



**SECURITY INTELLIGENCE UPDATE**  
**MARCH 2022**



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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



### 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** and consistently extremely high.





## Open-Source Security Incident News

### Two arrested after protesters surround Labour leader

Two people have been arrested after police had to help Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer escape from protesters who surrounded him near Parliament. A group could be heard shouting "traitor" and criticising Sir Keir's record on Covid, and there were some cries of "Jimmy Savile".

Some Tory MPs later urged Boris Johnson to withdraw his false claim Sir Keir failed to prosecute sex abuser Savile. Sir Keir was protected by officers and left the area by car.

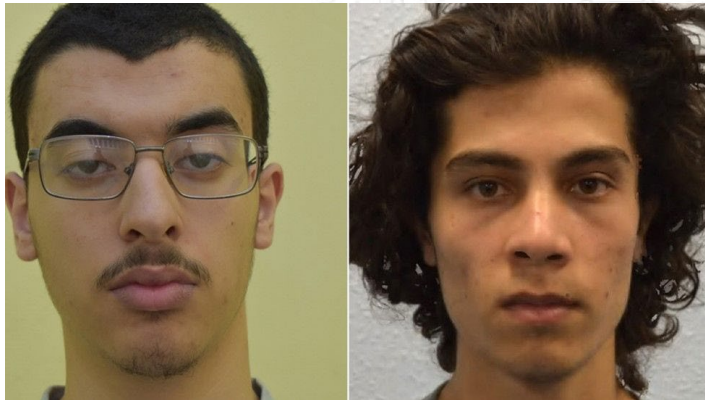
### Man fined for trying to use someone else's SIA licence



## Bolton man sentenced for hospital security fraud

A Bolton man who used his father's licence to work as a hospital security guard was exposed when a reference from a friend revealed his dishonesty. Mohammed Bashir was found guilty of fraud at Bolton Magistrates' Court following his misuse of a Security Industry Authority (SIA) licence. The court handed Bashir a 26-week jail sentence, which was suspended for two years. It also ordered him to do 200 hours of unpaid community service and pay £1,000 court costs, plus a victim surcharge of £128. Bashir originally pleaded not guilty to the charges at Bolton Magistrates' Court in September 2021. The SIA brought the prosecution.

## Manchester Arena bomber's brother and two others guilty of assaulting prison officer



The brother of the Manchester Arena bomber has been found guilty of attacking a prison officer in the high security unit at Belmarsh. Paul Edwards, 57, was hit with a chair and repeatedly punched and kicked by Hashem Abedi, 24, Parsons Green Tube bomber Ahmed Hassan, 22, and Muhammed Saeed, 23, who spoke about carrying out a knife attack in London. All three prisoners denied

assault causing actual bodily harm (ABH) to Mr Edwards but were found guilty at Woolwich Crown Court by a jury after around three-and-a-half hours of deliberations.

Abedi was also found guilty of assault by beating of an emergency worker after kicking prison officer Nick Barnett as he came to his colleague's aid.

## The Old Bailey case of four men charged over the shooting of Black Lives Matter activist collapsed.



Ms Johnson, a mother-of-two, was shot in the head during a silent disco in the garden of a house in Peckham, south London, just before 3am on May 23 last year. She suffered "catastrophic" and permanent injuries and remains in hospital following the attack, with her condition said to be serious but stable as she continues to receive treatment. It comes as Prince Dixon, 25, of Gravesend, Troy Reid, 20 of Southwark, Cameron Deriggs, 19, of

Lewisham, and Devonte Brown, 19, of Southwark, denied conspiracy to murder.

They also pleaded not guilty to a charge of possession of a firearm and ammunition with intent to endanger life. A trial was set to begin on March 7 but at an Old Bailey hearing on Tuesday the prosecution announced the Crown would not be pursuing the case.

## Manchester school evacuated



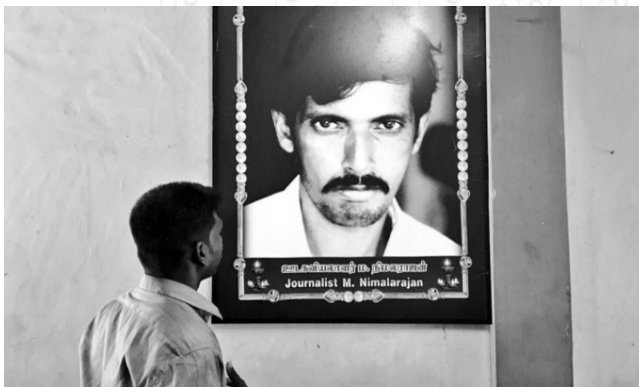
*St Paul's Catholic High School in Manchester was evacuated on Wednesday afternoon*

A school has been evacuated and 100 people including dozens of pupils have been assessed by paramedics after the suspected “discharge of an aerosol”.

