



SECURITY INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 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



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 **SUBSTANTIAL** mixed consistently extremely high.



Open-Source Security Incident News

Two female police officers sexually assaulted during Notting Hill carnival



Two female police officers were sexually assaulted during the Notting Hill carnival. One was grabbed around the neck and kissed on her face without consent while the other was "grinded" against by a group of men. The Met confirmed details of both alleged assaults on Wednesday. A 46-year-old man, Florin Matei, of Islington, was arrested and later charged with sexual assault and will appear in court

on Monday, September 19.

The force said in the second instance, a group of men danced against her as other officers came to help her. It was not possible to detain the group at the time, a spokesperson added, but an investigation is ongoing.

A have-a-go hero managed to get a man's watch back after chasing down three thieves

Amid a wave of thefts of the devices, the Met said a man in his 30s was attacked by three men outside Seven Islands Leisure Centre in Southwark when they took his watch and tried to steal his phone. The man was travelling on a Route 47 bus from Shoreditch High Street Station after a night out and three suspects got on at the same stop.

When he got off at about 12.20am on Wednesday 30 March, he was attacked by the three who had followed him off the bus and they stole his watch.

When a member of the public came to help him, the men ran away. The have-a-go-hero then chased them down and managed to get the watch back. The victim did not need treatment in hospital.



Joint patrolling partnership between Thames Valley Police and the Civil Nuclear Constabulary announced



A new partnership between police officers from the Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC) and Thames Valley Police aims to increase the policing presence within the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse local area. Currently the CNC is responsible for protecting civil nuclear sites and has jurisdiction over the surrounding area of the Harwell Magnox site.

Officers from both forces will now regularly patrol together, responding to calls received by Thames Valley Police. They will also undertake proactive duties and local neighbourhood patrols, whilst continuing to ensure that the CNC's role of protecting national infrastructure from any threat is maintained.

As a result of the initiative, Thames Valley Police will have more resources with the aim of keeping the local area safe. CNC officers are also trained as medics.

Two charged in New IRA investigation

Two men in Belfast have been charged with terrorism offences. The charges include the preparation of terrorist acts and directing a terrorist organisation. Two other men, who were also arrested on Wednesday, have been released on report to the Public Prosecution Service. The four were arrested in west Belfast in connection to an investigation into the activities of the New IRA.

The arrests were part of the PSNI and MI5's Operation Arbacia, which aims to reduce the threat posed by violent dissident republicans. The two will appear at Belfast Magistrates' Court

Money launderer jailed in wake of £104 million cash transportation scheme



A money launderer who arranged to transport £104 million in illegally obtained cash to Dubai has been jailed after a hearing at Isleworth Crown Court. Abdulla Mohammad Ali Bin Beyat Alfasali, aged 47, pleaded guilty to removing criminal property from England and Wales contrary to Section 327(1) of the Proceeds of Crime Act on 27 June 2022 and has been sentenced to nine years and seven months behind bars.

Alfasali arranged a service designed to transport cash (which was the proceeds of crime) out of England and Wales. In terms of the method used to do this, suitcases were each filled with around £500,000 in cash. Alfasali or a courier would then fly business class to Dubai, which allowed increased baggage allowance. They would check in as late as possible to avoid detection.

The cash would be declared on arrival, supported by a letter from a company owned by Alfalasi stating that the couriers were authorised to carry this amount of money. Cash was transported in this way on at least 83 occasions, first by Alfalasi and then by various 'couriers' whom he had recruited for the job.

Investment manager jailed over £100 million 'no win, no fee' fraud

Following on from a successful investigation and prosecution by the Serious Fraud Office (SFO), Timothy Schools – an investment manager who used millions of pounds' worth of investors' money to fund a luxury lifestyle – has been sentenced to 14 years in prison. In a hearing at Southwark Crown Court, 61-year-old Schools, the investment manager for the Cayman Island-based Axiom Legal Financing Fund, was convicted by the presiding Jury on five counts of fraudulent trading, fraud by abuse of position and money laundering.

Former health advisor guilty of illegally accessing patient records



A former health advisor has been found guilty of accessing the medical records of patients without a valid legal reason for doing so. Christopher O'Brien, aged 36, was working at the South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust when he unlawfully accessed the records of 14 patients (who were known personally to him) between June and December 2019.

O'Brien accessed the records without a valid business reason for doing so and without the knowledge of the South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust. One of the victims said the breach left them worried and anxious about O'Brien having access to their health records, with another victim stating that the breach had dissuaded them from making any appointments to see their doctor.

When he appeared at Coventry Magistrates' Court on Wednesday 3 August, O'Brien pleaded guilty to unlawfully obtaining personal data in breach of Section 170 of the Data Protection Act 2018. He was ordered to pay £250 compensation to 12 patients (ie an overall total of £3,000).

