and 20, who are believed to have been radicalised online, were being monitored closely prior to the event as one had already come to the attention of police. Limited details have been released regarding the suspects expect they are believed to be of Chechen and Bosnian origin. Event organisers weren't informed of the plot until the following day to avoid an unnecessary panic at the parade.

Headline 3:  
[Bomb Making Materials Found in Suspect's Lock-up \(Sky News 2023\)](#)

## Legal and General Analyst Left Terror Manifesto on Laptop Sent for Repair (Sky News 12<sup>th</sup> June) <sup>2</sup>.

A financial analyst working for Legal and General, who left a laptop in for repair at a computer solutions store, has been jailed for eight years on terrorism offences after officers discovered a terror manifesto on his laptop and a bomb-making factory in his lock-up when alerted by a store employee. The employee said suspect, 50-year-old Asad Bhatti from Redhill appeared reluctant to leave the computer alone with him before asking he not look at the data on the device. The staff member caught a glimpse of a few folder titles which gave him cause for concern, prompting him to call police on New Year's Eve 2020. The suspect collected his laptop on 4<sup>th</sup> of January 2021 and was arrested on the 8<sup>th</sup>. The laptop contained the suspect's own 173-page manifesto (which included conspiracy ramblings) entitled "The Mumin's Handbook" (the Believer's Handbook) and the lock-up was found to contain chemicals, electronic circuit boards, improvised detonators, traces of nitro-glycerine and a suspected pipe bomb. The investigation revealed evidence of Bhatti's terror related activity dating as far back as 2013. He was sentenced to eight years for three charges under the explosive substances act and two for possession of articles for the purposes of terrorism.

# World News

## **Hope Fades for Titanic Rescue as Crew to Run Out of Oxygen Imminently (Independent 22<sup>nd</sup> June) <sup>3.</sup>**

The hope of a successful rescue of the five men onboard the submersible craft in difficulty near the Titanic ocean liner site in the North Atlantic Ocean appears to be fading fast. Rescuers are yet to make contact with the craft and the crew's oxygen is expected to run out today at midday (GMT). After submerging near the site early on Sunday morning the vessel is believed to have got into difficulty less than two hours into the trip and lost contact with its surface support ship *The Polar Prince*. Three Brits are onboard the stricken vessel as experts estimate the crew have a few hours of oxygen left and could even be adrift on the surface of the ocean if they were able to drop their weights and resurface. There are reports the vessel is without an acoustic beacon which will hamper efforts to locate it and the source of repetitive banging heard beneath the surface possibly from the vessel has been disputed. A huge international rescue operation is underway off the North-east coast of the US in a frantic attempt to reach the crew before the air runs out.

## **Thug Who Punched Asda Worker During Lockdown Jailed for Over Six Years (LBC News 21<sup>st</sup> June) <sup>4.</sup>**

TikTok prankster 33-year-old Josh McDonald was sentenced to six and a half years in prison for orchestrating a barbaric attack on Asda employees whilst attending a store in Clapham, London during lockdown with a group in fancy dress. McDonald who admitted his offences and is a black belt in martial arts was seen climbing on shelves and freezers before he and his gang started to viciously attack staff. McDonald, dressed as spiderman, a woman as Red-riding hood and a man dressed as Ali G attacked staff with metal bars, punched and kicked them. McDonald 'high-kicked' a female member of staff knocking her to the ground, rendering her unconscious and leaving her with a broken eye socket. Six people were injured and five were arrested after the incident during lockdown in July 2021. Ali G impersonator, 30-year-old George O'Boyle was sentenced to two years and two months in prison and Little Red-Riding Hood also admitted offences and faces up to five years in jail when sentenced in July.

## **Armed Response Attend Pick-axe Attack by Employee at London Hospital (Independent 21<sup>st</sup> June) <sup>5.</sup>**

Central Middlesex Hospital in North London went into lockdown yesterday afternoon as reports of a disgruntled employee on a stabbing rampage started to emerge. Witnesses saw a man attack and chase employees with a pickaxe at around 13:00 before it is believed he turned the pickaxe on himself prior to his arrest by armed police. The unnamed suspect is currently receiving treatment in hospital for life-threatening injuries, one of his victims is in a critical condition and the other was treated for less serious injuries. Eyewitnesses suggest the three men knew each other and were neighbours embroiled in a dispute. A spokesperson for Scotland Yard confirmed yesterday the incident was not terror related and shot down rumours of a second suspect at large. The hospital went into lockdown for approximately 45 minutes and re-opened with heightened police presence. Scotland Yard confirmed the investigation into the circumstances was ongoing.