Two people were taken to hospital with breathing difficulties after the incident at St Paul's Catholic High School in Manchester. A spokesperson for Greater Manchester Police (GMP) said a 13-year-old girl has been arrested on suspicion of possession of a section 5 offensive weapon.

Firefighters from Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service used four sets of breathing apparatus and gas detectors to assess the scene. “Due to the number of potential casualties and the resources needed at the scene, the trust declared a major incident. “We sent 21 resources including emergency ambulances, our Hazardous Area Response Team (Hart), advanced paramedics, Merit doctors and volunteer services who between them assessed more than 100 potential patients.

## Met Police war crimes detectives arrest man in UK over 2000 murder of journalist in Sri Lanka



War crimes detectives from the Metropolitan Police have arrested a man in the UK in connection with the murder of one of the most esteemed journalists in Sri Lanka during its decades-long civil conflict.

Mylvaganam Nimalarajan earned a reputation as a rare source of clarity during the Sri Lankan civil war, which ended in 2009 with the government

army's defeat of the Tamil Tiger rebels in May 2009, following 26 years of fierce conflict. He wrote for multiple local and international outlets, including the BBC, uncovering various instances of human rights abuses and electoral fraud, until he was shot dead at his home in the city of Jaffna in October 2000 by unknown assailants at the age of 39.

As part of an ongoing investigation into his death, officers from Scotland Yard's war crimes team – part of its Counter-Terrorism Command unit – arrested a 48-year-old man at an address in Northamptonshire on Tuesday.

He was arrested on suspicion of offences under Section 51 of the International Criminal Court Act 2001, the Met said. He was taken into custody and has since been released under investigation.

## Man 'obsessed with far-right wing ideologies' jailed over 'terrorist handbook' and extreme porn



A man from Lancashire has been jailed for possessing right wing material, which included a 'terrorist handbook'. Conrad Howarth, of Pinfold Place, Nelson, appeared at Manchester Crown Court for possessing material which could be useful in preparing an act of terrorism.

A laptop seized from the 41-year-old's address was also found to contain an image of extreme pornography. Howarth pleaded guilty to a section 58 of the Terrorism Act 2000 offence, which criminalises 'collecting, recording, possessing or viewing by way of the internet, information likely to be useful to a person committing or preparing an act of terrorism'. He also pleaded guilty to possessing extreme pornography. Howarth was jailed for four and a half years.

## Angela Rayner sparks row after saying 'shoot terrorists' and ask questions later

Angela Rayner has sparked a row on the Labour left after saying she supports "shooting terrorists" and asking questions later. Labour's deputy leader made the controversial off-the-cuff remark last month on a political podcast while discussing law and order. She told The Political Party, by comedian Matt Forde: "Most people recognise 'soft left' so I would describe myself as soft left.

"But you know what, on certain things I'm not though. Because on things like law and order I am, like, quite hardline.

"I am like, you know, shoot your terrorists and ask questions second, if I'm honest." As the audience reacted with many laughing she said: "Sorry - is that the most controversial thing I've ever said?"

Allies insisted her words had been taken out of context and she was supporting the current guidance which allows the use of deadly force in a live attack where there is a threat to life, as in the London Bridge incident.

## Alleged Nazi sympathiser started building submachine gun in garage



An alleged Nazi sympathiser started building a homemade submachine gun in his garage in order to fulfil his "mission" of fighting in a religious war against Jews and other targets of right-wing terrorists, a court heard.

Birmingham Crown Court heard Ben Styles posted in an online group called "Kill All the Jews" and described the holocaust to friends as the "holohoax", adding: "I hope the holocaust is real next time." "When the police searched his home they found that he had closely and carefully followed the instructions in one of those manuals and was well on his way to making a homemade submachine gun. "He had also started to make ammunition.

"He had also written a manifesto which talked about, in his words 'working to fulfil my mission' and set out his views about being in a religious war against the Jews and other targets of extreme right-wing terrorists.