UK launches new National Maritime Security Strategy

On 15 August, the UK launched a new maritime strategy that sets out how the UK will enhance its capabilities in technology, innovation, and cyber security.

The new five-year plan redefines maritime security as upholding laws, regulations and norms to deliver a free, fair and open maritime domain.



With this new approach, the government rightly recognized any illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and environmental damage to our seas as a maritime security concern. Furthermore, the UK has set out new guiding principles to managing threats and risks at home and around the world.

In addition, to enhance the UK's maritime security knowledge, the government has established the UK Centre for Seabed Mapping (UK CSM), which seeks to enable the UK's seabed mapping sector to collaborate to collect more and better data.

Ten teens jailed for 124 years after 18-year-old murdered in gang attack



Ten teenagers have been jailed for a combined total of 124 years for murdering an 18-year-old as he walked home from a funfair in Sunderland. Jack Woodley died from a single stab wound during an 80-second-long attack in which he was punched, kicked and stamped upon by 10 youths.

All 10, now aged between 15 and 18, were convicted of murder in June at Newcastle

Crown Court. Jack had been on a night out at the Houghton Feast funfair on 16th October when he came to the attention of the group. During the trial, the court heard how the youths had been 'looking for trouble' when they attacked Jack close to the Britannia Inn, he later died in hospital.

NHS hit by cyber attack

The NHS has been struck by a cyber-attack that targeted ambulance dispatch systems and emergency prescriptions. The software outage affected the NHS 111 non-emergency service, but the overall disruption was minimal. It was not revealed who was suspected to be behind the attack, but the National Crime Agency said it was "aware of a cyber incident".



Man appears in court charged over 'vicious' fatal knife attack on pensioner on mobility scooter



A man charged with the murder of 87-year-old Thomas O'Halloran, who was stabbed in the chest in a "vicious attack" on a mobility scooter, has been remanded in custody. Lee Byer, 44, appeared at Willesden Magistrates' Court over the alleged killing of Mr O'Halloran, in Greenford, west London.

Byer, from Southall, west London, stood in the dock wearing grey prison-issue tracksuit

bottoms and T-shirt, with a sweater tied around his waist. He spoke only to confirm his name,

date of birth and that he was of no fixed abode. Malik Aldeiri, defending, made no application for bail.

Byer was not asked to enter pleas to charges of murder and possession of an offensive weapon - a large knife - and was remanded in custody by Deputy District Judge Ross Cohen ahead of his next appearance at the Old Bailey.

Isis 'Beatle' from London jailed for life in US for role in hostage taking

An Isis "Beatle" who came from London has been jailed for life in a US court for his role in hostage-taking and beheadings. El Shafee Elsheikh, 34, was part of a cell of terrorists within the group that rampaged across parts of Syria and Iraq. They were nicknamed the Beatles for their English accents.

He showed no emotion as the judge, Thomas Selby Ellis, delivered the sentencing in Virginia.

His victims' families watched on as he was given a life sentence for the eight counts he was convicted of in April, which relate to his role in a hostage-taking scheme that involved torturing, beating and executing prisoners.



Man, bites police dog on the head after lashing out at officer during arrest



Matthew Boulter, 34, of Grimsby, was being arrested on Sunday when he punched and kicked fencing at the officer, who received minor injuries.

Police Dog Xander was dispatched to help but he bit the dog on the head before grabbing and twisting the collar.

Earlier that evening, Boulter had been seen assaulting three

people and causing criminal damage outside a venue in Grimsby.

He was jailed for eight months after pleading guilty to assaulting an emergency services worker, causing unnecessary suffering to an animal, assault, criminal damage and two counts of battery.

Watch robbery victim urges others to be vigilant amid high value timepiece crime wave

Moped thieves were caught on camera smashing in the window of a Bugatti Chiron in Mayfair in a bid to 'steal the driver's watch'. Last month the Metropolitan Police appealed to the public for help in catching watch thieves.

Scotland Yard reported there had been 67 watch thefts in central London between May 31 and June 27, an increase of roughly 60 percent in the previous four weeks' total.

The force described shocking incidents like a broad daylight robbery in the Chelsea area in which a machete-wielding thief on a moped forced a couple to surrender their watches, an Audemars Piguet and a Patek Philippe.

They were forced to hand over their Audemars Piguet and Patek Philippe watches. Some Patek Philippe watches are worth up to £210,000.

Previously reported a woman was threatened with a knife by two people on a motorbike and was forced to give them her watch and bracelet in Kensington and Chelsea.

A man was left hospitalised after suffering head injuries following a violent robbery in Fulham. The victim in his 40s was walking on the tow path through Bishops Park when he was assaulted by an unknown suspect.



