

OPUS2

Manchester Arena Inquiry

Day 73

March 10, 2021

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1 Wednesday, 10 March 2021
 2 (10.00 am)
 3 MR ANDREW DARK (continued)
 4 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Good morning.
 5 Mr Dark, it has been drawn to my attention that,
 6 inadvertently, from time to time I have referred to
 7 firemen when I meant firefighters. I do apologise and
 8 I hope that hasn't caused any offence. It was just done
 9 as a matter of course without any thought, so I'm sorry
 10 for that and to any of your members.
 11 A. Thank you.
 12 MR DE LA POER: Sir, before Mr Cooper starts, it has been
 13 drawn to our attention there needs to be a very short
 14 restricted session this morning with Mr Dark. We are
 15 still investigating that but perhaps, when Mr Cooper has
 16 completed his questions, we can have a moment just to
 17 get to the bottom of that.
 18 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Mr Cooper, good morning.
 19 Questions from MR COOPER (continued)
 20 MR COOPER: Good morning, sir, thank you.
 21 Can I take you straightaway, please, Mr Dark, to
 22 a document we had a few days ago from Hugh Deeming of
 23 the Kerslake Report. That's at {INQ040614/1}, which we
 24 have alerted the inquiry legal team to and you've had an
 25 opportunity of reading it.

1

1 Can I take you to {INQ040614/4}, please, of that
 2 document, towards the bottom of it, and it's carrying on
 3 from yesterday's questions about the command support
 4 room. Do you have that, Mr Dark?
 5 A. I do, sir, thank you. It's open at page 4.
 6 Q. I'm not going to go through the whole paragraph. It
 7 comes under paragraph 3:
 8 "GMFRS command support room."
 9 In the middle of that paragraph it says this, and
 10 that is what I want your observations on:
 11 "The command support room is not fully operational
 12 on an 24-hour basis. So if an incident occurs out of
 13 hours then it will need to be brought up to operational
 14 readiness."
 15 What's that mean? How long will it take?
 16 A. Difficult to tell because clearly it's
 17 Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, which I have
 18 never worked in. But what I can say is it is not
 19 unusual, in fact I think it is normal, for Fire and
 20 Rescue Services to have such a room. So in the event of
 21 a major incident, or an incident of particular interest,
 22 so even if it hasn't got the correct characteristics,
 23 shall we say, or criteria to be a major incident. But
 24 where a number of senior officers, particularly
 25 principal managers, want to observe from a distance

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1 because of the way it may develop or just by its
 2 nature — and I think the — and certainly if I think
 3 about — and I know I've referenced it many times — my
 4 old brigade in London, it wouldn't take an awful lot to
 5 get it into a state of readiness. It would be
 6 a question of making sure the phones work, making sure
 7 the radio comms work. It's more about just ensuring
 8 everything is in there. Depending on the incident,
 9 bringing in the hard copies of the specific notes or
 10 guidance information which is there, if anyone needs to
 11 refer to it, rather than trying to find it on a computer
 12 screen. So I can only give you a fairly rough
 13 assessment. I think it's a fairly accurate assessment
 14 of what would be happening in that command support room
 15 by sort of trying to mirror what I know is the state of
 16 play in (overspeaking) Fire and Rescue Service.
 17 Q. (overspeaking) — sorry to cut across you, but I'm
 18 conscious of quite understandable time parameters here
 19 today, so if you can try and keep your answers, doing
 20 yourself justice of course, as succinct as possible.
 21 How long would all that take approximately?
 22 Approximately?
 23 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: If you don't know, we will find out from
 24 someone who does know.
 25 MR COOPER: Of course, of course.

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1 A. I'd say a relatively short period of time, but I can't
 2 be accurate.
 3 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: We'll try and get any more detail
 4 we can, Mr Cooper.
 5 MR COOPER: Thank you. We are told the command support room
 6 was not operational on a 24-hour basis. Is that normal
 7 for all command support rooms?
 8 A. Yes, it really is a room with facilities in it. It
 9 might actually be used for other things during the day.
 10 But it's simply on the basis — it is for getting key
 11 people together all in one room.
 12 Q. Of course, Mr Dark, my question was: is that normal for
 13 all command support rooms? That's my simple question.
 14 A. Yes, it is normal, yes.
 15 Q. Can I take you, please, to underneath that, paragraph 4:
 16 "North West Fire Control."
 17 I want to take you over the page to the reference
 18 that I want to put to you {INQ040614/5}. It says this:
 19 "From the panel's perspective..."
 20 This is the Kerslake Panel:
 21 "From the panel's perspective, it is important to
 22 note that the interrelationship between GMFRS and North
 23 West Fire Control differs from that of GMP..."
 24 I touched upon this a little yesterday:
 25 "... and its own force control room. The GMP force

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1 control room performs command, control and coordination
 2 functions, which are delivered under the oversight of
 3 the force duty officer , typically a senior police
 4 inspector. By contrast, North West Fire Control does
 5 not deliver a command function. Once an action plan has
 6 been activated, all command decisions/orders which
 7 impact GMFRS personnel in relation to the management of
 8 incidents are made by the designated GMFRS
 9 incident commander."