"The evidence will prove, that the defendant was preparing to commit a terrorist act." Mr Styles, of Plymouth Place, Leamington Spa, denies preparing an act of terrorism.

## Aldershot man charged with seven terrorism offences

A man has been charged with terrorism offences relating to extreme right-wing ideology, police have said. Charles Cannon is accused of seven counts of possessing documents likely to be useful to a person committing or preparing an act of terrorism.

The 20-year-old from Aldershot in Hampshire was arrested following an investigation by Counter Terrorism Policing South East.

## Police on alert for Nazis headed to Ukraine



*Special Forces Unit Azov of Ukraine's National Guard giving combat training to civilians in Mariupol, Donetsk region, eastern Ukraine, February 13, 2022.*  
© AP Photo/Vadim Ghirda

British counterterrorism police have been interrogating travellers headed to Ukraine over the past several days, seeking "far-right extremists" who might want to get weapons training and military experience there, The Guardian reported on Wednesday.

Officers at departure gates of "at least one main British airport" have quizzed people bound for Ukraine over their identity and reasons for travel, the report said, citing an unnamed security source.

The move was reportedly prompted by "at least half a dozen

known neo-Nazis" who travelled to Ukraine this week from the US and an unspecified European country, the outlet said.

## Intel held on Manchester Arena bomber years before attack

An inquiry into the Manchester Arena attack has heard that intelligence that linked the bomber to another suspected terrorist was uncovered by detectives three years before the 2017 incident. Detectives found the name, photo, and phone number of Salman Abedi during an investigation into Abdalraouf Abdallah in 2014. About 1,300 text messages were exchanged between the two in November 2014. The text messages were only traced back to Abedi after he killed 22 people and injured hundreds more when he detonated a suicide vest at the end of an Ariana Grande concert on 22 May 2017.

Frank Morris, a former senior investigating officer at North West Counter Terrorism Policing who found the text messages, told the inquiry into the bombing that the intelligence should have been passed on for 'development' but was not.

## 70 drug dealers arrested in huge covert crackdown



Police arrested nearly 70 drug dealers and rescued a 15-year-old trafficking victim in a huge crackdown on Cardiff's Class A drug trade. The eight-month covert operation carried out from August 2019 to March 2020 caught dealers selling crack cocaine, heroin, and ketamine on the streets. It covered an extensive sweep of the city, with officers deployed to Adamsdown, Butetown, Cathays, Canton, Grangetown, Splott and the city centre.

As a result, 69 dealers were arrested in July 2020, of which 64 have been charged and 44 are already serving custodial sentences amounting to more than 117 years.

## Two men arrested in east London on suspicion of preparing acts of terrorism

Two men have been arrested on suspicion of terror offences as part of an ongoing investigation, police have said. The Metropolitan Police said its Counter Terrorism Command detained a 30-year-old man in east London on suspicion of being concerned in the commission, preparation, or instigation of acts of terrorism, under section 41 of the Terrorism Act (TACT) 2000. He remains in custody after officers were granted a warrant of further detention at Westminster Magistrates' Court.



## Robert Templeton admits having 'Aladdin's cave' of weapons

A County Antrim man who a court heard was preparing for an economic breakdown has pleaded guilty to terrorism charges including having guides on how to make weapons. Robert Templeton, 36, who now has an address at Shancoole in Ballymena, had previously denied all 10 charges against him. He is due to be sentenced in May.



The court previously heard that "an Aladdin's cave" of "potentially deadly" device components were found at his previous address in Garryford, near Ballymena, in July 2019.

On a previous day of Templeton's trial, the lawyer listed bags and tubs of chemicals, pipes, ball bearings, 194 boxes of matches, 350 fireworks and white forensic suits among the items found in the "cluttered and dishevelled home". Gunpowder, ammunition, blades, and a balaclava were also uncovered.

## Security concerns around NHS Highland's outdated website



A Scottish health board has said its website was the cause for potential security concerns because of its outdated infrastructure. NHS Highland said sensitive information was not at risk, but services such as virtual appointments could be disrupted if the site was down. It is in the process of moving to a more up-to-date infrastructure.

## IT technician jailed for revenge cyber-attacks

An IT technician has been jailed for revenge cyber-attacks on a school and IT firm after both of the employers sacked him. Adam Georgeson's attack on Welland Park Academy in Leicestershire caused some pupils to lose coursework and parents to lose irreplaceable family photos.

