



UK Threat Level: **SUBSTANTIAL**

# SECURITY INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

JULY 2023



# TABLE OF CONTENT

CONTENT	PAGE
About Us: Sentinel Group Security	2
Intelligence led security	2
Disclaimer	2
United Kingdom's National Security Threat	3
Introduction	3
United Kingdom's Threat Definitions	3
United Kingdom Current Threat Levels	7
Introduction	7
What the threat levels mean	7
Current national threat level	7
Open Source Security Incident News	8
Security Industry News	21
National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) Reports	27
Demonstrations held / planned	28



## 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**, mined consistently extremely high.





## Open-Source Security Incident News

### People smuggler who trafficked refugees as young as 2 put behind bars



A cruel people smuggler who trafficked Afghan refugees into the UK in tiny "coffin-like" wardrobes has been sent to prison. Some 35 refugees, with the youngest a two-year-old toddler, were "literally screwed and fixed" into the second-hand furniture as it was taken from France to the UK.

The migrants could be heard "screaming for their lives" after they arrived in Dover and Portsmouth between August and

October 2019, a court heard.

Five men have already been sentenced at Reading Crown Court for their roles in the cruel trafficking operation. A sixth, Adrian Constantin, 36, fled to his native Romania, but has since been extradited and brought to justice. Constantin was jailed on for three years and two months at Birmingham Crown Court. <https://www.lbc.co.uk>

### Off-duty police officer tackles knife-wielding youth

an off-duty police officer tackled a knife-wielding youth who was about to start stealing people's phones in east London. PC Nick Fox confronted two youths at 9am on Sunday April 23 in Kingsland Road, Hackney after he spotted them 'acting suspiciously' fearing they might be about to try and steal people's phones. When PC Fox shouted at the youths, one of them brandished a knife at him. He contacted local police CCTV officers, the Met's Robbery Taskforce and Response units.



He followed the youths, who appeared to be about to pounce on a lone female victim, shouting again to warn the victim, causing one of the men to approach him, threatening him with a knife.

But backup arrived and the youth fled on his bike, followed by PC Fox on foot. A member of the public stepped in to push the youth off his bike, and he was detained by PC Fox before being arrested.

A knife and three stolen mobile phones were found on him. The youth, 17, was found guilty of assault, possession of an offensive weapon, and one count of threatening a person with a bladed article. <https://www.lbc.co.uk>

## Thug knocked out female Asda worker



A violent thug who kicked and punched a female Asda worker unconscious while dressed as Spiderman has been sent to prison for six and a half years. Josh McDonald was the leader of a group of internet pranksters who filmed their bullying antics at the supermarket in Clapham, south-west London, in July 2021.

The kickboxing teacher, 32, fractured the eye socket of Asda staff member Lauren Scott, as well as knocking her out, while in the superhero outfit.

Others in the group included George O'Boyle, 30, who dressed up as Ali G while attacking a store manager and Sophie Roberts, 20, who joined the fray as Little Red Riding Hood. O'Boyle was given two years and two months behind bars. <https://www.lbc.co.uk>

## Brit handed ten-year flight ban by EasyJet

A university graduate was put on an EasyJet no fly list for a decade after the airline confused him for a man with the same name who was jailed for disruptive behaviour. Kieran Harris, 21, was booted off a lads' booking to Alicante after the airline cancelled his ticket.

The trainee auditor said he had been confused for a namesake jailed for 12 weeks after aggressive and abusive behaviour onboard an EasyJet flight. He received a 10 year no fly sanction until 15/03/2031. <https://www.lbc.co.uk>



## Police fail to solve burglary in half of neighbourhoods in last three years

Police have not solved a single burglary in nearly half the neighbourhoods in England and Wales in the past three years, analysis shows.

In just over 48% of 30,100 neighbourhoods, no burglaries were solved in the three years ending in March 2023. The shocking figure prompted a warning that the consequences for breaking into and robbing someone's home have effectively disappeared in much of the country.





Rick Muir, director at the Police Foundation, Britain's independent police think tank, said: "It is fair to say that in some parts of the country, there are some crime types – in this case, burglary – that have become decriminalised because there is absolutely no consequence to committing the crime."

A neighbourhood is classified as containing about 1,500 people or 650 households. Some 14,505 of 30,100 had no burglaries solved over the three years. Out of those, 7,776 had ten or more unsolved burglaries. <https://www.lbc.co.uk>

## Fake taxi driver' tried to rape two women

A man has been found guilty of kidnap, attempted rape and assault by penetration after posing as a taxi driver to lure victims into his car in Brighton. Graham Head, 66, dragged his first victim into bushes in Hove Park late at night in August 2022. She had earlier received a lift from him from Brighton to Hove Park. He tried to rape the woman, but she was able to escape when he fled the scene after her mobile phone rang.



Officers were able to track the car through city centre CCTV, as well as doorbell footage of the vehicle driving slowly along the road near Hove Park. He was subsequently charged with kidnap, attempted rape, assault by penetration, and sexual assault - and remanded in custody. <https://www.lbc.co.uk>

## Student 'suffocated with face mask



A female student died after being suffocated with a face mask, with the killer then dumping her body in a suitcase, a court has heard. Hina Bashir's killer Muhammad Arslan was "obsessed" with her followed her to the UK from Pakistan, prosecutors claim. Arslan, 27, has admitted manslaughter at the Old Bailey but denied murdering Ms Bashir, 21, who was studying business management in London, and pleaded not guilty to perverting the course of justice. <https://www.lbc.co.uk>

A female student died after being suffocated with a face mask, with the killer then dumping her body in a suitcase, a court has heard. Hina Bashir's killer Muhammad Arslan was "obsessed" with her followed her to the UK from Pakistan, prosecutors claim. Arslan, 27, has admitted manslaughter at the Old Bailey but denied murdering Ms Bashir, 21, who was studying business management in London, and pleaded not guilty to perverting the course of justice. <https://www.lbc.co.uk>

## Teenager appears in court charged with eight terrorism offences

A teenager has appeared in court charged with eight terrorism offences. Jacob Graham, 19, of Outer Forum, Norris Green, appeared this afternoon, June 23, at the Old Bailey by video link from Forest Bank prison. Graham is charged with two counts of preparation of terrorist acts,



two counts of dissemination of terrorist publications and four counts of possession of a document containing information likely to be useful to a terrorist.