Man, 21, charged with the murder of Tyson Fury's cousin Rico Burton in Manchester



A 21-year-old man has been charged with the murder of Rico Burton in Altrincham, Greater Manchester Police have confirmed. Liam O'Prey, of no fixed abode, has been remanded in custody and will appear at Manchester and Salford Magistrates' Court. Mr Burton, 31, died after being stabbed outside a bar in the Goose Green area of Altrincham, Manchester in the early hours of Sunday morning. His death led his

cousin world heavyweight boxing champion Tyson Fury to post an impassioned plea on social media to end knife crime, writing: "This needs to stop."

Two arrested following fatal shooting of council worker Ashley Dale in Liverpool

Two people have been arrested in connection with the fatal shooting of council worker Ashley Dale in Liverpool. A man was arrested on suspicion of the murder of Ashley, 28, who was shot dead in her own home in Old Swan. Police say they believe Ashley was shot dead in a case of 'mistaken identity' in the back garden of a property.



Thugs are believed to have burst through the door of the three-bed terraced home and opened fire, killing her.

Merseyside Police said a woman had also been arrested on suspicion of assisting an offender.

Olivia Pratt-Korbel killing



Police investigating the fatal shooting of Olivia Pratt-Korbel have released an image of the car believed to have taken the intended target to hospital. The nine-year-old was killed as her mother struggled with a gunman at the door of their Liverpool home. Merseyside Police also released aerial footage of the arrest of a 36-year-old man on suspicion of murder.

The man, from Huyton, was detained during an operation involving armed officers on Thursday night. He was also arrested on suspicion of two counts of attempted murder.

The vehicle has been seized and is in the process of being forensically examined, officers said, as they appealed to anyone who saw the black Audi Q3 in the days leading up to the shooting to get in touch.

Det Supt Mark Baker said: "Although we have made an arrest in connection with the horrific murder of Olivia, I want to make it completely clear that we need any information about this vehicle or the wider investigation as much as ever.

"Whatever information you have, and whether you are sure that it is the same vehicle or not, pass it on and we will assess its importance." Olivia was killed after Cheryl Korbel, 46, opened her front door on Kingsheath Avenue, Dovecot, at 22:00 BST in response to a commotion outside.

The intended target of the attack, 35-year-old Joseph Nee, was being chased by a gunman. The men - complete strangers to the family - burst in and Olivia was fatally shot. Ms Korbel was shot in the wrist as she tried to shut the door and has now been released from hospital.

Man stabs himself in the neck outside police station before being arrested on suspicion of child grooming



A man who was taken to hospital with serious injuries after he stabbed himself in the neck outside a police station has been arrested on suspicion of child grooming. Merseyside Police officers detained a man near Kirkby Police Station. The 55-year-old, from Kirkby, was rushed to hospital with serious injuries to his throat but is in a stable condition.

Man accused of fatally stabbing nine-year-old Lilia Valutyte is 'attacked in prison'

The man accused of stabbing nine-year-old Lilia Valutyte to death in Boston has been attacked in prison. Lithuanian national Deividas Skebas, 22, was charged with the murder of Lilia in July. He was remanded in custody by a judge at Lincoln Crown Court earlier in August and has been held at HMP Wakefield in West Yorkshire.



But according to The Sun Mr Skebas was attacked by another inmate at the Category A prison and 'left for dead'.

Boy, 15, fighting for his life in hospital after being stabbed in east London

Police, paramedics and an air ambulance were sent to Uvedale Road in Dagenham to reports of a male getting stabbed. They found the boy with a stab injury and treated him at the scene before taking him to hospital.

The Metropolitan Police said his condition is being treated as life-threatening. "Detectives from the Met's East Area CID are investigating. There have been no arrests at this time.

Man, 21, stabbed to death at Notting Hill Carnival as police reveal 209 arrests made



A 21-year-old man has died after being stabbed at Notting Hill Carnival, the Metropolitan Police said, adding that more than 200 arrests were made during the event. A police statement said the victim was fatally stabbed at around 8pm on Monday, August 29, under the Westway flyover.

"Officers provided emergency first aid to the victim - a 21-year-old man - until the arrival

of London Ambulance Service paramedics.

"They were able to extract him through significant crowds in challenging circumstances to a waiting ambulance.

"He was taken to a west London hospital where, despite the best efforts of medical staff, he was pronounced dead.

Poole Asda staff assaulted when trying to confront shoplifter

A supermarket customer concealed items in her bag and assaulted two members of staff who confronted her as she tried to leave the Poole shop.

Police are investigating the incident which took place at the Asda in Culliford Crescent, Canford Heath. It was reported that a woman entered the store and put items into her bag. She went to the checkouts and paid for one item, but did not pay for everything in her bag.

A member of staff confronted the woman as she attempted to leave. She became aggressive toward him and assaulted two staff members.



Britain braces for influx of deadly automatic weapons spilling out from the war in Ukraine



violent crimes across the nation this summer.

Officials fear some of the 100,000 rifles handed out on the streets of the war torn nation will be smuggled across borders and eventually into the UK by gangsters. Sources at the National Crime Agency - often dubbed Britain's FBI - are "alive" to guns being smuggled in as happened during the Balkan wars in eastern Europe in the late 90s.