10 And it goes on to describe that situation .

11 It 's just really tailing on to what I was asking you
 12 yesterday and it 's simply one simple question: do you
 13 think, upon reflection , and upon reading that
 14 observation from Mr Deeming of Kerslake, that fire could
 15 learn from the police in terms of oversight of a force
 16 duty officer ?

17 A. I know it's a simple question to ask. It 's not a simple
 18 answer to give, to reply. The arrangements in GMP,
 19 which I imagine will be the same, reflect the
 20 arrangements within other police services , will have
 21 a whole history and a tradition of working. I think
 22 it is worthy of evaluation, I will say that. I think
 23 it 's worthy of evaluation.

24 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Let's just stop you there for a moment.

25 Mr Cooper, you'll be aware from questions I asked

1 yesterday that I am interested in this topic. Equally,
 2 I want to give people proper time to think about it and
 3 make any comments they want.

4 Can I ask you and your union to give it some
 5 thought? Because as Mr Cooper rightly says, it's
 6 a simple question, but it may not — and you say it may
 7 not be a simple answer. Can I ask you to think about it
 8 and then give me perhaps your observations and of the
 9 union in writing?

10 A. We'd be happy and keen to do so, sir.

11 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Is that satisfactory for you, Mr Cooper?

12 MR COOPER: It is extremely satisfactory, sir, and I am
 13 grateful, sir , for that observation, thank you.

14 I want to ask you about something else now. It's
 15 something you raised in your evidence concerning
 16 a monitoring officer . I want to ask you just a little
 17 bit about that. Effectively , to remind ourselves, would
 18 you agree, the role of a monitoring officer is to
 19 quality assure decisions made by the incident commander?
 20 They are a rank above the incident commander, more
 21 experienced, perhaps with a more experienced perspective
 22 to add to it, and can counsel the incident commander and
 23 act as a sounding board to the incident commander.
 24 Would you agree that perhaps a monitoring officer should
 25 be the norm in these situations as far as the Fire

1 Service is concerned?

2 A. I missed the last clause of your question there. Would
 3 I agree?

4 Q. I was simply asking you: do you think a monitoring
 5 officer should be the norm, should be normally provided
 6 to assist in incidents such as that what happened at
 7 Manchester Arena?

8 A. As to whether it is — it's common. As to whether it's
 9 normal or should be normal, I can't say whether... how
 10 common it is. But I do think, yes, the whole question
 11 of validation and verification , particularly at complex
 12 incidents, would be an advantage and would have been —
 13 would be an advantage at any incident, any large
 14 incident especially , which obviously includes
 15 Manchester Arena.

16 Q. For instance, on the night of the 22nd, that monitoring
 17 officer could have picked up the lack of response
 18 earlier and challenged it , couldn't he or she?

19 A. Quite possibly. The only thing that I would say, and
 20 the reason I'm sort of hesitating and applying a caveat
 21 is because involved heavily that night was the most
 22 senior officer in the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue
 23 Service, the chief officer , albeit not on the ground
 24 at the scene, but he was involved already.

25 MR COOPER: Who was that?

1 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Mr O'Reilly.

2 MR COOPER: Mr O'Reilly?

3 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Mr O'Reilly, the chief fire officer.

4 MR COOPER: You're not referring to Mr Harris?

5 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: No, he is referring to Mr O'Reilly,
 6 I think. Is that right?

7 A. Exactly, sir . There was no one more senior than
 8 Mr O'Reilly, sir .

9 MR COOPER: Last question on this point: do you know why
 10 a monitoring officer wasn't appointed on the night of
 11 the 22nd?