The charges relating to preparing terrorist acts allege the teenager, between May 1, 2022, and May 26, 2023, bought items and acquired instructions to construct lethal firearms and ammunition, acquired and concealed materials to make explosive substances and created a document with the intention of assisting someone to commit acts of terrorism. He will appear for a plea, trial and preparation hearing on November 24 either at the Old Bailey or at Manchester Crown Court. A four-week trial

has been fixed for January 15 next year at Manchester Crown Court before a High Court judge.

<https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk>

## Rapper accused of plotting central London terror attack

A drill rapper who is accused of plotting a terrorist attack in central London has told a court he put on an “extremist Isis” persona to impress women.

Prosecutors say Al-Arfat Hassan, who gained a strong following of young Muslims under the name “TS”, used his music to glorify so-called Islamic State (IS) killings. Hassan, 20, from Enfield, north London, is on trial at Sheffield Crown Court accused of preparing terrorist acts alongside one of his fans, a 16-year-old from Leeds. Jurors were shown one of Hassan’s music videos, which featured him and other young men sitting round a table, wearing black clothing and balaclavas, with money and weapons on the table.



Both defendants deny preparing terrorist acts. Hassan has also pleaded not guilty to possessing an explosive substance under suspicious circumstances, while the 16-year-old denies possessing a document likely to be useful to a person committing or preparing to commit an act of terrorism. Prosecutors say the pair had “become heavily radicalised” by late 2021 and both “supported an extreme Islamist ideology”. The trial continues. <https://www.independent.co.uk>

## Nazi worshipper who built submachine gun in his garage jailed for seven years

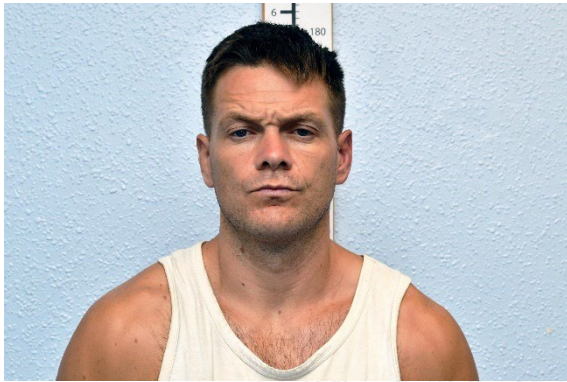
Ben Styles was preparing for a religious war after becoming obsessed with a mosque attack. Police found parts of a homemade weapon and tools at his home in Leamington Spa, Warks. There were manuals on converting blank bullets into live ammo, a Nazi fitness manual and a book on the SS. Jurors heard he visited New Zealand just before two Christchurch mosques were attacked killing 51 in 2019. The former engineering student, 25, admitted making weapons and collecting





terrorism material. He was jailed for five years for his weapon and two for the material at Birmingham crown court. <https://www.thesun.co.uk>

## Far-right fitness guru encouraged extreme terror attacks



The "head of fitness" at far-right organisation Patriotic Alternative was jailed for sharing manifestos that encouraged extreme terror attacks.

Fitness guru Kristofer Thomas Kearney, who went by the name Charlie Big Potatoes on Telegram, pleaded guilty in March to two offences of disseminating terrorist publications. The two offences relate to two Telegram posts on January 23 and March 8 2021 which saw the 38-

year-old share dozens of documents encouraging extreme right-wing terror attacks.

Kearney was jailed for four years and eight months concurrent on each count with an extended licence period of two years after finding the defendant legally dangerous. A notification requirement for a period of 10 years was also ordered. <https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk>

## Manchester bombing inquiry: First aid providers

The chairman of the Manchester Arena Inquiry has made a plea to the home secretary for "lasting change" after it emerged that there was no timescale to act on one of his key recommendations.

The government has done nothing to close a loophole that has left first aid providers at entertainment events unregulated and led to "unsafe treatment, abuse and deaths," the last day of the inquiry was told.



Sir John Saunders was holding the last of a three-day hearing, asking officials to explain whether they have implemented changes following the attack that led to the deaths of 22 people in May 2017. The hearing was told that the Department of Health had failed to take action to regulate event healthcare providers, despite a request from the regulator four years ago.

ETUK, the first aid provider at the arena, did not have enough staff with the right clinical qualifications on the night of the attack and some staff were not qualified to provide healthcare at events. <https://news-sky-com>

## Nottingham: Three killed, three injured

Three people were killed - and another three injured - in connected "horrific and tragic" attacks in Nottingham. Two people, believed to have been stabbed, were found dead by police in Ilkeston Road. Officers were then called to Milton Street where a van had attempted to run over three people.



Police, who have arrested a man on suspicion of murder, later found a man dead in Magdala Road.