The alarm bells come after a spate of shootings in the North West and other

An NCA source warned they would be "foolish to assume that with the Ukrainian government, giving our 100,000 automatic weapons, every single one of them would remain in Ukraine."

They added: "As with any conflict, weaponry can leak out of the sides, be that through trophies, or deliberate movements by organised crime or other groups

Number of Albanians in migrant crossings 'increased substantially' - report

The number of Albanians arriving in the UK on migrant boats crossing the Channel has increased "substantially" over the last few months, the Home Office said.



Some 2,165 were recorded as arriving between January and June 2022, compared with just 23 detected in the same period the previous year, according to a report. It comes as Home Secretary Priti Patel struck a deal with the Albanian government to step-up police activity and fast-track removals in a bid to tackle crossings.

“The number of Albanians arriving on small boats has increased substantially over the last quarter. Prior to this point, Albanians were not commonly

detected on small boats”, the findings said. In the first half of this year, over half (51%) of small boat arrivals were from just three nationalities – Albanian (18%), Afghan (18%) and Iranian (15%). Albanian police could be brought to the UK to observe migrant arrivals and pass on intelligence as part of the agreement between Ms Patel and Bledi Çuçi, Albania’s minister for interior affairs.

The pair have also pledged to speed up removals of Albanians with no right to be in the UK from next week.

Fewer than 1,000 Albanian offenders have been deported from the UK since a removal’s agreement was signed last year.

Meanwhile, adverts in Albanian will appear on Facebook and Instagram to target people in northern France and Belgium and those “who meet certain criteria, such as being away from home”.

Teenager arrested at Stansted Airport charged with terror offences

An Austrian teenager arrested at Stansted will appear in court on Saturday charged with terrorism offences. Ibrahim Ahmad, 19, of Vienna, was stopped and questioned when he landed at the Essex airport on Monday.



Detectives from Scotland Yard’s Counter Terrorism Command took him to a London police station. Ahmad was accused of three counts of dissemination of a terrorist publication, contrary to Section 2 of the Terrorism Act 2006. He will remain in police custody and is due to appear before Westminster Magistrates’ Court.

Terrifying moment woman 'held at knife point by thieves attempting to steal watch'



A pair of thieves have been caught attacking a man and woman 'at knife point' in a bid to 'get their hands on a watch'. Footage shared on social media showed the thieves attack a man and woman, believed to be targeting the woman's watch.

The incident - understood to have taken place in the Knightsbridge and Chelsea area of London - comes amid a spike in violent thefts in the capital. The thieves then made a quick escape in a car after being warned

that police would be called.

National Grid doubles emergency planning exercises amid concerns over energy supplies

National Grid has doubled its emergency planning exercises as concerns over energy shortages this winter grow. Potential scenarios - including the rationing of electricity - will be wargamed over four days, instead of the usual two, as part of 'Exercise Degree'. The annual operation, last year given the name 'Exercise Celcius', only took place on two days in September 2021. National Grid said the arrangements for this year's exercise were made back in January.



Covid vaccine site security guard stole and sold empty jab vials on eBay



A security guard who worked at vaccination sites stole empty Covid jab vials and sold them on eBay. Steven Flint stole a large number of empty vaccine bottles from three vaccination centres to sell online for profit. The 34-year-old was working as a contract security guard at three sites during the peak of the vaccination rollout at the start of last year.

But his scam was uncovered when post office CCTV footage and his eBay account details were spotted by authorities.

His own diligent admin also landed him in hot water, when cops raided his home in Tadworth, Surrey, and found a pile of package receipts filed away that linked him to sales. At Staines Magistrates Court, Flint was sentenced to one year in prison, suspended for 18 months, and ordered to do 150 hours of unpaid work. He was found guilty of theft last month and pleaded guilty to fraud by false representation at an earlier hearing. Officers also found empty vaccine vials as well as the multiple receipts for packages posted to Flint's eBay buyers.

Apple security flaw 'actively exploited' by hackers to fully control devices

Apple users have been advised to immediately update their iPhones, iPads and Macs to protect against a pair of security vulnerabilities that can allow attackers to take complete control of their devices.

In both cases, Apple said, there are credible reports that hackers are already abusing the vulnerabilities to attack users. One of the software weaknesses affects the kernel, the deepest layer of the operating system that all the devices have in common, Apple said. The other affects WebKit, the underlying technology of the Safari web browser.



Girl, 9, kidnapped outside supermarket escaped by biting man and wriggling free



A nine-year-old girl wriggled free from an alleged kidnapper by biting him after he had grabbed her close to a supermarket in Chicago, it is reported.

The youngster had a lucky escape and was uninjured after the man was said to have seized her as she walked with a woman near Cermak Fresh Market on North Damen Avenue, in West Rogers Park.

