

**RESTRICTION ORDER FOR THE DISCLOSURE OF HASHEM ABEDI'S
WRITTEN STATEMENT, BY INSPECTION**

**RESTRICTION ORDER PURSUANT TO SECTION 19 OF THE INQUIRIES ACT
2005**

This Restriction Order is made pursuant to section 19(1)(b) of the Inquiries Act 2005 (“the Act”) and binds all members of the public and media, including Core Participants.

Any threat to break such an order, or any breach of it, can be certified to the High Court or Court of Session under section 36 of the Act, and the Court will deal with it as though the breach had occurred in proceedings before that Court.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

A. General

1. This Order is made on 8 December 2020 and remains in force indefinitely, until further Order.
2. The Chairman may vary or revoke this Order by making a further order at any point.
3. Any breach of this Order by any means whatsoever shall be notified in writing to the Solicitor to the Inquiry (“STI”) immediately upon identification of the breach.

B. Disclosure

4. This Order is made in respect of the following documents:
 - a. The five page handwritten prepared statement of Hashem Abedi drafted on, or before, 23 October 2020 ("the Handwritten Statement");
 - b. A typed copy of the Handwritten Statement; and
 - c. A typed translation of all Arabic text within the Handwritten Statement.

5. Together, the materials referenced at paragraph 4 are to be referred to as the "Prepared Statement".
6. The Prepared Statement is to be made available to Core Participants, by inspection only.
7. Disclosure of the Prepared Statement is to be limited to those whom the Chairman is satisfied have good reason to receive it and it is necessary for their effective participation in the Inquiry. That disclosure will include, but it is not limited to, the families of those who were killed in the attack, and their legal representatives.
8. Disclosure of the Prepared Statement is subject to the following conditions:
 - a. A register will be kept of each person who inspects the Prepared Statement;
 - b. A copy of the Prepared Statement must be received by a member of the Core Participant's legal team ("the Recipient"), who will sign as having received the documents;
 - c. The Recipient must hold the Prepared Statement securely, and in accordance with the Inquiry's confidentiality undertaking;
 - d. The Prepared Statement must remain within the Manchester Magistrates' Court building;
 - e. The content of the Prepared Statement must not be copied or transcribed, in full or in part.
 - f. No notes, photograph, image or any copy will be taken of the content of the Prepared Statement.
 - g. The Prepared Statement must be returned to a member of the Inquiry Legal Team within 30 minutes of the hearing day on which it is received, concluding.
9. Paragraph 8(d) shall not apply to the inspection of the Prepared Statement by Mr Pete Wetherby QC, Counsel who shall be provided with a copy of the Prepared Statement to inspect at his home address. All other conditions otherwise apply to this inspection.
10. Subject to this Order, no person may reveal, disclose, share or make public any of the content of the Prepared Statement.

11. Nothing in this Order shall prohibit the Prepared Statement being disclosed to any expert instructed by the Inquiry, as is considered necessary, or discussed between the Recipient and the Core Participants they represent.

PENAL NOTICE

12. The High Court and the Court of Session have the power to imprison or fine for any breach of this Order.

Sir John Saunders

Chairman, Manchester Arena Inquiry

8 December 2020, as amended