It also stopped remote learning for four days, when pupils were reliant on this due to the coronavirus lockdown. Judge Mark Watson gave Georgeson, who is 29, a 21-month sentence.

## Foreign Office target of 'serious cyber incident'



# Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

The UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) was the target of a "serious cyber-security incident", it has emerged. The details came via a tender document published on a government website, seemingly by mistake. It revealed that cyber-security firm BAE Systems Applied Intelligence was called on for "urgent support". It is alleged that unidentified hackers got inside the FCDO systems but were detected. A spokesperson for the FCDO said: "We do not comment on security but have systems in place to detect and defend against potential cyber incidents."

It is not believed that any classified or highly sensitive material was breached. It is also not clear when the incident took place, but the contract finished on 12 January of this year.

## Birmingham woman who shared extremist material jailed

A woman convicted of terrorism offences after sharing extreme videos has been jailed for five-and-a-half years. Aminah Amatullah, 39, sent images of dead bodies, including children, to an online contact, who was in fact an undercover police officer. Sentencing at Birmingham Crown Court, the judge said he accepted mental health issues and personal problems had played a part in her radicalisation.

## Tech giants targeted in harmful content crackdown



Sending "genuinely threatening" or "knowingly false" messages are among new criminal offences being added to proposed online safety laws. If passed, the government's online safety bill could see social networks fined 10% of their global turnover if they fail to remove harmful content. The changes mean they will also have to proactively remove harmful content.

The bill also covers revenge porn, human trafficking, extremism and promoting suicide online. It already stated that websites, such as Facebook and Twitter, that host user-generated content would have to swiftly remove illegal content once it was reported to them. Now they will also have to put in place proactive measures to stop illegal activity.

The issue has become a talking point recently with the racist abuse of footballers, revenge porn and cyberflashing, and Covid disinformation being highlighted as key safety concerns for social media companies to address.





## Security Industry News

### Online safety law strengthened in bid to eradicate illegal content

Digital Secretary Nadine Dorries has announced extra priority illegal offences to be written on the face of the Online Safety Bill to include fraud, hate crime, the sale of illegal drugs or weapons, the promotion or facilitation of suicide and people smuggling. Terrorism is already included. Previously, firms would have been forced to take such content down after it had been reported to them by users, but now they must be proactive and prevent people being exposed in the first place.

The Online Safety Bill will clamp down on human traffickers, extremist groups encouraging violence and racial hate against minorities and suicide chatrooms.

### “Criminals all set to exploit current surge in cost of living” warns Cifas



Leaders in fraud prevention

CIFAS, the UK's fraud prevention service, is highlighting the latest fraud threats and warning members of the public to remain vigilant of the ever-changing tactics that scammers are using to extract money and information. Criminals are currently exploiting the recent announcement made by Ofgem that the energy price cap will increase from Friday 1 April 2022 for approximately 22 million customers. In a bid to help households cope with this increase in their bills, the Government has also announced a £200 rebate against energy bills in October 2022.

Ahead of these changes, Citizens Advice in Oxfordshire has reported a 36% increase in individuals looking for support connected to 'fuel debt'. These changes and the public's concern towards the rising cost of living has alerted the criminal fraternity, some of whom have diverted their attentions towards attempting to trick consumers out of their personal and financial details.

As a demonstration of this tactic, the consumer group Which? has reported instances of criminals impersonating energy companies. In one attempt, criminals ran an e-mail phishing campaign impersonating Eon by promising an £85 refund. Which? has also warned of another phishing e-mail claiming to have been sent from British Gas and offering an even greater refund of £400.



## Home Secretary orders wide-ranging independent review of Border Force

Home Secretary Priti Patel has ordered a wide-ranging and independent review of Border Force to assess its structure, powers, funding and priorities. The move is designed to ensure that Border Force can keep pace with today's rapidly evolving threats and continue to protect the border, maintain security and prevent illegal migration. The review procedure will be carried out by Alexander Downer as an Independent Reviewer. Downer boasts a wealth of relevant experience to bring to this review, having previously served as Australian High Commissioner to the UK and as Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs. He's currently executive chair at the International School for Government, King's College London.

The first of its kind since Border Force was set up, the wide-ranging review is expected to take several months to complete. It will ensure that the UK Government is prepared for future challenges at the border by identifying change and improvements needed across Border Force's work on illegal migration, customs, and national security to help keep the UK safe, secure, and prosperous.

