

Witness: Nicholas Aldworth

Date: 21 Nov 20

**IN THE MATTER OF THE INQUIRY ARISING FROM THE 22 DEATHS IN THE
MANCHESTER ARENA BOMBING**

BEFORE HON. SIR JOHN SAUNDERS

FIRST WITNESS STATEMENT OF NICHOLAS ALDWORTH

I, Nicholas Aldworth, say as follows:

1. I am Nicholas Aldworth, born on the DPA
2. I provide this witness statement at the request of the Chairman for the Manchester Arena Inquiry, Hon. Sir John Saunders.
3. I provide this evidence as a true record of my first-hand knowledge of events as I experienced them as well as opinion based on extensive professional experience.
4. Since 1983, I have worked in military, policing or security-related roles, this being my 37th year of such. Initially I was a commissioned officer in the Royal Air Force Security Branch before joining Thames Valley Police Service in 1990. I undertook a variety of roles during this time, including VIP protection and counter-terrorism explosive search. I joined the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) in 2004 and spent 6 years working on Armed Response Vehicles, notably responding to the terrorist attacks in London in 2005 and the aftermath of these that saw us develop new approaches to managing suicide terrorism. I was the MPS policy lead for the Police Use of Firearms and heavily involved in resolving the procedural failings that had led to the accidental shooting at Stockwell Tube station in 2005.