

Stakeholder Update

News and information from the Manchester Arena Inquiry for the week ahead

This week the Inquiry will sit from Monday 1st to Wednesday 3rd February. Hearings will begin at 1000am and a small staff will be present in the courtroom, all others following remotely. We will resume hearing evidence related to Chapter 10 - the response of the emergency services.

We will begin on Monday with Paul Argyle, former Chair of the Greater Manchester Resilience Forum (GMRF). Mr Argyle will give evidence on the role and remit of the GMRF, its responsibilities under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and the planning and exercises GMRF had undertaken.

On Tuesday, Assistant Commissioner Specialist Operations Neil Basu of the Metropolitan Police Service will give evidence related to his role and its position within the structure of Counter Terrorism Policing Head Quarters and a detailed overview of the national Counter Terrorism Policing structure in the UK. He will also give evidence related to his actions on the night of the attack, where AC Basu performed the role of Senior National Coordinator.

On Wednesday we will hear from Richard Thomas, Head of Specialist and Counter Terrorism Armed Policing for Counter Terrorism Policing Head Quarters. Mr Thomas will give evidence on the guidance for emergency services in responding to a terrorist attack, including how the Joint Operating Procedures (JOPs) work in practice.

Support Services

A number of organisations are available to provide support to those affected by the attack on 22nd May 2017. The Greater Manchester Resilience Hub, CRUSE Bereavement Care and The Coroner's Support Services provide support to those affected by the issues raised during this Inquiry. For more information and details on how to access support services visit the [Manchester Arena Inquiry Support Services tab](#) on the website.

1st February 2021

The week at a glance

Mon: Paul Argyle GMRF
Tue: MPS ACSO Neil Basu
Wed: Richard Thomas

How to follow the Inquiry:

Anyone wishing to follow proceedings can do so via the Manchester Arena Youtube channel, available via this link. The Inquiry will sit Monday to Wednesday this week, with hearings due to start at 10.00am. The Youtube broadcast begins 10 mins later as it is operating on a delay. The channel is open and publicly available. Restricted hearings, where required, will not be broadcast on Youtube. Supporting live-time information is published on the Inquiry Twitter account @mcrinquiry throughout the broadcast.

Transcripts

The Inquiry publishes a transcript of all the day's evidence every evening. You can find them on the Manchester Arena Inquiry website following this [link](#)