



**SECURITY  
INTELLIGENCE  
UPDATE**  
MAY 2021



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## About Us

Sentinel Group Security (SGS) was formed in July 2005 and became a fast-growing security services provider within United Kingdom and Ireland. We first partnered with our customers to provide specialised and effective security solutions including open-source intelligence reporting, security vulnerability assessments and training. Our capability is defined by our employees and the high level of skills and experience they possess and the procedures they adopt.

### Intelligence led security

With a 360° approach to threat detection and intelligence service provision. Outside of dealing with major incidents, the SGS National Operations Centre proactively assesses the various security threats that your business, people, assets, and brand might face by monitoring social and conventional media to identify:

- On-going threats
- Specific industry threats
- Future trends
- Best practice



### Disclaimer

In compiling this report SGS has relied on the veracity of public information available at the time of publication. SGS accepts no legal, equitable or other liability whatsoever for any actual or consequent loss incurred by the client in relation to this report or for the accuracy of any statement herein.

## United Kingdom's National Security Threat



### Introduction

The main threats to national security are terrorism, espionage, cyber threats and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, many of which impact on the UK's national infrastructure.

National infrastructure sectors represent core strategic interests for foreign intelligence services, whose targeting against the sectors is likely to include espionage for economic, political, military, or commercial gain.

While the threat from terrorism to the UK as a whole is high, and historically both international and Northern Ireland terrorist groups have targeted UK infrastructure, the current terrorist threat to the national infrastructure can be characterised as generally limited and often aspirational.

The exception is transport which continues to face enduringly high levels of threat from international

terrorism. In addition, the emergency services and defence sectors, specifically police and military personnel, also face a high level of threat from both international terrorism and dissident republic groups in Northern Ireland, for whom they are a priority target for attack.

Generally higher levels of effective and visible protective security at national infrastructure sites are likely to act as a deterrent to terrorists, who increasingly favour 'soft' targets which allow them to achieve their aims with greater chance of success. Nevertheless, with the continual diversification of the threat, the ambition and capability of terrorist groups to target UK infrastructure is likely to continue to evolve. <https://www.cpni.gov.uk/national-security-threats>

## United Kingdom's Threat Definitions

### International terrorism



International terrorism from groups such as the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and Al Qaida present a threat from many others. They hold territory in places without functioning governments, making it easier for them to train recruits and plan complex, sophisticated attacks. Drawing on extreme interpretations of Islam to justify their actions, these groups often have the desire and capability to direct terrorist attacks against the West, and to inspire those already living there to carry out attacks of their own.

### Northern Ireland-related terrorism

Northern Ireland-related terrorism continues to pose a serious threat to British interests. Although the Provisional Irish Republican Army (PIRA) has ceased its terrorist campaign and is now committed to the political process, some dissident republican groups continue to mount terrorist attacks, primarily against the security forces.

### Domestic extremism

Domestic extremism mainly refers to individuals or groups that carry out criminal acts in pursuit of a larger agenda, such as "right-wing extremists". They may seek to change legislation

or influence domestic policy and try to achieve this outside of the normal democratic process.  
<https://www.mi5.gov.uk/counter-terrorism>

## Cyber

“Cyberspace” is the term used to describe the electronic medium of digital networks used to



store, modify, and communicate information. It includes the Internet but also other information systems that support businesses, infrastructure, and services.

Cyberspace lies at the heart of modern society; it impacts our personal lives, our businesses and our essential services. A secure online environment is essential to HM Government, which is providing an ever-increasing number of online services to UK citizens and businesses as part of a major digital services transformation programme. The ability to conduct online transactions securely is central to the delivery of public and commercial services and communications. However, some individuals and groups use cyberspace for malicious purposes. We call these people 'hostile actors' and they exploit cyberspace to conduct espionage operations or launch damaging computer network attacks.

Cyber security affects both the public and the private sector and spans a broad range of issues related to national security, whether through terrorism, crime or state and industrial espionage.  
<https://www.cpni.gov.uk/cyber>

## Espionage

The potential impact of successful State-sponsored espionage against the UK is both wide reaching and significant. The threat of espionage (spying) did not end with the collapse of

Soviet communism in the early 1990s. Espionage against UK interests continues and is potentially very damaging. Several foreign intelligence services (FIS) seek to gather intelligence on a broad range of subjects, including foreign policy, defence, financial, technological, industrial and commercial interests.