Headline 1:  
[Search Site \(Guardian 2023\)](#)



Headline 1:  
[Missing Vessel \(Independent 2023\)](#)

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

#### **CLOP Site Releases Details of Victims of Lace Tempest Hack (BBC 17<sup>th</sup> June) <sup>6</sup>.**

Extortion site CLOP has, as expected, started to publish details of companies targeted in the cyber-security attack last month on the Moveit payroll system this digest highlighted earlier in June. The attack, by Russian-linked cyber-security threat actor group, Lace Tempest in association with CLOP released details of 26 companies involved in a suspected attempt to extort ransoms in exchange for not publishing further information. The attack is believed to have affected hundreds of companies globally although only 50 (including Shell, British Airways, Boots and the BBC) have so far been confirmed as victims. The Moveit system is used in the US, Germany, Switzerland, Canada and Belgium.

### PROTECT DUTY

#### **Home Office Rejects Two Arena Inquiry Recommendations for SIA (Professional Security Magazine 9<sup>th</sup> June)**

The Manchester Arena Inquiry held their final meeting earlier this month to establish what improvements had been made following the recommendations laid out in the Inquiry's three volume report into the events leading up to, during and after the May 2017 terror attack that killed 23 people. The Home Office (HO) confirmed it will not move forward with two of the recommendations regarding the SIA mentioned in volume one of the report – 'Security for the arena'. They are: 'in-house CCTV control room operators should have to be SIA-badged' and 'the Security Industry Authority should licence all security businesses, not just those who volunteer'. In the final meeting where the Home Office (amongst others) was to update the committee on improvements made resulting from the recommendations, Home Office Prepare and Protect Director Shaun Hipgrave mitigated their decision stating:

*'Home Office and ministers have made this decision based on the broader protective security picture that we are looking at and consider that the Protect Duty will supplement many of these areas around security standards.'*

Inquiry Chair Sir John Saunders appeared shocked by the decision to omit the recommendations replying he found it:

*'A quite extraordinary anomaly, that if you bring an outside company in, they have got to be trained in using CCTV, but if you use in-house people, just employ them directly, then they don't have to do the training despite the fact they're doing the same job. That seems a bit odd.'*

In response to the HO decision the SIA released the following statement:

*"The Home Office has confirmed that the SIA's proposals for mandatory businesses licensing and extending in-house security licensing for individuals are not being taken forward. We are disappointed but remain committed as the regulator to doing all we can within the existing legal framework and powers and influence we have, to regulate robustly and improve public safety particularly, in light of the findings of the Manchester Arena Inquiry and other tragic events. We will now focus on developing a new voluntary business standards scheme which will see a fundamental reset of the existing scheme. As the only regulatory vehicle we currently have, to improve standards in businesses, this will signal a significant change in how standards are defined for security businesses, ensuring public protection is at the heart of the new scheme. This work will now be the focus of and dominate our business standards work going forward. We remain committed to playing our part to strengthen public safety. We continue to work with the private security industry, the police, and the Home Office in the pursuit of this goal. We will continue to do so in support of greater public safety for everyone."*



# 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 24<sup>th</sup> June – Rally for Peace and Freedom**

**Location:** Holyrood, Edinburgh @14:00

**Cause:** Peace protest

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

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June – Free Assange**

**Location:** Parliament Square, London @13:00

**Cause:** Protest to stop extradition of Julian Assange

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

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June – Stop ULEZ**

**Location:** Marble Arch, London @Midday

**Cause:** Anti-ULEZ march with **slow moving convoy planned for North and South Circulars in London Sat 1<sup>st</sup> of July with 'on-foot' support along the route.**

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

## STRIKES

**28<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> June** – Security officers at Heathrow scheduled to strike should pay deal be rejected.

## 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.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				22	23	24
				DVLA PCS [Swansea]	DVLA PCS [Swansea]	DVLA PCS [Swansea]
				Housing Ombudsman and the Regulator of Social Housing UNITE	Housing Ombudsman and the Regulator of Social Housing UNITE	St Mungo's UNITE
				St Mungo's UNITE	NHS Ambulance UNITE [Yorkshire]	
				University Staff UCU [University of Leeds]	St Mungo's UNITE	
					University Staff UCU [University of Leeds]	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun			
				25	26	27	28	29	30	1
				DVLA PCS [Swansea]	NHS Ambulance UNITE [Yorkshire]	Suez Waste Collection UNITE [South Gloucestershire]	Heathrow Security UNITE	Heathrow Security UNITE	Heathrow Security UNITE	Suez Waste Collection UNITE [South Gloucestershire]
				St Mungo's UNITE	St Mungo's UNITE	University Staff UCU [University of Leeds]	Suez Waste Collection UNITE [South Gloucestershire]	Suez Waste Collection UNITE [South Gloucestershire]	Suez Waste Collection UNITE [South Gloucestershire]	
					Suez Waste Collection UNITE [South Gloucestershire]		University Staff UCU [University of Leeds]	University Staff UCU [University of Leeds]	University Staff UCU [University of Leeds]	
					University Staff UCU [University of Leeds]					



# 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**  
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