## Protecting People in Crowded Places SIG launched

The Security Institute and the UK Crowd Management Association (UKCMA) have announced the launch of a new Protecting People in Crowded Places Special Interest Group in tandem with forming a dedicated committee of industry professionals who will drive its work going forward. This is a pivotal time for those with the responsibility of protecting crowded places such as parks, sports stadiums, the High Street, or transport hubs. There's now a growing realisation that, in order to properly safeguard such places, a blend of knowledge and skills in the realms of safety, security, service and leadership is the dominating requirement.

The Protecting People in Crowded Places Special Interest Group has a vital role to play in pulling together research, knowledge, and experience in addressing safety and security as an integrated concept for crowded places. Collaboration between sector professionals will ensure that the collective security voice is heard, and that those professionals can influence policymakers and central Government alike about the key issues relating to this area of security provision.

## 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-19th-november-2021>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/report/weekly-threat-report-26th-november-2021>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/report/weekly-threat-report-5th-november-2021>

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



## Demonstrations held / planned

### Thousands gather in cities across the UK in support of Ukraine



Thousands of people gathered in cities across the UK for at times highly emotional rallies in support of Ukraine as the country defended itself against the brutal Russian invasion.

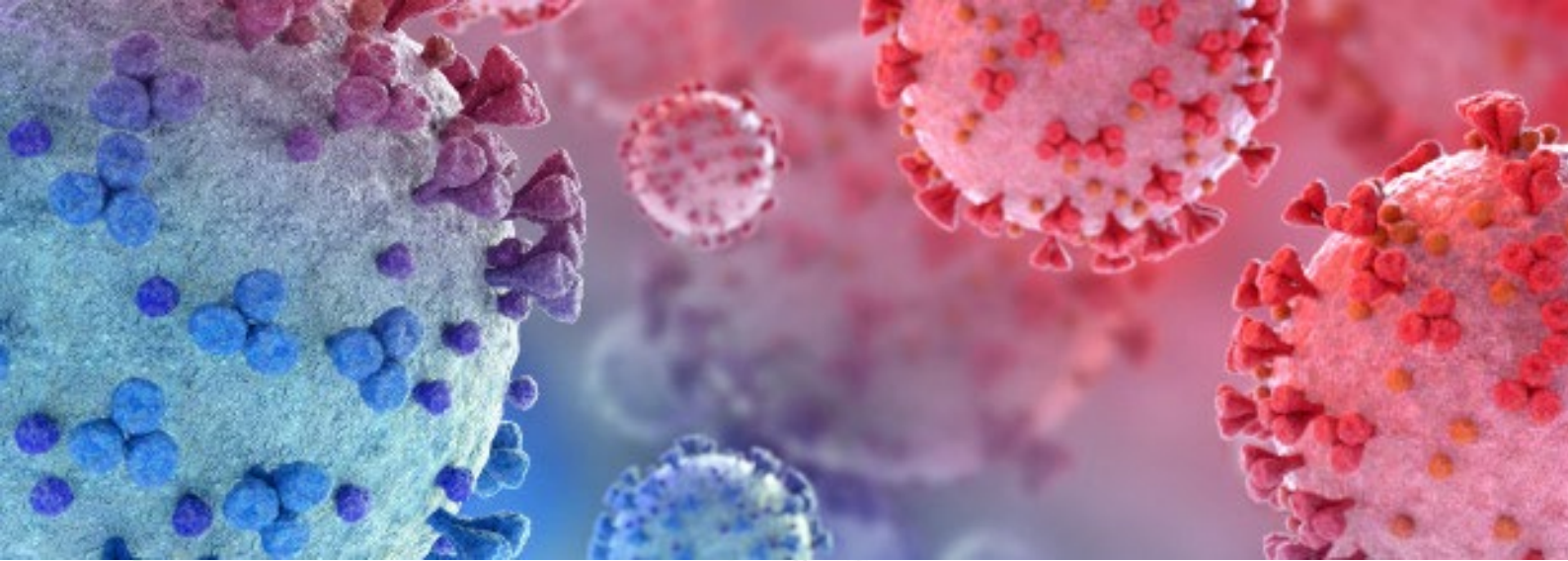
In London, Trafalgar Square was a sea of blue and yellow as protesters voiced anguish and despair at Russian president Vladimir Putin's assault on the eastern European country.