Police have now released images of the suspected kidnapper who is described as a black male with dreadlocks and around 5ft 8in to 5ft 10in tall. He was wearing a white t-shirt and grey jogging pants.

The man allegedly dragged away the nine-year-old in the car park of the supermarket at around 10am on Wednesday before the girl was able to get away.

Burglary, robbery and theft victims failed by police



Most victims of burglary, robbery and theft in England and Wales are not being given the justice they deserve, the police watchdog says. Her majesty's chief inspector of constabulary, Andy Cooke, calls current low charge rates "unacceptable and unsustainable".

Some forces tackle these crimes well - but many do not, his report says.

One car-theft victim told BBC News officers had closed his case within 24 hours, without visiting the scene. The report, based on findings from force inspections by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) in 2021-22, highlights while some tackle these crimes effectively, others:

- miss opportunities to identify and catch offenders, at all stages from when a crime is first reported
- fail to give victims advice on crime-scene preservation during the initial call - in 71% of the cases examined
- lack investigative capacity and experience, made worse by a national detective shortage
- fail to supervise investigations properly - in a third of cases

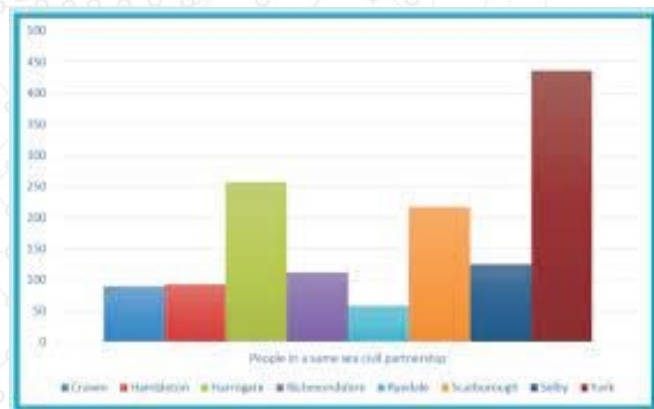
The report comes soon after the most recent Home Office figures showed just 6.3% of robbery offences and 4.1% of thefts in England and Wales resulted in charges, in the year to March..

LGBTQ Hate Crime Reports in UK

The number of homophobic hate crime reports in the UK has doubled and the number of transphobic hate crime reports has tripled over the last five years, new figures obtained by VICE World News reveal. The figures were received through responses to freedom of information requests from every police force in the UK.

The new data shows police received 26,824 reports of hate crimes based on sexual orientation in 2021-22, compared to 10,003 in 2016-17 – a 168 percent increase. The most recent reporting year also saw a 32 percent increase compared to the previous year, which is the biggest yearly rise ever recorded.

Freedom of information requests were sent to all 45 UK territorial police forces, requesting data covering the full reporting years, which run from April to March. All police forces responded with data.



EasyJet, Ryanair and BA warning to anyone boarding with a certain kind of bag



A holidaymaker has issued a warning after being caught out by a certain rule on EasyJet flights - and discovering the same rule also applies for other airlines.

Taking to Twitter, user Pandora Sykes said that they were refused boarding due to the type of bag that they had taken. Apparently 'smart bags' are no longer allowed on flights.

They said: "Beware anyone being so foolish to fly Easyjet - captain just refused to let us board our flights because our checked-in suitcases have USB ports (aka "smart bags"). Easyjet quietly changed their Ts&Cs a few weeks ago without telling their customers." Smart luggage is a bag that contains a lithium battery or power bank which is used to power itself or to recharge other devices. They have several high-tech features such as device charging, electronic locks and Bluetooth and Wi-Fi capabilities.

Rochdale-born al Qaida boss who led three-man terror cell planning to commit mass murder denied parole



An al Qaida boss who plotted to commit mass murder has been denied parole. Rochdale -born Rangzieb Ahmed, 47, was the first person to be convicted in the UK of directing terrorism.

He was jailed for life with a minimum of 10 years in 2008 for planning a terror attack. In its written decision, the Parole Board said that while Ahmed had engaged with an accredited programme to address extremist offending, as well as with religious leaders, concerns had been raised about his 'attitudes, beliefs, and behaviour' in custody.



Security Industry News

Skills Board focuses on driving higher levels of professionalism in UK security

A new Skills Board has been launched by the Security Industry Authority (SIA) and the City Security Council (CSC) in order to address the need for higher standards of professionalism in the private security industry. The Skills Board will consult with and comprise senior leaders and security professionals from across the industry. Together, they will agree on strategic priorities and commit to deliver what is hoped to be transformational change in support of all those working in the industry.

The Board is chaired by Jason Towse (managing director of business services at Mitie), while the vice-chair is Gemma Quirke, chief operating officer of Wilson James. It will be managed and administered jointly by the SIA and the CSC.