The 31-year-old arrested man is in custody and several police cordons are in place in the city centre. Armed officers also raided a property in Ilkeston Road. Nottinghamshire Police said the three people injured in the van attack in Milton Street were being treated in hospital. Chief

Constable Kate Meynell said the force believed all three incidents were linked. <https://www.bbc.co.uk>

## Fentanyl found at scene of two deaths in Essex

Police investigating the deaths of a man and a woman in their 40s have issued a warning after a potentially deadly synthetic opioid was identified at the scene. Essex Police said a man and a woman were found dead at an address in Basildon. Officers identified the presence of etonitazene at the scene.

Etonitazene is a synthetic opioid that is 40 times more potent than fentanyl and at least 1,000 times more potent than morphine. Known by its street name Pyro, it is usually used on animals for addiction studies.



Essex Police said: "This substance may pose a high risk to users and anyone handling it. "Synthetic opioids are occasionally added to illicit drugs like heroin to enhance the potency, but they substantially increase the risk of respiratory arrest in users. <https://news.sky.com>

## Asylum seeker charged with 'rape' of a woman just 40 days after arriving in Britain



The 33-year-old is said to have dragged the alleged victim into bushes to attack her. He is understood to have arrived in the UK just 40 days earlier after crossing the Channel in a dinghy. The victim says she was dragged into bushes by a stranger and attacked, The Sun reported. Skegness MP Matt Warman described the allegations as "hugely shocking" and said it "understandably raised a number of significant concerns". <https://www.lbc.co.uk>

## Anti-terror rules could be 'final nail in the coffin' for thousands of village halls

Thousands of village halls across Britain are facing the possibility of closure due to concerns over proposed anti-terrorism legislation aimed at enhancing security in public places. The legislation, named Martyn's Law after Martyn Hett, a victim of the 2017 Manchester Arena attack would



require venues of all sizes to implement security measures, including training and evacuation plans.

However, the rules have raised worries about the burdensome impact of red tape on the UK's 10,000 volunteer-managed village halls, which are vital to local communities. <https://www.lbc.co.uk>



## Teenage girl 'drugged' at seaside gig suffers multiple seizures after being stabbed with needle



A teenager was allegedly drugged at a seaside concert after being stabbed with a needle at a popular Kent music venue.

Gracie Warren claims to have been targeted on Saturday while attending the Worried About Henry gig which took place at the Dreamland amusement park in Margate, Kent. Taking to Facebook, she spoke of how she was one of seven girls spiked at the music event,

with police now formally investigating after confirming "a teenage girl had become unwell" and later "discovered a puncture wound on her arm". It comes after the Sun reported a second spiking incident involving a girl at the same concert which was also reported. <https://www.lbc.co.uk>

## Man jailed after bomb manuals found on laptop

A man from Redhill has been jailed for eight years following an investigation by Counter Terrorism Policing South East (CTPSE).

CTPSE began investigating after a witness reported that suspicious titles about bomb making were slowing down a repair process being performed on a laptop. An investigation was carried out and searches were made of the man's properties and electronics.



Asad Bhatti was found guilty at the Old Bailey on 17 March this year of two counts of possessing an article for the purpose of terrorism, contrary to Section 57 of the Terrorism Act 2000 and three counts of making or possessing an explosive substance under suspicious circumstances contrary to Section 4 of the Explosive Substance Act.

Bhatti was found to have compiled manuals on making explosives, shooting techniques and hand to hand combat. He was also found in possession of manuals written by others. Officers also found chemicals, chemistry equipment, electronic circuitry and even an improvised explosive device, which was dismantled and not deemed functional, in a storage unit.

<https://counterterrorbusiness.com>

## Police appeal following petrol bomb incident in Lurgan



Police of Northern Ireland are appealing for information following a report of a petrol bomb incident at residential premises in the Tannaghmore View area of Lurgan on Wednesday 28 June.

Inspector Conway said: "Shortly before 1:20am, it was reported that two petrol bombs were thrown at two houses in the area. There were no reports of any injuries, but scorch damage was reported to

the front door of one of the properties and there was scorch damage to plastic guttering at the other property. <https://counterterrorbusiness.com>

## Arrest after explosives found at a house in Leyland

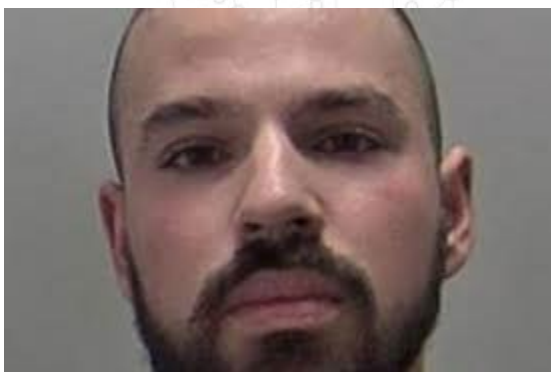
A 59-year-old man has been arrested under the Explosives Act after police carried out a pre-planned warrant at a house in Leyland.

Officers from Lancashire Constabulary found a quantity of items of concern including suspicious chemicals and potential explosive equipment. Several properties were evacuated as a precaution and a cordon is in place. The investigation is being led by Counter Terrorism Policing North West with support from Lancashire Police and partner agencies.

<https://counterterrorbusiness.com>



## Man admits collecting terrorism material



A man from Leamington Spa has admitted to making weapons and ammunition and collecting terrorism material. He was acquitted of engaging in conduct in preparation for a terrorist act, contrary to section 5(1) of the Terrorism Act 2006 at Birmingham Crown Court today (15 June).