<https://www.cpni.gov.uk/espionage>

## Serious and Organised Crime

Serious and organised crime is defined in the 2018 Serious and Organised Crime Strategy as individuals planning, coordinating, and committing serious offences, whether individually, in groups and/or as part of transnational networks.

The main categories of serious offences covered by the term are:

- child sexual abuse
- modern slavery and human trafficking
- organised immigration crime
- illegal drugs
- illegal firearms
- organised acquisitive crime
- cybercrime
- fraud
- money laundering, bribery, corruption and sanctions evasion.

<https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/>



# United Kingdom Current Threat Levels

## Introduction

Members of the public should always remain alert to the danger of terrorism and **report any suspicious activity to the police on 999** or the **anti-terrorist hotline: 0800 789 321**. If your information does not relate to an imminent threat, you can also contact them at <https://www.mi5.gov.uk/contact-us>

## What the threat levels mean

Threat levels are designed to give a broad indication of the likelihood of a terrorist attack.

### LOW

- Means an attack is unlikely

### MODERATE

- Means an attack is possible, but not likely

### SUBSTANTIAL

- Means an attack is likely

### SEVERE

- Means an attack is highly likely in the near future

### CRITICAL

- Means an attack is highly likely in the near future

## Current national terrorism threat levels

The threat to the UK (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) from terrorism is **SUBSTANTIAL**.

The threat to Northern Ireland from Northern Ireland-related terrorism is **SEVERE**.





## Open-Source Security Incident News

### NCA issues warning to maritime industry over organised crime links to small boats

The National Crime Agency has issued an alert to the UK maritime industry, warning them that organised crime groups may target them to obtain small boats for people smugglers. The alert warns that since global Covid-19 lockdown measures were imposed in March 2020 the number of migrants attempting to enter the UK using small boats has increased significantly. UK law enforcement detected in excess of eight thousand migrant arrivals throughout 2020. This has led to a rise in demand for vessels to aid migrant Channel crossings, with demand likely to continue as weather conditions improve through spring and summer.

Organised crime groups are known to target legitimate sellers of vessels and equipment such as outboard motors and life jackets, both in person and online. There are also incidents recorded of boats and equipment being stolen.

### Man remanded over Skorpion machine gun



Aweis Bashir, aged 25, was arrested in Manchester as part of a National Crime Agency investigation. The action was part of Operation Venetic – UK law enforcement's response to the takedown of encrypted comms platform EncroChat. Bashir, of Parris Wood Road, Manchester, is charged with the following: Selling a prohibited firearm and ammunition; being concerned in the offer to supply class A and B drugs (cocaine, amphetamine, cannabis); and conspiracy to transfer prohibited ammunition. He was remanded at Birmingham Magistrates' Court on Wednesday and will next appear on 19<sup>th</sup> May at Birmingham Crown Court.

## People smuggling gang leader tried to charge migrants £10k to reach UK

A Hull man has pleaded guilty to arranging people smuggling in small boats, following an investigation by the National Crime Agency. During a hearing at Hull Crown Court, Iraqi national Nzar Jabar Mohamad, 33, of Waterloo Street, admitted a charge of conspiring to facilitate illegal immigration. The investigation relates to an attempt to bring up to 21 people across the channel on a small boat in November 2019. The vessel was purchased for £6,500 and migrants were to be charged up to £10,000 each to make the crossing to the UK. The probe also examined the use of HGVs travelling across the Channel by ferry to smuggle migrants from Belgium and the Netherlands. Mohamad (also known as Nazar Masefi) will be sentenced following a further hearing at the same court listed for 2 July.

## Lancashire security boss must pay £6,548 for supplying unlicensed security or go to jail

Martin Coe of Blackpool was handed a £6,548 Confiscation Order at Preston Crown Court, payable within three months. If he fails to pay, he will face a 60-day jail sentence. He was also ordered to pay court costs of £5,000 to the Security Industry Authority (SIA) within 12 months.