Places of Worship Protective Security Fund open for applications



Mosques and Muslim faith schools have been given access to £24.5 million for security measures to protect their places of worship and schools and make our streets safer, security minister Damian Hinds has announced. Muslims continue to experience an increased threat of hate crime. In 2020-2021, 45% of religious hate crimes recorded by the police service in England and Wales were targeted against Muslims.

From now, places of worship can bid for funding to put in place security measures to help tackle this threat. This could include the installation of CCTV cameras and perimeter fencing to ensure that adequate measures are in place to protect worshippers. Muslims will also be able to register their interest in security guarding services at mosques to ensure that their communities can worship safely and without fear.

In addition, £3.5 million is available for other faith communities through the Government's Places of Worship Fund. Applications are now open and all places of worship who feel they are vulnerable to hate crime are encouraged to apply. This scheme runs alongside the Jewish

Community Protective Security Grant, which provides protective security for the Jewish community and was recently renewed for this year.

This latest round of funding marks the Government's ongoing commitment to protecting people's right to practise their faith without fear and to make the nation's streets safer.

Festival safety advice

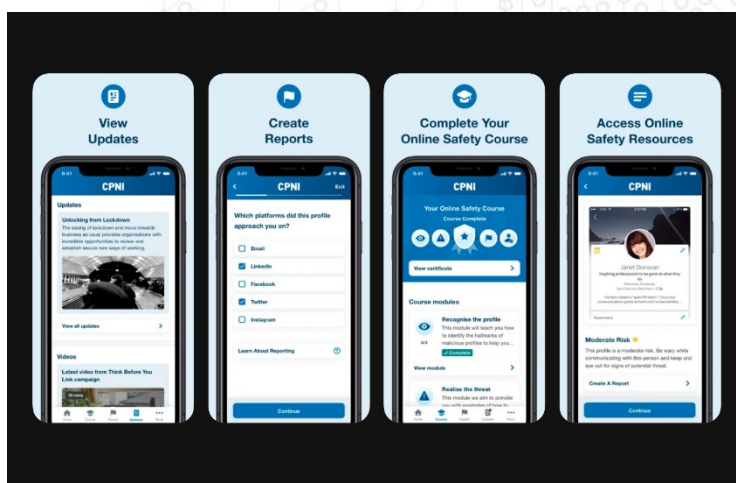


Police set up the #BeSafeBeSound campaign in 2019 for sharing simple safety and security advice for music-lovers. This year, that stands to see the first post-covid festivals, Counter Terrorism Policing is working on the campaign reaching as many people as possible.

Creamfields, Radio 1's Big Weekend (in Coventry at the end of May, starring Ed Sheeran) and The O2 in London are among those supporting the campaign. They will be sharing #BeSafeBeSound

safety advice on big screens and social media. Police state there is no intelligence to indicate an increased threat to festivals or music events. Counter Terrorism Policing's National Co-ordinator for Protect and Prepare, Chief Superintendent Michael Orchard, is urging the public to follow and share safety advice.

Think before you link app



A 'Think before you link' app has been launched. It's for users of social media and professional networking sites, such as LinkedIn and Facebook, to better identify the hallmarks of fake profiles – used by foreign spies and other malicious actors. In the first half of last year alone LinkedIn stopped 11.6m fake accounts at registration. Estimates based on University of Portsmouth research findings suggest that around 16.8m

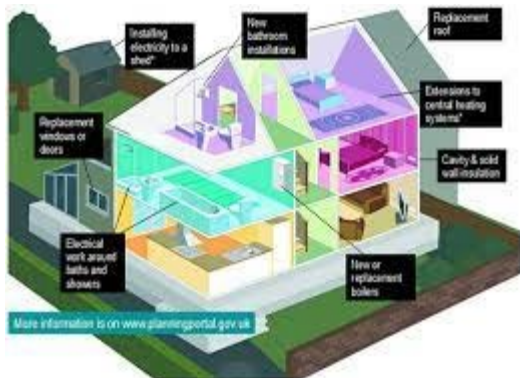
LinkedIn users may have accepted unknown contacts, with 1.6m of them working in industries classified as sensitive.

The research was carried out by Prof Mark Button and Dr David Shepherd of the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Portsmouth. It involved a survey of 1,000 UK professionals who use either LinkedIn or Facebook for professional networking. The survey data was collected in April.

The app is part of the UK official Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure's (CPNI) 'Think Before You Link' campaign. It has been developed with behavioural scientists to include features such as a profile reviewer, which will help you identify potentially fake profiles and report anything they deem suspicious.

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

Competent Persons Scheme programme



The Competent Persons Scheme team within National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) forms part of the Government's publicly accessible locations programme. NaCTSO has begun the two-year programme to provide the business community with the assurance that they can successfully mitigate their risks posed by terrorist threats and fulfil their duties under the new Protect Duty. The team has delivered a 'proof of concept' using a combination of available market research; the findings from last year's Protect Duty

consultation and the Manchester Arena Inquiry. The programme is looking at two potential markets:

1. Security advisors: a person who will provide appropriate advice to businesses in matters relating to counter terrorism protective security/preparedness.
2. People at work: a person responsible for determining and implementing appropriate security practices. This may be a business owner or a senior manager or a more security specific role such as security or operations manager.