At an earlier legal hearing in November 2021, Styles also admitted three counts of collecting information contrary to section 58 Terrorism Act

2006 (right wing material and instructional firearms documents) and one count of possessing a prohibited weapon contrary to section 5(1a) Firearms Act 1968.

Ben Styles, a supporter of extreme right-wing ideology, was arrested on 12 April 2021 by detectives from Counter Terrorism Policing West Midlands CTU. The court was told how he had acquired tools including a lathe and a drill press and was making a gun at the time detectives arrested him and searched his home. <https://counterterrorbusiness.com>



## Man jailed after posting offensive material online



A man from Solihull has been jailed after posting material online to stir up racial hatred as well as supporting a far-right banned terrorism group online. Richard Osborne was sentenced to three years and 10 months for two counts of publishing material intended to provoke racial hatred and homophobia.

Between 2021 and January 2023, when he was arrested, Osborne had used social media to post material which strongly indicated his support of white supremacy and neo-Nazi views.

His property was searched by officers, a shotgun was found under a bed and he was charged with possession without a license. A baton was also found in his car which had been adapted from a metal bar. He was also charged with possession of an offensive weapon in a public place. At a court appearance in May, he pleaded guilty to all offences.

<https://counterterrorbusiness.com>

## Man jailed for sharing terrorist material

A man from West London has been jailed for sharing terrorist propaganda on social media following a counter-terrorism investigation by the Met.

Mohammad Zubair Khan was found to have shared Daesh videos glorifying terrorism on various online platforms over an 18-month period.

The Met's Counter Terrorism Command investigated after officers found that Khan had posted an extremist video on Twitter in May 2021. He was then arrested in November 2021. In November 2022, Khan admitted to multiple terrorism offences at the Old Bailey. He has now been sentenced to four years' imprisonment and one year on licence.

<https://counterterrorbusiness.com>



## Man jailed after sharing extremist content online

A man from east London has been jailed for six years after sharing Daesh propaganda and terrorist material via social media. On 29 March 2022, Ismail Kissa was stopped at Stansted Airport by ports officers from the Eastern Region Special Operations Unit (ERSOU) using powers under Schedule 7 of the Terrorism Act 2000. Officers examined two mobile phones he was carrying and found a number of files and videos of concern linked to Daesh and Islamist terrorism.

He was arrested and questioned by officers about the content on his phone. He was released on bail and the phones were sent for further forensic examination, which found that he was a member of various extremist chat groups on the Telegram app. It was discovered that he had shared a number of Daesh propaganda videos and terrorist content with others on these groups.

Officers also found an instructional video on one of his phones which contained details of how to make a 'molotov cocktail' device. <https://counterterrorismbusiness.com>

## Warning over 'crash for cash' scammers on mopeds



Fraudsters on mopeds are driving head-first into motorists in a rising insurance scam that has claimed thousands of victims, authorities have warned. Many of the "crash for cash" moped scammers are believed to be couriers delivering items including takeaways, according to the Insurance Fraud Bureau (IFB). Nearly every UK insurer has received bogus claims related to the fraud - collectively valued at £27m - with more than 2,200

victims in London alone in the last two years, where it has "become epidemic", investigators say.

It is feared thousands more drivers have unknowingly been targeted across the country - and an urgent appeal has now been launched to help motorists learn the warning signs of the scam. <https://news.sky.com>

## Teenage boy dies after stabbing in central London

Police have launched a murder investigation after a boy was stabbed to death in London. The teenager, believed to be 17, was found with a stab wound in Paddington. Emergency services including an air ambulance were sent to the scene but despite the efforts of paramedics he was pronounced dead, the Metropolitan Police said. <https://news.sky.com>



## Hundreds of County Lines busted across Merseyside



More than 200 drug networks across Merseyside were shut down in County Lines operations by police last year. New data released by Merseyside Police has revealed the extent to which the force has gone in a bid to break up drug dealing on a local and national level. County lines is the name given to drug dealing where organised criminal groups use phone lines to move and supply drugs, usually from cities into smaller towns and rural areas.

Merseyside Police leads nationally on the response to County Lines through Project Medusa. Chief Superintendent Matt Smith told a police scrutiny panel led by Emily Spurrell, Merseyside police and crime commissioner, how the force had moved to tackle drugs being transported up and down the country. He said 419 lines had been closed across the UK in 2022-23, with 219 of those in Merseyside alone. The highest proportion



of those were in Liverpool, with 76 operations busted. A further 56 were located on the Wirral with 53 in Sefton.

<https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk>

## Police storm TUI plane at Manchester

Footage has shown the moment police stormed a plane at Manchester Airport after a woman had refused to put a seatbelt on her child on a delayed flight. Passengers on the TUI flight were already 'exhausted' and 'in a terrible mood' after taking off over six hours late from Kos. However, there were further delays when the pilot had to abort landing and circle over the Peak District when a passenger refused to buckle up her child.



The rest of the passengers had to wait for police to escort the woman off the plane when it eventually landed in Manchester.

<https://www.mirror.co.uk>

## Teenager appears in court charged with eight terrorism offences



Jacob Graham, 19, of Outer Forum, Norris Green, appeared this afternoon, June 23, at the Old Bailey by video link from Forest Bank prison. Graham is charged with two counts of preparation of terrorist acts, two counts of dissemination of terrorist publications and four counts of possession of a document containing information likely to be useful to a terrorist.

The charges relating to preparing terrorist acts allege the teenager, between May 1, 2022, and May 26 2023, bought items and acquired instructions to construct lethal firearms and ammunition, acquired and concealed materials to make explosive substances and created a document with the intention of assisting someone to commit acts of terrorism.