## British man suspected of being part of IS arrested as he tried to board Channel Tunnel to UK



Armed police have arrested a British man suspected of being part of ISIS as he tried to board the Channel Tunnel to the UK. Detectives arrested the 37-year-old as France steps up security over fears terror attacks may be imminent. Officers continue to quiz the terror suspect, who has been arrested on suspicion of preparing terrorist acts. He has been detained until May 4th

to let officers to continue questioning him, after a pre-planned operation saw cops in Coquelles, France, apprehend him.

## **Ben Hannam: First British police officer convicted of belonging to neo-Nazi terrorist group jailed for more than four years**



The first British police officer to be convicted of belonging to a neo-Nazi terrorist group has been jailed for more than four years. Ben Hannam, 22, joined the London branch of banned right-wing extremist group National Action in 2016, more than a year before he applied to become a PC. He lied on his application to Scotland Yard and worked as a probationary officer for nearly two years before his name appeared on a leaked

database of users of the extreme right-wing forum Iron March. Judge Anthony Leonard QC sentenced Hannam, who was sacked by the Met for gross misconduct, to a total of four years and four months' imprisonment.

## **Two men arrested over police officer bomb attempt**

Two men have been arrested by police investigating a bomb which was left near a policewoman's car at her home near Dungiven, County Londonderry. The explosive device was found attached to a container of flammable liquid close to the officer's car on 19 April. A 47-year-old man was arrested in the Dungiven area. Police also detained a 48-year-old man in in the Feeny area. Both men were taken to Musgrave Police Station in Belfast for questioning. Detectives believe the New IRA was responsible for what it described as an attempt to kill the officer and her young daughter.

## **Crawley College: Man, 18, arrested after gunshots reported**



Staff and students were evacuated from a college amid reports of shots being fired on the campus. An 18-year-old man was arrested, and a knife and firearm recovered after armed police swooped on Crawley College. Unconfirmed reports suggest a staff member

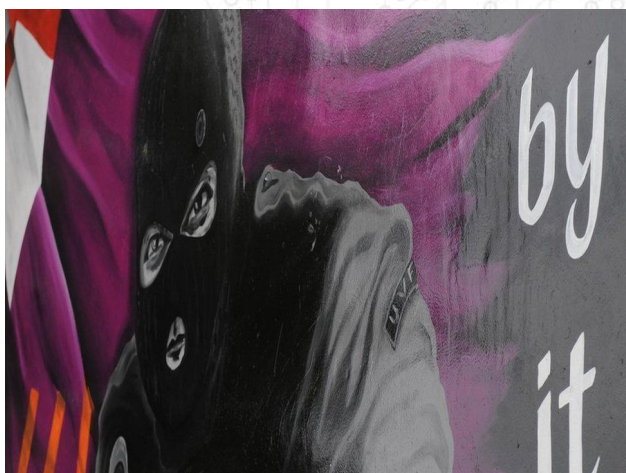
tackled the suspect. Sussex Police said two staff members sustained minor injuries. No-one is thought to have been seriously hurt. Counter-terror police are working with local officers and "all lines of inquiry are open," the force said.

### Bomb disposal team called after car stopped on M20



Concerns about the security of a car stopped by police on the M20 saw the motorway closed and bomb disposal experts called in, a force has said. Kent Police brought the car to a halt earlier using "tactical contact" near Junction 9, after it refused to stop. A spokesman said an Army team attended "as a precautionary measure", but the motorway had since been reopened after they declared the vehicle safe. A man from Wales has been arrested on suspicion of dangerous driving.

### Police appeal to people 'trapped' by paramilitaries to seek help



The police have appealed to people who feel trapped in paramilitary organisations in Northern Ireland to seek help. Det Ch Insp Avine Kelly said talking to the police, no matter how difficult that might be, is the best way forward. It follows a BBC News NI interview with a former loyalist paramilitary. She said police were working hard to combat loyalist and republican paramilitary organisations and stop their recruitment of young people. A recent

leaked security assessment estimated that there were around 12,500 members of loyalist paramilitary groups in Northern Ireland. Dissident republican groups remain armed and active.

An assessment of paramilitary groups carried out for the Northern Ireland Office in 2015 made it clear that in spite of their ceasefires in 1994, the UVF and the UDA were still involved in recruitment.