The Competent Persons Scheme has commissioned further market research into the requirements. The research seeks to understand the current knowledge, qualifications, or skills within the two markets. It will also find out views on potential future areas of growth and the appetite for possible Competent Persons Scheme solutions.

Security Twenty 22 conference and exhibitions

Security TWENTY 22

Birmingham • Glasgow • Cardiff • Manchester • Belfast • Dublin • London



Professional Security Magazine's schedule of planned conference and exhibitions are below.

- 08 June – Cardiff – Mercure Hotel
- 12 July – Manchester – Kimpton Clocktower Hotel
- 06 September – Belfast – Europa Hotel
- 08 September – Dublin – Red Cow Moran Hotel
- 03 November – London Heathrow – Radisson Red Hotel

<https://www.professionalsecurity.co.uk/security-events-and-conferences/security-twenty-home/>

National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) trails new ProtectUK website



ProtectUK is now available. ProtectUK is the new counter-terrorism platform with accessible up-to-date guidance. The primary audiences for ProtectUK are businesses and licence holders. The ProtectUK

website is free, and it's supported by the ProtectUK app, which is available from the Google Play store and the Apple Store on your smart phone. The ProtectUK app provides guidance on:

- threat level
- personal safety
- news and bulletins
- awareness products and videos

New film for security staff: Unattended or Suspicious Items

The Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI) has produced a short new film for security staff on how to deal with an unattended bag once it has been identified. Businesses and organisations can maximise safety and security using existing resources such as See, Check and Notify (SCaN).

Training empowers staff to correctly identify suspicious activity and what to do when they encounter it. You can find further guidance regarding planning and delivering effective premises searches on the 'Building and area search'



<https://www.cpni.gov.uk/building-and-area-search>

Leicester security operatives face realistic terror scenarios



On Tuesday 17 May, Leicester's Mosh Nightclub was the scene of a set of simulated emergency exercises for the club's management, staff, and security team. The exercise saw the club's security operatives challenged by four realistic scenarios under the guidance of Leicestershire Police, Leicester Fire and Rescue Service, and NaCTSO (National Counter Terrorism Security Office). The exercise was designed for front line security operatives to enable them to put into practice their ACT Awareness e-learning as well as the newer ACT Security e-learning.

The initiative, which is part of the UK-wide Operation SENTRY, was led by us. Its purpose was to ensure preparedness in the unlikely event of a mass casualty event at a Leicester club.

The emergency planning exercise at Mosh Nightclub continues a programme of similar exercises and follows on from events in Chesterfield and London in autumn 2021 and Glasgow in April this year. A pilot event took place at Buxton in Derbyshire in October 2019.

Volunteer police officers to be armed with Taser stun guns

Volunteer police officers in England and Wales will be authorised to use Tasers, the home secretary has announced. Priti Patel said in a speech to police that special constables should be able to use the electric stun guns if they complete the specific training. The Home Office said it would ensure they are not "at a disadvantage" when facing attackers. But Amnesty International called it a "dangerous expansion" in their use. There are around 8,900 volunteer officers in England and Wales, who have the same powers and uniforms as paid officers.



Deployment of Tasers among volunteer officers will be an operational decision for each of the 43 individual police forces.

Barlinnie gets first prison body scanner in Scotland

The Scottish Prison Service has introduced its first body scanner in HMP Barlinnie as part of efforts to cut down on smuggling contraband. The instant internal images can reveal weapons, mobile phones and drugs. All Scottish jails are now photocopying prisoners' mail to prevent letters soaked in substances entering cells. Barlinnie governor Michael Stoney said there had been a big reduction in prisoners being taken to hospital as a result of drug-induced fits.

National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC)



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-6th-may-2022>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/report/threat-report-on-application-stores>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/report/weekly-threat-report-20th-may-2022>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/report/weekly-threat-report-27th-may-2022>



Demonstrations held / planned

Three arrested at Shell AGM as protesters chant 'We will stop you'

Three people have been arrested after Shell was forced to pause its annual general meeting in London after it was interrupted by environmental protesters chanting: "We will stop you." About 40 climate protesters attending the event as shareholders told the oil and gas company's board: "We will expose you. We know who you are. We know what you have done. We will remember."

Having bought shares in Shell to gain access to the meeting, they repeatedly chanted "Shell must fall" and "shame on you" at the assembled executives at Methodist Central Hall in Westminster, accusing the board of spending "more money on green advertising than green technology".