It is further alleged that Graham distributed or circulated documents containing information on explosives, improvised and homemade munitions in January and March this year, and that he possessed documents containing similar information between May 2022 and 2023.

<https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk>

## Arrests made and alleged 'improvised explosive devices' found after 'explosion' in South Shields

Arrests have been made after a number of alleged "improvised explosive devices" were found following reports of an explosion in South Shields.

Police were called to an address on St Aidan's Road on Sunday afternoon after reports of an explosion and a man and woman were arrested after suspicious items were discovered. Bomb disposal experts also arrived on scene to investigate the items and an address was cordoned off.

"A man and a woman, aged 27 and 22, were immediately placed under arrest and remain in police custody at this time. As a safety precaution, as bomb disposal experts carried out enquiries into the devices, a cordon was placed around the premises and a number of nearby residents were evacuated." <https://www.chroniclive.co.uk>

## Horrific weekend of London violence



A grim weekend in London has seen seven people stabbed, including two who lost their lives. The victims of the two fatal knife attacks were a 17-year-old boy who was pulled from a canal in West London following a knife attack, and a man in his 20s who died in hospital from his wounds after an attack in Peckham, South East London

Elsewhere two men were stabbed in Surrey Quays, South London, while a stabbing in Croydon saw a man rushed to hospital where he is still fighting for his life. In Tottenham, a teenage boy was arrested after being stabbed and rushed to hospital where his injuries were not assessed as life-threatening. And a man was stabbed in Kilburn.

<https://www-mylondon-news>

## Coventry man prosecuted for breaching security licence conditions

Jim Munupe was handed a Conditional Discharge for 12-months. The court also ordered him to pay £200 prosecution costs and a victim surcharge of £26 within 14 days and he now has a criminal record.

On 4 October 2022 a counterfeit SIA licence bearing the name of a legitimate licence holder was handed to the SIA. Information received indicated that the licence was in circulation at a Basingstoke construction site. This triggered an investigation by the SIA's Criminal Investigations Team. The investigation identified that the security supplier for the site was Ascent Onsite Services Ltd, and the sole director of the company is Jim Munupe. Mr Munupe denied supplying illegal security to the Basingstoke construction site. He also confirmed that he had stopped supplying security to the site in January 2023.

<https://www.gov.uk>



## Bristol man caught applying to work in security industry using multiple names



The man now known as 'Omar Victory' pleaded guilty to two counts of fraud by false representation and to contravening the Private Security Industry Act. He was sentenced to a £200 fine, £160 prosecution costs and a £85 victim surcharge, which must be paid with 14 days. He also now has a further criminal conviction which will prevent him from working in the security industry. <https://www.gov.uk>

## Birkenhead company director prosecuted for supplying illegal security

Christopher Smith, sole director of Prenton-based Storm Secure Ltd was sentenced to a conditional discharge for a period of 12 months and ordered to pay £1,200 prosecution costs and a victim surcharge of £22. The company was handed an absolute discharge. The sentencing followed the prosecutions on 11 May when Mr Smith entered guilty pleas for the supply of an unlicensed door supervisor to a Birkenhead bar and restaurant in November 2021.



Security Industry Authority

The Security Industry Authority (SIA) brought the prosecutions following a joint enforcement initiative with Merseyside Police and Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council licence enforcement officers. Together they carried out inspections in Birkenhead in November 2021 having received information that several bars and pubs were using illegal security. <https://www.gov.uk>

## Bournemouth director sentenced for supplying illegal security

On Thursday 29 June 2023, a Bournemouth company director, and his business were prosecuted at Poole Magistrates' Court for supplying unlicensed security. The court fined Patrick Briggs £960 and ordered him to pay £1,400.60 prosecution costs and a victim surcharge of £768. The court also fined his business Principal Protection and Events Ltd (PPE) £20,000 and required the business to pay a victim surcharge of £8,000 and prosecution costs of £1,400.60. Mr Briggs is appealing the fine. <https://www.gov.uk>

## Erith man prosecuted for fraud

Olajide Shomoye from Erith was handed a suspended jail sentence of 24-weeks imprisonment, suspended for 18-months. Bexley Magistrates' Court also ordered him to pay £2,887 compensation to his victim MNX Security. In addition, the same court also sentenced him to do 100 hours unpaid work and pay £85 prosecution costs. The prosecution for fraud was brought by the Security Industry Authority (SIA) and the sentence follows his guilty plea entered on 7 June 2023.



Mr Shomoye did 27 illegal shifts between 18 May 2021 and 12 July 2021 using a cloned licence. <https://www.gov.uk>

## Security industry news

### COVID-19 fraudster sentenced for laundering circa £200,000 from taxpayers



A fraudster who sought to exploit the taxpayer through a COVID-19 support scheme has been sentenced. Rais Kayani, aged 31, had previously pleaded guilty at Southwark Crown Court to a single count

of entering into a money laundering arrangement and has now been sentenced to 16 months' imprisonment wholly suspended for 18 months.

A National Investigation Service (NATIS) investigation revealed that, between 4 May and 9 May 2020, multiple false applications were made for the Small Business Grant Fund at St Helen's, Thurrock and Rochdale local authorities. The three councils were defrauded of £35,000, £85,000 and £75,000 respectively, in turn leading to a total loss of £195,000.