12 A. No, sir .

13 Q. I 'll move on to something else, if I can, and they're
 14 all short points now, if I may.

15 I want to ask you just a little about your
 16 paragraph 81, please, in your statement if you can turn
 17 to it. It starts :

18 "Other new activities ... "

19 Do you have it?

20 A. I have it open.

21 Q. "Other new activities that were considered as part of
 22 the work commenced in 2015 included an emergency medical
 23 response. This work was trialled and assessed by the
 24 University of Hertfordshire and New Economy. However,
 25 the progression of this work by NJC was eventually

1 suspended largely because of intransigence by the
 2 Home Office."
 3 What do you mean by that?
 4 A. Essentially -- I'm trying to be succinct. A body of
 5 work was done across many Fire and Rescue Services
 6 trialling this work, for 4 months. When we met with
 7 Home Office -- well, we recognised ourselves actually it
 8 needs to be independently evaluated and audited and
 9 that's why the University of Hertfordshire was asked to
 10 do it. In further discussions which were ongoing,
 11 periodic, not particularly frequent but periodic
 12 discussions with the Home Office by both sides of the
 13 NJC jointly, it is -- they said, "Oh, we really need to
 14 have something more of a business case, that's the way
 15 Treasury works". We certainly understood that and so we
 16 went off to get a further report.
 17 The reason for the suspension was because having
 18 produced both of those reports, which were very
 19 thorough, very independent, there were continued
 20 representations, if I put it that way, made to the
 21 Home Office, to the minister direct and/or to the
 22 officials within the Home Office Fire Department, and
 23 essentially the Home Office sort of made clear it's not
 24 going to be happening, it's certainly not going to be
 25 happening soon. And so that's why the NJC said, we

1 still need to discuss what we'd like to think would be
 2 a regular pay rise each year, hasn't been the way for
 3 many years, but we need to get on with discussing other
 4 arrangements around pay because this terms and
 5 conditions arrangement just isn't going anywhere,
 6 certainly in an English context --
 7 Q. Can I stop you there again, Mr Dark. I'm not being
 8 impolite at all but in terms of this issue, the reports
 9 that you've referred to, if the chair may find them
 10 interesting, a matter for the chair of course, can you
 11 provide us with those reports which you say were
 12 independently assessed in terms of emergency medical
 13 response initiatives?
 14 A. Yes, I shall make sure today that those documents are
 15 provided through the appropriate channels to the MAI.
 16 I am more than happy for (overspeaking).
 17 Q. (Overspeaking), to use the cliché.
 18 Was the intransigence on behalf of the Home Office
 19 down to money and funding again? In short was that the
 20 intransigence you're referring to?
 21 A. I'm not sure they ever put it that starkly. They used
 22 the usual subterfuge as people do. For example with the
 23 MTFA: well, is that already not part of role? I will
 24 say with regard to emergency medical response, they
 25 said, "Are we not doing that anyway? Are we not getting

1 that anyway?", which isn't the case. There are --
 2 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Okay, sorry. This is part of the
 3 ongoing dispute between the union and the Home Office,
 4 or part of the ongoing discussions, can I put it better
 5 that way (overspeaking) dispute?
 6 A. Yes.
 7 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: The particular reports you commissioned
 8 were looking into questions of extra training for MTFA,
 9 extra payments and things like that?
 10 A. Not in respect of MTFA. It was in respect of emergency
 11 medical response, which is, when we discussed it
 12 yesterday, that is more to do with attending to people
 13 who have had heart attacks.
 14 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: So it's to do with the emergency medical
 15 response, which does of course feed into the MTFA as
 16 well. Those reports were considered and prepared, and
 17 they've been supplied by you to the Home Office?
 18 A. Yes, sir.
 19 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: As part of the ongoing discussion which
 20 is taking place?
 21 A. Yes, sir.
 22 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: And at the moment, hopefully it will
 23 change, but the Home Office take one view, you take
 24 another view?
 25 A. That is correct.

1 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Is that a fair analysis?
 2 A. It is, yes.
 3 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you, Mr Cooper.
 4 MR COOPER: I'm just trying to clarify whether it was MTFA
 5 or whether it was additional (overspeaking).
 6 On that point, and it's the last point on my topics
 7 of emergency medical response, there's no need to look
 8 at it, unless you want to, it's your paragraph 63, you
 9 say:
 10 "Very few FRS appliances are equipped with materials
 11 to administer anything other than basic first aid and
 12 respiratory assistance."
 13 I will, of course, check my references, but that is
 14 what you said:
 15 "Very few FRS appliances are equipped with materials
 16 to administer anything other than basic first aid and
 17 respiratory assistance"; is that right?
 18 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Well, it's not paragraph 63, I think,
 19 unless you're finding something in it that I can't find.
 20 MR COOPER: Forgive me, I marked it 63 and maybe I've got it
 21 wrong. Let me just put the general question to you if
 22 I can, Mr Dark. Do you agree with that proposition,
 23 which I have gleaned from your lengthy document, but
 24 maybe my reference is different? Try appendix 1 of your
 25 document. Try appendix 1. Perhaps it's from there.