## MI5 warns of spies using LinkedIn to trick staff into spilling secrets



At least 10,000 UK nationals have been approached by fake profiles linked to hostile states, on the professional social network LinkedIn, over the past five years, according to MI5. It warned users who had accepted such connection requests might have then been lured into sharing secrets. "Malicious profiles" are being used on "an industrial scale", the security agency's chief, Ken McCallum, said. A campaign has been

launched to educate government workers about the threat. The effort - Think Before You Link - warns foreign spies are targeting those with access to sensitive information.

## Thug jailed for racist attack on NHS security guard



*Christopher Rennie, from Warwick, was jailed for a racist attack on an NHS security guard.*

A thug who attacked an NHS security guard in a racist assault is now behind bars. Christopher Rennie was drunk when he launched the attack on his victim near to Warwick Hospital on March 30. He admitted charges of assault and using threatening, abusive, or insulting behaviour with magistrates in Coventry ruling that both offences were religiously aggravated. Rennie, 38, of Emscote Road, Warwick, also pleaded guilty to damaging a police cell

belonging to Warwickshire Police. He was sent to prison for 16 weeks and ordered to pay a total of £200 compensation - £150 to the security guard and £50 to the police force for the damage to the cell.

## US neo-Nazi group should be banned in UK, home secretary says

An American neo-Nazi group linked to five murders in the US should be banned in the UK as a terrorist organisation, the government has said. Home Secretary Priti Patel will ask for permission from MPs to outlaw the group called Atomwaffen Division (AWD). Prosecutors have

cited AWD as an influence on a number of teenagers in the UK convicted of terror offences. Ms Patel said she was taking action "to protect young and vulnerable people from being radicalised". AWD would be the fourth neo-Nazi group to be banned in the UK, joining National Action, Sonnenkrieg Division and Feuerkrieg Division.

## UK urged to expel Russian diplomats over 'attack



*The suspected GRU officers used the fake identities of Ruslan Boshirov and Alexander Petrov*

The Czech Republic has said it would like the UK and other allies to expel Russian diplomats following an alleged attack on Czech soil by the same suspected Russian intelligence officers accused of the Salisbury spy poisonings. Prague ordered 18 Russian diplomats to leave the country over the weekend after accusing Russia's intelligence services of being behind the

explosion at an ammunition depot in October 2014 which left two workers dead.

## Sahayb Abu: Would-be rap star jailed for IS-inspired terror plot



*Sahayb Abu and the kit he planned to wear in the attack*

An east London man who called himself the Masked Menace has been jailed for life for plotting a terror attack during the coronavirus pandemic. Islamic State (IS) supporter Sahayb Abu bought an 18-inch sword, a knife, balaclavas, and body armour online. The 27-year-old from Dagenham was arrested on 9 July after discussing guns with an undercover police officer. He will serve a minimum of 19 years after being found guilty in March of preparing an act of terrorism.

## Man injured in 'paramilitary-style' shooting

A man in his 20s has been shot in what police have described as a "paramilitary-style assault" in Londonderry. The man was shot in the leg at Meenan Drive. He was taken to hospital for treatment. A PSNI inspector said: "At this stage, we are treating this shooting incident as a paramilitary-style assault."

## Devon and Cornwall police officers sacked after speeding



Two police officers have been sacked after filming themselves breaking the speed limit at 89mph in a seized high-performance vehicle. Devon and Cornwall Police officer's PC Shaun Pearce and PC Daniel Pike shared the video with colleagues on WhatsApp. They were taking part in a road safety campaign, which

included preventing speeding, at the time. A disciplinary hearing on Thursday found the officers had committed gross misconduct and should be dismissed. They are now banned from working for the police in England and Wales.

## Three arrested over alleged supply of boats to cross-Channel people smugglers



Three people have been arrested following an investigation into the alleged supply of small boats to cross-Channel people smugglers. A 33-year-old woman from the Hammersmith area of west London was arrested by the National Crime Agency at a location in Glasgow. She was taken to Carlisle police station where she was questioned by NCA

investigators on suspicion of attempting to facilitate illegal immigration. A property in Hammersmith was also searched she was released under investigation. Her arrest followed the detention of two UK-based suspects by officers of the Dutch Royal Marechaussee (KMar) in The Hague, Netherlands.