<https://securitymattersmagazine.com>

### Julie Nel appointed chair of The Security Institute

The Security Institute has announced that Julie Nel MA MSyl, who was voted on to the Board by the membership at the organisation's 2023 Annual General Meeting, will become chair from 24 July. Nel takes the reins from Peter Lavery FSyl, who will complete seven years on the Board at the end of this year. <https://securitymattersmagazine.com>

### Arena Inquiry on SIA, Home Office

All UK private security industry eyes and ears are on the moves towards a Protect Duty, which would place a legal responsibility on venues and other public places to guard against terrorism. Less noted is that earlier this week the Manchester Arena Inquiry sat for its final public hearing to hear what's been done (or not) about its recommendations.

The Home Office is seeking to bring in a Protect Duty, as backed by the Manchester Arena Inquiry in its volume one report in summer 2021, and arising from the campaign by Figen Murray, whose son Martyn Hett (whose name has been given to the proposed Martyn's Law) was among those who died in the Arena bomb of May 2017. Among the 'monitored recommendations' of the Inquiry's volume one of three reports, in 2021, was that in-house CCTV control room operators should have to be SIA-badged; and that the Security Industry Authority should licence all security businesses, not just (as under the approved contractor scheme) those who volunteer. The Inquiry closed last year with its third volume. The Wednesday session heard updates about what various authorities have or haven't done about the Inquiry's recommendations. The session dwelt on how the Home Office has decided against those two recommendations involving the SIA, which left the





Authority's chief exec Michelle Russell 'disappointed', as she put it in a letter to the Inquiry, as read by counsel to the Inquiry, Paul Greany. <https://professionalsecurity.co.uk>

## Government tables amendments to NI Troubles legacy legislation

The government has formally introduced amendments to legislation seeking to address the legacy of the Troubles in Northern Ireland. The legislation aims to deliver better outcomes for all those most affected by the Troubles.



Amendments include: allowing ongoing criminal investigations, inquests, the consideration of prosecution decisions, and the publication of reports, to continue until May 2024; the revocation of immunity if an individual is subsequently convicted of terrorism offences or offences connected to terrorism committed after immunity was granted; and expressly confirming that the Commissioner for Investigations, when

exercising operational control over the conduct of reviews, must comply with obligations imposed by the Human Rights Act 1998.

The Report Stage of the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill is scheduled to proceed in the House of Lords later this month. The amendments also cover placing the ICIR under a new duty to offer victims and their families the opportunity to submit personal impact statements and placing the ICIR under a new duty requiring it to take reasonable steps to secure information relevant to the assessment of the truth of a person's account as part of their application for immunity. <https://counterterrorbusiness.com>

## Campaign targets safety at live music events

Counter Terrorism Policing is working with the UK live music industry on its #BeSafeBeSound campaign, which highlights the importance of reporting suspicious activity at live music events.

Created in 2021, #BeSafeBeSound urges music fans to stay alert to any signs of hostile reconnaissance and follow safety advice or security procedures in place at events and venues. Since its launch, the campaign has reached over 10 million people in the UK via social media and other platforms. Over 60 organisations are now backing the campaign, which will be seen at events across the UK in the coming weeks and beyond. UK Music, Festival Republic and The O2 are amongst those supporting the campaign



Counter Terrorism Policing's Senior National Coordinator for Protect and Prepare Laurence Taylor said: "The terrorist threat remains a reality. Since 2017 we have disrupted almost 40 late-stage terror attacks alongside our colleagues at MI5. "Whilst there is no specific intelligence to indicate an increased threat to live music events, the UK's terrorism threat level remains at substantial.

<https://counterterrorbusiness.com>

## Spying by undercover Met Police officers on left-wing groups was 'unjustified'

The Special Demonstration Squad (SDS) infiltrated more than 1,000 political groups like Sinn Féin and anti-apartheid activists from 1968-2008, with the aim of keeping public order.



And the group also spied on justice campaigns, like the scheme led by the family of Stephen Lawrence, the black teenager killed in a racist murder in 1993. Officers were also later discovered to have had sexual relationships - and even fathered children - with women who were unaware of their true identities.

The actions of 139 SDS officers are being investigated by a public inquiry, led by Sir John Mitting. The first stage of the inquiry, covering the squad's initial 14 years, was recently reported. Sir John found that if the activities of the SDS had been properly examined earlier on, it would have been "brought to a rapid end" in the 1970s.

<https://www.lbc.co.uk>

## Funding announced for protection for places of worship

UK security minister, Tom Tugendhat, has announced £28 million in funding to protect places of worship. The funding is available through two schemes and is part of the government's commitment to protect faith communities in England and Wales from the threat of hate crime and terror attacks.

The money can be spent on physical protective security, such as CCTV, intruder alarms and secure fencing for mosques, churches, temples, gurdwaras and other places of worship. Mosques will also be able to access a new security guarding scheme later in the year. Security Minister, Tom Tugendhat said: "Freedom of religious belief and the freedom to worship are fundamental.

<https://counterterrorbusiness.com>



## UK to roll out expansion to Ukrainian cyber defence

The UK government has announced funding to boost Ukraine's cyber defences. The cyber defence programme supports Ukraine's Government to rapidly respond to and defend government services against cyber-attacks and is set to receive a funding injection of up to £25 million and a two-year expansion.

The Ukraine Cyber Programme (UCP) uses expertise, from the private and public sector, to protect Ukraine's critical national infrastructure and public services. The package will include £16 million in UK funding and potential for a further £9 million contribution from international allies.

<https://counterterrorbusiness.com>



## New regulations for military cyber security

New regulation has been introduced to counter threats of cyber-attack on military air systems and to assess and mitigate potential impacts on air safety. The Military Aviation Authority (MAA) has now equipped the regulated community with Cyber Security for Airworthiness (CSA) regulation to ensure our safety-related systems are appropriately protected from this non-traditional, emerging threat to air safety.