Queen's Speech 2022: 'Public Order Bill won't deter us,' says Insulate Britain protester

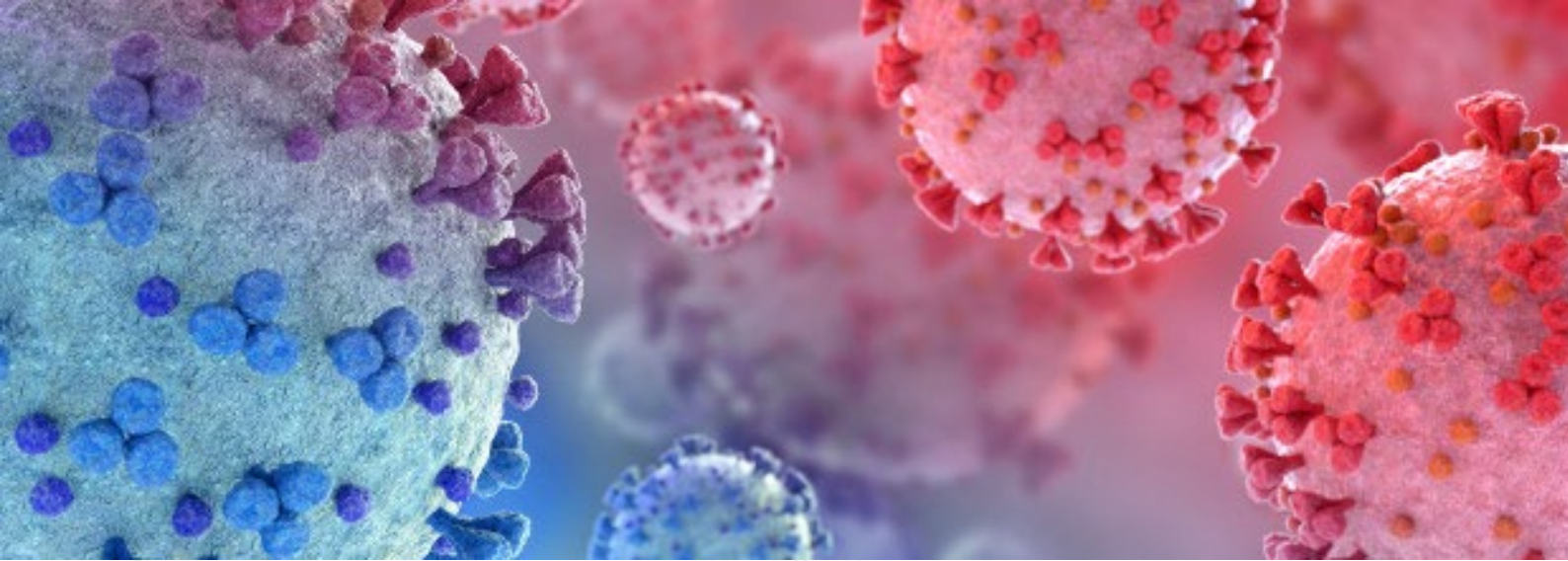


Cameron Ford, 31, told how he plans to continue taking to the streets even if the Public Order Bill is passed the Insulate Britain activist who could be jailed for participating in roadblocking demonstrations has said the Government's plans to crackdown on "guerrilla protests" won't deter him or his fellow campaigners from taking to the streets.

Extinction Rebellion disrupt Africa Oil Conference in Mayfair

On Tuesday May 17 at around 8am, a coalition of groups including Extinction Rebellion Africa, Sustaining the Wild Coast, StopEACOP, Africans Rising, The Green Connection, Oceans Not Oil, Jubilee for Climate, 350.org and Greenpeace disrupted the Africa Energies Summit, a high-level conference attended by oil executives and African heads of state.

Three people gained access to the conference suite in the 5-star May Fair Hotel in London that is hosting the Africa Energies Summit, billed as the "go to conference for Africa's energy industry." They hung banners saying, 'End Oil Colonialism' and 'Justice for Africa' from the £351-a-night hotel's porch and lobby, blocking the delegates' entrances and disrupting proceedings with audio recordings of African activists' protestations about new oil deals.



Coronavirus Covid-19 Related News

Man, who stabbed landlords to death over Covid lockdown fears jailed for 33 years

A tenant who became paranoid about the Covid lockdown and stabbed his landlords to death in a "brutal and frenzied" attack has been jailed for at least 33 years. Daniel Briceno Garcia, 46, killed Sonia Butron Calvi, 66, and Edgar Aguilera Daza, 60, at the home they shared with five others in Stockwell, south London, on April 1, 2020. The couple were found lying in a "bloodbath" at the property by police officers, the Old Bailey was told.



Briceno Garcia had become worried about Covid and paying rent during the pandemic after the lockdown was imposed.

Jurors at the Old Bailey deliberated for just 45 minutes before finding him guilty of two counts of murder. He had admitted manslaughter but denied murder, claiming he was mentally ill at the time.