Similar events were held across Britain, with demonstrations of various sizes taking place in Newcastle, Brighton, Exeter, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Nottingham, Cambridge, Oxford, Norwich, and the Mumbles, near Swansea.

### Extinction Rebellion activists interrupt black-tie dinner for oil and gas firms

Climate activists have disrupted a black-tie event for the oil and gas sector being held in Edinburgh. Campaigners from groups including Stop Cambo and Extinction Rebellion Scotland targeted the Scottish Energy Forum (SEF) dinner, being held at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre, Protesters were seen sitting cross-legged outside the building holding signs saying, "no dinner for killers" and "business as usual is killing". They are claiming the SEF is lobbying to expand oil and gas production in the North Sea. Queues of smartly dressed people seen outside the EICC, believed to be guests at the dinner, were blocked from accessing the building.





## Coronavirus Covid-19 Related News

### Brits using Covid 'as weapon' against police

Assaults on UK officers hit around 80 per day in early 2021, statistics released by the PA news agency found, with police warning that Covid was used "as a weapon" by spitting at constables. The data, covering the three months from March 23 to June 23 discovered that 7,537 assaults against officers, constables, and volunteers were recorded, with that panning out to around 80 per day. However, since the information collected only came from 31 out of the 43 police forces across the UK, the true scale of abuse levelled against officers could be much higher.

### Anti-vaxxers said to book Covid job appointments & not show up

Anti-vaxxers have been booking up Covid-19 vaccine appointments and then not turning up to get jabbed, according to the Telegraph, as Britain rushes to vaccinate millions against Omicron. Appointments at mass vaccination centres, including Wembley Stadium which is being used to roll out thousands of shots before Christmas, are being block-booked by people who have no intention of getting inoculated, according to the Telegraph on Sunday.

### Brother of former UK Labour leader arrested for 'inciting violence'



Former Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn's brother Piers has been arrested for allegedly calling for the offices of pro-lockdown MPs to be burnt down during a protest against vaccination mandates in Westminster. Corbyn was arrested in Southwark, London. Police had previously mentioned they were investigating a video in which the anti-lockdown protest leader appeared to be advocating arson.

### Met Police investigating fake Covid vaccine records arrest three people

The Metropolitan Police has arrested three people as part of investigations into suspected fake COVID-19 vaccination records. Officers from the Cyber Crime Unit made three arrests after staff at a London NHS trust noticed a suspicious pattern on some online vaccination records. A 27-year-old man and a 23-year-old man, both from Ilford, were arrested for unauthorised computer access and conspiracy to commit fraud by misrepresentation.



Police confirmed that searches at a residential property are underway, and 11 devices have been seized. A 36-year-old man from also Ilford was arrested on suspicion of unauthorised computer access and conspiracy to commit fraud by misrepresentation in an unrelated investigation. Three devices were seized, and officers are searching for a residential address. The arrests followed a member of staff from a different NHS trust noticing suspicious vaccination records on their online system.

## Police to lead Covid-19 passport enforcement



Police will visit licensed premises to make sure they comply with Covid-19 passport rules, Northern Ireland's justice minister has said. Naomi Long said police will be "leading enforcement". Regulations are now legally enforceable and venues who breach them could face fines of up to £10,000.

Customers must show either proof of vaccination, a negative test or recent recovery from Covid to enter licensed premises and entertainment venues. Ministers voted for mandatory checks last month, despite Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) opposition.

Entrance checks were introduced without enforcement on 29 November, but the two-week grace period has now ended.

## Anti-vaxxer jailed for supergluing clinic's doors to block booster rollout

A man who superglued the lock of a Covid-19 vaccination centre, stopping more than 500 people from getting their booster jabs, was jailed today



Hayden Brown, 53, squirted glue into the keyhole of the door to a pharmacy in Lowestoft Road in Gorleston overnight on November 26, meaning the door could not be opened, Norfolk Police said. Brown, of Burgh Road in Great Yarmouth, was arrested after he was identified by covert cameras that had been put in place following two previous incidents on November 12 and November 20. He admitted criminal damage at

Norwich Magistrates' Court, Norfolk police said.

Police said he also pleaded guilty to causing a public nuisance, by preventing Covid-19 booster jabs for 504 vulnerable people.

Superintendent Nathan Clark said that a "large number" of the 504 people were elderly, adding: "This disruption will have caused great anxiety to those who have chosen to be vaccinated and then not (been) able to attend."

The defendant also admitted to possessing cannabis, which was found at his home following his arrest.