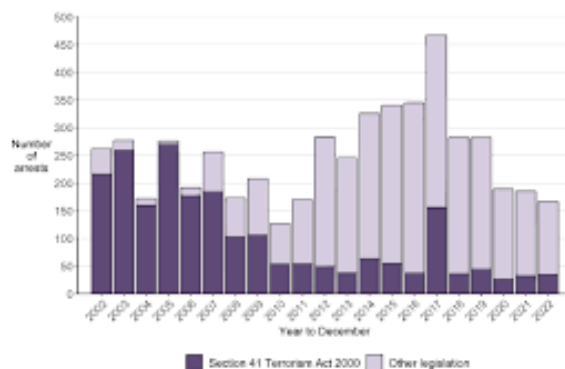
RA 5890 – Cyber Security for Airworthiness and Air Safety – Type Design and Changes / Repairs to Type Design introduces responsibilities for TAAs / TAMs to ensure that air system cyber security risk assessments are conducted. Identified cyber threats shall be suitably mitigated to combat the potential negative impact on CSA and air

safety.

RA 1202 – Cyber Security for Airworthiness and Air Safety introduces responsibilities for ADH / AM(MF) / SRO to ensure that cyber security threats to airworthiness and Air Safety are identified, suitably mitigated, and managed through life. <https://counterterrorbusiness.com>

## Stats published on operation of police powers under Terrorism Act

The Home Office has published a quarterly update to March 2023 on operation of police powers under the Terrorism Act 2000. The document contains statistical material relating to the Terrorism Act 2000, including arrests and outcomes, and stops and searches.



The statistics reveal that there were 169 arrests for terrorism-related activity in the year ending 31 March 2023. This is 27 fewer than in the year ending 31 March 2022, representing a 14 per cent decrease.

Of the 169 arrests for terrorist-related activity: 52 (31 per cent) resulted in a charge, of which 46 were for terrorism-related offences; 65 (38 per cent) persons were bailed to return and released under investigation; 43 persons (25 per cent) were

released without charge; and 9 (5 per cent) faced alternative action, for example, receiving a caution or recalled to prison. In the year ending 31 March 2023, 53 persons were tried for terrorism-related offences, which is 7 fewer than in the year ending 31 March 2022.

As of 31 March 2023m, there were 232 persons in custody for terrorism-connected offences in Great Britain. . <https://counterterrorbusiness.com>

## Drivers and fly-tippers face new litter penalties in Scotland

Larger penalties for fly-tipping and fresh powers to fine drivers who throw rubbish from vehicles are part of a new Scottish government litter strategy.

Fly-tipping fines will be raised from £200 to £500. There will also new support for schemes that provide alternatives to single-use items like coffee cups. Circular Economy Minister Lorna Slater said it was part of a wider package of measures to tackle Scotland's "throwaway culture". More than £280m a year is spent cleaning up litter in Scotland, which environmental campaigners say is the worst in a decade. <https://www-bbc-co-uk>

## Food couriers targeted by moped thieves

In the year prior to the pandemic, it was reported that 7.5 billion food deliveries were made in the UK and a separate report from the NPD Group showed an increase in UK food deliveries of 39% in three years.



A similar study for hospitality EPOS company, Zonal, reveals that 28% of consumers in the UK ordered more meal deliveries than 12 months ago, with nearly half of the orders

being made through online channels.

Whilst this growth is great news for the food delivery sector, it has also led to an increase in delivery drivers being targeted for their mopeds.

In the Police Foundation report titled 'Victimisation and fear of crime in the gig economy', it lists numerous firsthand accounts of food delivery couriers being threatened with weapons, being chased by offenders in vehicles, and returning from a delivery to find their moped's gone.

Not only can a stolen motorbike have a devastating impact on a courier's livelihood, that vehicle is then often used to commit other offences. If the theft has involved a physical confrontation or assault on the individual, that can also have long lasting emotional and psychological effect on the victim.

NBCC's Paul Fagg said: "We know from talking with police and industry bodies that this ongoing threat is making couriers feel scared and vulnerable. However, many have no choice but to carry on in the job regardless of the risks. It is essential that the companies they work for do all they can to protect their employees by putting security and safety measures in place and provide them with guidance on how to stay safe."

The NBCC has worked with a number of partners to develop a 'Food Courier Safety Guide' as part of their crime prevention series to provide practical advice to individuals and the companies who employ them. <https://nbcc.police.uk>

## Featured Video: Renewing your door supervisor licence





The SIA have launched 8 new guidance videos for licence applicants and existing licence holders in May. The featured video here offers guidance on the process of renewing the door supervisor licence. To view all of the new licensing videos, visit our YouTube Channel.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/security-industry-authority>

## BSI New guidance on security plans and integration

The British Standards Institution (BSI) has published 'Security and resilience - Protective security - Guidelines for the development of a security plan for an organisation' (ISO 22342:2023) which provides guidance on developing and maintaining security plans. The security plan describes how an organisation establishes effective security planning and how it can integrate security within organisational risk management practices.



This document is applicable to all organisations regardless of type, size and nature, whether in the private, public or not-for-profit sectors, that wish to develop effective security plans in a consistent manner. This document is applicable to any organisation intending to implement measures designed to protect their assets against malicious acts and mitigate their associated risks.