## Global dark web drug network dismantled

Suspected members of an organised crime group responsible for selling vast quantities of MDMA on the dark web have been targeted in raids across the North East and Surrey. The National Crime Agency launched an investigation last summer after parcels of MDMA destined for addresses across the world were intercepted. A total of 90 kilos of MDMA, 134 kilos of Amphetamine and more than 6000 Diazepam/alprazolam tablets, with a combined street value of £4.3 million, have been recovered during the investigation. Two men, aged 24 and 31, were arrested at addresses in South Shields and Hebburn respectively, on suspicion of importing

and supplying Class A, B and C drugs. They remain in custody for questioning. An address in Epsom, London, was also searched, along with other addresses in South Shields.

## Luton man admits violent Islamic State social media posts



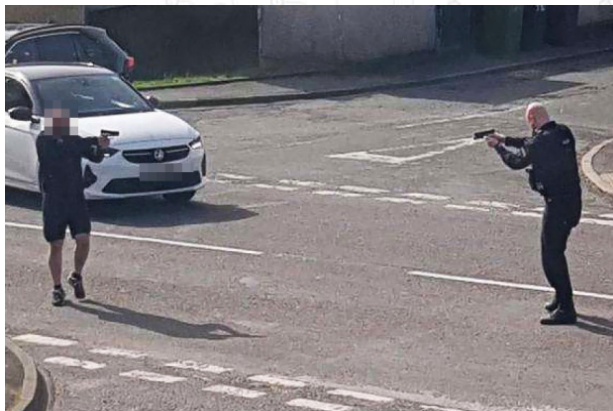
Ibrahim Anderson, 44, from Luton, pleaded guilty to 10 counts of disseminating terrorist publications on Facebook and Telegram in July. He also pleaded guilty at the Old Bailey to a further four charges of possession of terrorist publications relating to the IS group. Anderson was remanded into custody until a further hearing. In 2016, Anderson was jailed for three years for

promoting IS outside Topshop in London's Oxford Street.

At his latest court appearance, he also admitted breaching notification requirements by not providing the authorities with any email details that he was using. His lawyer, Patrick Harte, said Anderson admitted dissemination "on a reckless basis in the sense he did not intend his act to encourage terrorism".

## Armed man aims weapon at police officer

A man pointed a gun at a police officer in the street during a tense stand-off. The drama unfolded in Leeds shortly before 11am when West Yorkshire Police received a report of a man



with what looked like a handgun. Officers swooped on the area between the Kirkstall and Headingley areas of the city and a 48-year-old man was detained by a firearms officer using a Taser. Police said a gas-powered BB gun was recovered at the scene following the incident on Queenswood Road. 'Officers were deployed to the area and a 48-year-old male was detained in Queenswood Drive by firearms officer using Taser. 'He was arrested on suspicion of

possession of an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence. 'He remains in custody. A gas-powered BB gun was recovered at the scene.'





## Security Industry News

### National Health Service finance chief imprisoned for triple job fraud



Former National Health Service (NHS) director of finance Stephen Day has been sentenced to 11 years and five months behind bars following his conviction for a series of serious fraud offences, which included significant offences against the NHS. The National Health Service Counter Fraud Authority (NHSCFA) investigated the case in partnership with Greater Manchester Police, duly discovering that Day was

fraudulently occupying three full-time senior NHS positions at once. Appearing at Leeds Crown Court, Day pleaded guilty to 12 charges of fraud and theft, including three counts relating to the NHS, but disputed the amounts he had stolen for the Greater Manchester Police investigation. Day was sentenced on all 12 counts, with all sentences to run consecutively. He is to serve a minimum of half of the sentence in prison, with the remainder on licence.

### MI5 “steps out of the shadows” by launching new Instagram account



MI5 has “stepped out of the shadows” and joined Instagram with the specific aim of lifting the lid on what it is really like to work at the Security Service. MI5’s social media content will “bust popular myths” about its work, explain the world of intelligence, promote career opportunities and “bring to life” events in MI5’s 112-year past. Followers of the new account – which may be followed @mi5official – can

also expect interactive content, including the opportunity to engage in Q&As with the organisation’s intelligence officers.

MI5 hopes that Instagram will also provide a new way of communicating with younger audiences. McCallum stressed: "MI5 really does need a rich mix of talented people from across all of the UK's communities. In today's wonderfully diverse UK, we want to spread our net as widely as possible, including an engagement with people who haven't ever thought of applying to work here."

