



INCIDENT UPDATE

This message contains information about an incident that has occurred within the UK or abroad. Recipients are asked to consider if action may be required in relation to the contents of this message

London Regional Counter Terrorism Protective Security Incident Update—19th June 2017

UK TERRORISM THREAT LEVELS

INTERNATIONAL

SEVERE
AN ATTACK IS HIGHLY LIKELY

For more information
please see:
<http://www.mi5.gov.uk>

NORTHERN IRISH RELATED to the UK

SUBSTANTIAL
AN ATTACK IS A STRONG
POSSIBILITY

Summary of CSSC Bridge Call — Finsbury Park, London - Monday 19th June 2017 (Message 3)

A CSSC Bridge call was held today at 4.30 pm during which more than 85 Industry Sector Leads were briefed by Superintendent Dave Roney, from the office of the National Coordinator Protect and Prepare. Superintendent Nick Aldworth from the Metropolitan Police Protective Security Operations & London Protect was also present to respond to any questions. Please find below a summary of the update provided during the call conference call.

Police were called just after 0020hrs 18 June to reports of a van in collision with pedestrians, at the junction of Seven Sisters Road, N4 and Whadcoat Road, N4.

A hire van, hired from Wales, was driven into a crowd of people outside the Muslim Welfare House on Seven Sisters Road, Finsbury Park. This close to two local mosques.

The van was seen to slow down deliberately and before rapidly accelerating into the crowd. The assailant left the van and was pinned to the ground by the surrounding crowd.

Metropolitan Police and London Ambulance Service were called. The driver of the van is a 48yr old male from Wales. He was found and detained by members of public at the scene and then arrested by police in connection with the incident.

The male suspect does not feature on Terrorism or Domestic Extremism watch lists. His mental health is being assessed.

Searches are being carried out at a residential address in the Cardiff area.

He appears to have left a note in the van which contains a racist and anti-Islamic rhetoric. He is being investigated for terrorism offences, Murder and Attempted Murder – Racially motivated / Hate Crime.

Emergency services attended and found and treated a number of casualties. 11 victims: 10 injured and 1 deceased.

One man was pronounced dead at the scene. A post mortem examination will be scheduled due course.

Early reports indicate that this male had collapsed and was being treated by members of the public, prior to being driven at by the suspect.



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Eight other people were injured and taken to three separate hospitals – two of these are critical; additionally two people were treated at the scene for minor injuries. At this stage there are no reports of any persons having suffered any knife injuries.

Seven Sisters Road was extremely busy at the time of the attack and we are appealing for anyone who witnessed the attack to come forward.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu said: "Our thoughts are with all those affected by the incident at Seven Sisters Road and their families, friends and communities.

"This is being treated as a terrorist incident and is being investigated by the Counter Terrorism Command. The investigation is ongoing and we are working fast to know the full details of how and why this took place.

"All the victims were from the Muslim community and we will be deploying extra police patrols to reassure the public, especially those observing Ramadan.

"We are working hard to protect all communities and the public will see additional officers patrolling across the city and at Muslim places of worship. This was an attack on London and all Londoners. We should all stand together against extremists whatever their cause."

We continue to review security across London, with a focus on all places of worship including mosques and Muslim community centres. Communities can expect to see more uniformed police officers at many of these places, as reassurance as they have seen in other crowded places. Local and senior police officers regularly meet with faith leaders and will be doing so following this attack to hear local concerns and provide reassurance to communities.

We are conscious there are a number of events planned across the London and the rest of the UK and we continue to ensure that security plans are robust by working in partnership with all event organisers.

Anyone who witnessed the attack or who has any information that will assist the investigation is asked to contact police in confidence on 0800 789321. If it's an emergency always dial 999. Anyone with images or footage from the incident is urged to upload it at the secure site www.ukpoliceimageappeal.co.uk

Community engagement has been extensive and reassurance messages are a key theme. Social Media monitoring also underway, specifically looking at XRW groups and individuals.

The past few weeks have seen a high tempo of attacks and I have been very impressed with the manner in which the business community has responded. I am asking that yet again you ensure your plans are fit for purpose and that your staff are engaging to monitor suspicious behaviour, especially in respect of vehicles. Staff, whether security or everyday front of house staff, should be proactive when engaging with visitors to your premises. I also refer you again to the new crowded places guidance and menu of options on the NaCTS0 website.

You are also reminded that staff may feel vulnerable, especially from some cultures and you should be mindful of their needs, especially with us being in Ramadan.

We are also facing a wide range of community issues following recent events and the Grenfell House fire, so please be aware of that and support your staff as far as you can.

As ever, we continue to urge the public with any information on this incident, or any anything that they think is suspicious, to call the confidential police helpline on 0800 789 321.