This document does not provide specific criteria for identifying the need to implement or enhance prevention and protection measures against malicious acts. It does not apply to services and operations delivered by private security companies. This ISO 22342:2023 will be released on 30 June 2023.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/security-industry-authority>

## SIA Last month in numbers

In May 2023 we recorded the following statistics:

- Number of applications received: 16,356
- Number of paid applications received: 14,676
- Average time it took us to make a decision to grant or refuse an application: 12.1 working days
- Number of applications granted: 15131
- Number of applications refused: 132
- Number of licences revoked: 90
- Number of licences suspended: 82

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/security-industry-authority>

## 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/news/forthcoming-closure-of-ccp-scheme>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/news/moveit-transfer-vulnerability>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/information/moveit-vulnerability>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/news/uk-cyber-chief-ai-should-be-developed-with-security-at-its-core>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/news/legal-firms-urged-to-strengthen-cyber-defences>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/news/20th-anniversary-of-first-response-to-state-sponsored-cyber-attack>



## Demonstrations / protests



### Just Stop Oil protesters covered in milk as they carry out latest road blocking slow march

A passerby threw milk over a group of Just Stop Oil protesters as they held up traffic during their latest slow marching stunt. The furious onlooker acted after the eco-activists slow marched through Hammersmith during Thursday evening's London rush-hour.

In a video posted online, a man can be heard muttering to himself before he approaches the group of around six protesters in the road and throws an open bottle of whole milk over them. He then declines a leaflet from one of those involved in the protest before asking the activists: "What's going on here?"

He then proceeds to throw the milk across several of those gathered, before pouring the remnants over their heads. <https://www.lbc.co.uk>

### Just Stop Oil invade The Ashes



Just Stop Oil protesters have disrupted play at Lords during the second Ashes test. Sparking fury among spectators, two protesters ran onto the field with orange powder in hand, throwing it into the air before being tackled to the ground by players and stewards.

Taking place shortly before the first ball of the second over was bowled, the incident saw two people sprint from the stands towards the wicket as they flung powder paint. Three people have now been arrested as a result of the protests, the Metropolitan Police have said. <https://www.lbc.co.uk>

## Wimbledon 2023: Security plans 'uplifted'

Security plans for this year's Wimbledon have been "uplifted", says the championships' organiser. Just Stop Oil activists have interrupted the rugby union Premiership final, the World Snooker Championship and the Grand National this year. Dite says the AELTC has been working in partnership with specialist agencies and the Metropolitan Police, as well as liaising with organisers of other sporting events, including the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), to refine best practices.



"Based on what has happened at other sporting events, and on the advice from our key partners, we have reviewed our security plans, which have now been uplifted for the Championships accordingly," Dite added. <https://www.bbc.com>

## Unions protest over CCTV in offices

Trade union members have protested outside Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council offices against the installation of CCTV cameras. Nipsa, GMB and Unite said cameras were installed in some offices and staff are concerned over a lack of consultation. Nipsa said the union was told the cameras were in recording mode. The council said the additional CCTV devices were being installed "to enhance security and to ensure staff feel safe in the workplace".

It added that this had been done "as part on an ongoing review and upgrade of facility security", a spokesman said. "This matter will not be progressed any further until after consideration of governance processes and staff consultation," he added. <https://www.bbc.co.uk>

## Has Britain finally run out of patience with Just Stop Oil protesters



Just Stop Oil protesters appeared shaken and stunned when a fed-up motorcyclist caught behind their latest slow march through the streets of London ploughed through their banner before tossing it away as he rode off.

This was just the latest act of rebellion from frustrated road users who, when faced with the disruption that these eco-activists cause, are increasingly taking matters into their own hands. In recent days, we have seen them screamed at by van drivers, had their banners ripped up by workmen and a youngster and doused in water as they walked through Camden in North London. And their current tactics have been slammed as "performative" by one of their original funders. American entrepreneur Trevor Neilson told The Times: "It's become disruption for the sake of disruption."

"Working people that are trying to get to their job, get their kid dropped off at school, survive a brutal cost of living crisis in the UK, you know, there's a certain hierarchy of needs that they have."



"If at the same time they have a pink-haired, tattooed and pierced protester standing in front of their car, so that their kid is late for their test that day, that does not encourage them to join the movement.

"It's just performative. It's not accomplishing anything. I absolutely believe that it has now become counterproductive, and I just feel like that has to be said by somebody that was involved in the beginnings of what it has become." And that is the point.

No-one can criticise the motives of these protesters who clearly believe in what they are doing and have shown a willingness for self-sacrifice that is admirable. But we are now in the tenth week of these protests and - to put it bluntly - what have they achieved?

As a country, we are in the middle of a cost-of-living crisis and people face unprecedented challenges just to survive and keep their homes.

We all sympathise with the Just Stop Oil motives, but life is difficult enough at the moment without any unnecessary disruption. And these slow marches have been going on for ten weeks.

This is without counting the disruption they caused at the Rugby Cup final at Twickenham, the Epsom Derby and the Chelsea Flower show.

History has shown us that in Britain those wanting to bring about proper, effective change need to have the support of the masses. Just Stop Oil seem to be rapidly losing that support.

<https://www.lbc.co.uk>

## Anti-vaccine conspiracy theorist' jailed over plot to destroy 5g phone masts



An anti-vaccine conspiracy theorist has been jailed for 12 months for plotting to destroy mobile phone masts. Conspiracy theorist Christine Grayson, 59, discussed "getting rid" of the mobile phone masts with expanding foam and angle grinders, after "becoming obsessed" with the belief that they were linked to the Covid-19 vaccine, Leeds Crown Court heard. At the end of a five-week

terrorism trial, the charity fundraiser was found guilty of conspiracy to commit criminal damage and acquitted of encouraging terrorism.

Her co-defendant Darren Reynolds, 60, was convicted of eight terrorist offences, but acquitted of the criminal damage charge. <https://www.lbc.co.uk>