## CPNI: hostile approaches on social on 'industrial scale'

Hostile states are trying to dupe UK people into giving up secrets, such as by connecting with them through professional social media, befriending them, wining, and dining them and offering them 'opportunities. Those (unnamed) hostile states are doing it on an 'industrial scale', the CPNI want security managers to be aware that they could be a target as much as anyone; and it is for them to endorse CPNI's campaign to the rest of their organisation, and to take up downloadable posters, videos and other training material.

<https://www.cpni.gov.uk/security-campaign-assets/think-you-link>

## SmartTag security product launched to protect security officers



After a successful trial with police and security staff in South Yorkshire, SmartTag is now being made available to security officers working in wider Yorkshire. The award-winning forensic scientists at SmartWater Group created SmartTag following the increase in attacks on frontline workers during the Covid lockdown.

Each security officer will be equipped with a uniquely formulated handheld spray for their exclusive use. However, they are required to sit an online training course and pass an examination before they receive their SmartTag spray. If an offender is sprayed with SmartTag, they risk being refused entry to any premises equipped with SmartTag detectors and, in serious offences, being arrested by the police at a later date.

## UK at risk of splintering: US report

During the next two decades, the intensity of competition for global influence is likely to reach its highest level since the Cold War, says the United States' National Intelligence Council (NIC) in the seventh edition of its report, titled Global Trends 2040: A More Contested World. The NIC has delivered such a trend report to each incoming or returning US presidential administration since 1997 as an unclassified assessment of the strategic environment. The aim: to help policymakers and citizens anticipate and prepare for a range of possible futures. To read the 156-page report, visit:

[https://www.odni.gov/files/ODNI/documents/assessments/GlobalTrends\\_2040.pdf](https://www.odni.gov/files/ODNI/documents/assessments/GlobalTrends_2040.pdf)

## National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC)



# National Cyber Security Centre

The NCSC supports the most critical organisations in the UK, the wider public sector, industry, SMEs as well as the general public. When incidents do occur, they provide effective incident response to minimise harm to the UK, help with recovery, and learn lessons for the future. Please see the links to this month's NCSC weekly threat reports.

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/report/weekly-threat-report-2nd-april-2021>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/report/weekly-threat-report-12th-april-2021>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/report/weekly-threat-report-16th-april-2021>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/report/weekly-threat-report-23rd-april-2021>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/report/weekly-threat-report-30th-april-2021>



## Demonstrations held / planned

### Thousands protest against Covid vaccine passports and lockdown in central London



Thousands of people have descended on central London for an anti-lockdown protest against Covid jobs and vaccine passports even though shops and pubs have reopened. The Unite for Freedom rally saw huge crowds marching and shouting demands for “medical freedom”. Signs saying “freedom is non-negotiable” were held up as people let off brightly coloured smoke flares. Activists also carried giant inflatable syringes to protest what they called “coerced vaccinations”.

### Police to review 'brutal' arrest of 69-year-old woman over anti-lockdown stickers



The police's professional standards branch is to examine the arrest of a woman after a video of her being detained was widely shared on social media. A clip posted onto YouTube showed the woman, in her 60s, being led away by officers in Wythenshawe town centre as number of people watch on, including several who loudly protest. Greater Manchester Police (GMP) say the 69-year-old was held as officers wanted to speak about a previous allegation of criminal damage relating to 'anti

coronavirus literature being placed around the area.'

## Seven arrests as Barclays windows are smashed during Extinction Rebellion protest in London

Climate change activists used hammers to smash windows at Barclays headquarters in Canary Wharf. Seven women from the Extinction Rebellion group were arrested after police say they used tools to cause damage and then plastered walls with slogans. Protesters had gathered outside Barclays in Churchill Place, Canary Wharf. XR said the action was part of its "Money Rebellion" against the capitalist system which used "nonviolent direct action, causing damage to property to prevent and draw attention to greater damage".

## G7 Cornwall: Protest against Carbis Bay building work



Campaigners have been protesting against development work taking place at a hotel in west Cornwall to be used during the G7 summit. The Carbis Bay Hotel started work prior to submitting plans, angering environmentalists. Campaigners claimed the work was damaging ancient woodland and badger setts in the area, near St Ives. A planning application has since been made

for three buildings. The hotel has been approached for a comment. The three single-storey buildings are to provide nine meeting rooms for the summit, due to take place from 11 to 13 June.

## Belfast: Rioting 'was worst seen in Northern Ireland in years'



Rioting in Belfast was on a scale not seen in Northern Ireland for years, police have said. During several hours of violence, police officers were attacked, petrol bombs were thrown, and a bus was burnt. Eight officers were injured at an interface between loyalist and nationalist areas in west Belfast. Senior police sources now say there was no

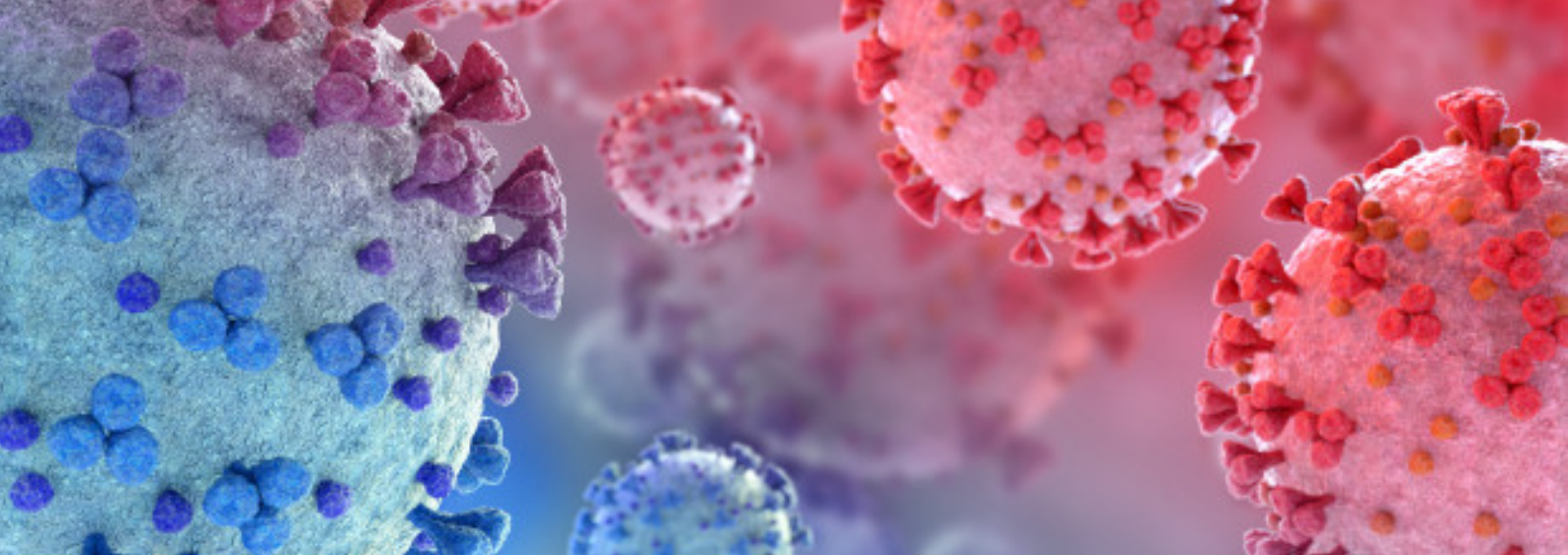
evidence of UVF organisational involvement in last night's trouble in west Belfast.

Earlier the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) had suspected that individuals within the paramilitary group had encouraged some of the trouble.

### **Newtownabbey: Police attacked with petrol bombs and fireworks**



Police were attacked with petrol bombs and fireworks in Newtownabbey on a second night of trouble in Northern Ireland. Officers were targeted at the Cloughfern roundabout in the O'Neill Road area. A crowd of 30 to 40 people blocked the roundabout with two burning cars. It followed an earlier night of violence in which 27 police officers were injured in Belfast and Londonderry. In Newtownabbey, on the outskirts of Belfast, police closed off surrounding roads before approaching the roundabout. It was then they came under attack.



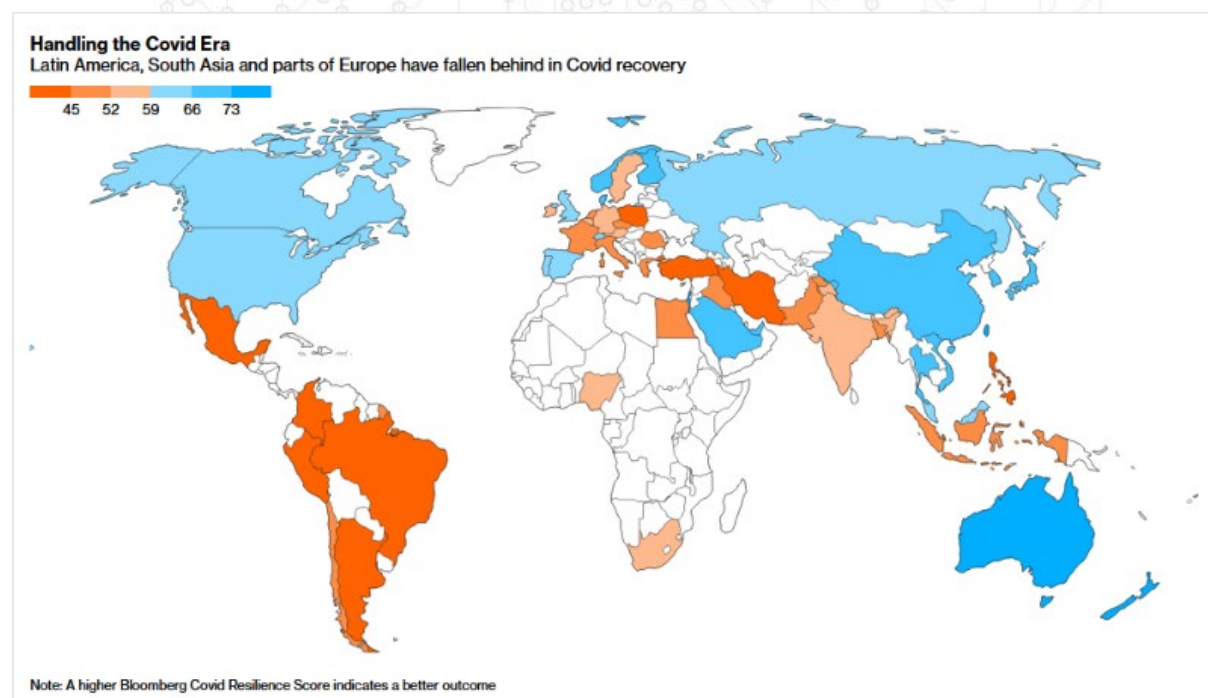
## Coronavirus Covid-19 Related News

### Covid-19 and the private security industry – FAQs

The SIA has updated its Covid-19 frequently asked questions covering licence applications, government help and advice and the Approved Contractor Scheme. The information can be found using the link below:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/981843/sia-covid-19-faq.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/981843/sia-covid-19-faq.pdf)

### COVID Resilience report



Covid-19 should not have been a surprise, according to a report, produced by Cranfield University, with the National Preparedness Commission (NPC) and the audit firm and sponsor Deloitte. As the title, Resilience Reimagined, suggests, preparing is partly about the exercise of the imagination; or as the report puts it, to 'overcome the mindset trap of normalcy bias's

– imaging future failure, and working back to make predictions and plans. In a word, a ‘premortum’, about what an embarrassing disaster may look like.

We are entering a new period of uncertainty and change, with an ever-increasing possibility that things will go wrong, the report said. How can resilience be developed, who does it well, and what can other businesses learn from them? Those were among the questions posed.

Most businesses were ill-prepared to deal with the pandemic and muddled through, the report suggested. Cranfield University Prof David Denyer and Mike Sutliff did interviews and four focus groups with more than 50 C-suite level people (boards, senior executives, policymakers, and resilience directors) from FTSE 100 companies, multi-nationals, and major national infrastructure firms.

<https://nationalpreparednesscommission.uk/2021/03/resilience-reimagined-a-practical-guide-for-organisations/>

## Police make arrests at lockdown-breaching ‘illegal rave’ as forces shut down gatherings over Easter



Police broke up an “illegal rave” in Hereford after forces shut down a number of large gatherings across England over the Easter bank holiday weekend. West Mercia Police attended an event in Dorstone, Hereford, following reports of loud noise and large numbers of people gathering. Although many of those at the event left when asked by officers, a dispersal order was later issued to force everyone to leave the area, a police statement said.