1 I'm sorry if my reference is faulty .
 2 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: No, no, it's okay. The point perhaps
 3 you're making, and tell me if this is right or not,
 4 wherever you're making it, is that the ordinary, if
 5 we can call them that, fire engines/appliances which are
 6 used by firefighters in these situations are not
 7 equipped with sufficient medical supplies to deal with
 8 the sort of MTFA emergency?
 9 A. Yes, sir. We can't locate it within the documents, but
 10 certainly in making that point, the contrast being made
 11 was that the equipment, particularly the dressings, for
 12 MTFA-type injuries are not carried, certainly in great
 13 quantities, if at all, on regular appliances.
 14 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: So that's another reason why you say
 15 regular appliances and regular firefighters are not
 16 suitable for that sort of -- dealing with that sort of
 17 emergency?
 18 A. Precisely, yes.
 19 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you. We'll find the paragraph,
 20 Mr Cooper, and we'll find whether I've misrepresented
 21 what was said.
 22 MR COOPER: In the interim I will look at it as well.
 23 I might have miswritten it down. It's perfectly
 24 possible.
 25 Let me take you to a short point in paragraph 27 of

1 your statement, where you deal with the Government's
 2 response to the Prepare strategy. Do you see that?
 3 A. I have the paragraph.
 4 Q. Do you deal with the Government's response to the
 5 Prepare strategy within that paragraph?
 6 A. Yes, I see the paragraph.
 7 Q. Do you refer to the Government's response being --
 8 do you use the word "a malaise"?
 9 (Pause)
 10 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: You use "wider malaise" in the middle of
 11 the paragraph:
 12 A. I do use the word malaise. I am just trying to work out
 13 (overspeaking).
 14 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Can we just work out what you're saying.
 15 You're saying there is a problem with the Prepare
 16 strategy as far as the Fire Service are concerned?
 17 A. Yes.
 18 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: And you're saying, although this is not
 19 really the function of the FBU, you also believe that
 20 that extends -- the failings in it extend also to the
 21 Ambulance Service and the police service arrangements?
 22 A. Yes, sir. That is precisely what that paragraph is
 23 trying to say.
 24 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you.
 25 A. It's a reflection on ambulance and police.

1 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: So it's the whole Prepare strategy in
 2 all three services which you think is inadequate?
 3 A. Yes, sir .
 4 MR COOPER: At the start of your paragraph 27 you simply say
 5 this:
 6 "The failings are deep-rooted and systemic."
 7 Do you stand by that?
 8 A. Yes, sir, I do.
 9 Q. Thank you. I just want to ask you generally, if I may,
 10 drawing to a conclusion, just a few more questions about
 11 JESIP. The chair, and indeed this inquiry, may have
 12 details at a later stage that the appreciation of JESIP
 13 amongst firefighters was perhaps not as good as it
 14 should have been. What's your view? How appreciative
 15 were, for instance, front line firefighters of the
 16 principles and requirements of JESIP?
 17 A. Certainly, if I can -- I've never had targeted
 18 discussions or specific discussions with firefighters on
 19 that point. What I will say is that there is an
 20 awareness of the fact that there is JESIP. My
 21 assessment is, on the basis that it doesn't feature in
 22 discussions when discussing operational matters with
 23 firefighters, that there is a deep understanding or
 24 training on the principles of JESIP. That's
 25 a reflection, there's no analysis that underpins that at

1 all, but that is my considered view.
 2 Q. So in short, do you say that firefighters should perhaps
 3 be informed generally better about the requirements of
 4 JESIP?
 5 A. Yes, sir, I do. A slight expansion on that is that even
 6 if firefighters aren't in control or contributing to the
 7 management of the incident, it's always -- it's an
 8 unstated fact that knowing what your boss needs to do
 9 and what your boss will be doing and what he or she will
 10 be thinking about is always something that FRS training
 11 has ensured that you have, so that you know it's not
 12 what I want to say, it's what information does he or she
 13 need.
 14 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: I think we have the advantage on you
 15 slightly, Mr Dark, because we have had detailed
 16 discussions with firefighters about JESIP during the
 17 hearing. I hope I paraphrase what I've heard so far,
 18 which is: actually we do JESIP all the time, because
 19 when we turn up to fires, events, motor collisions, road
 20 collisions, firefighters are regularly working with
 21 ambulance people and they're working with the police as
 22 well, so we do it on a practical basis day in, day out.
 23 Where it may be lacking is where you have the big events
 24 like this, where, as you say, the bosses are having to
 25 operate JESIP, that perhaps the firefighters need to

1 know more about what the bosses are having to do in
 2 terms of JESIP so they give them the relevant
 3 information.
 4 A. Yes, sir, as I say --
 5 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: You're happy with that?
 6 A. I'm happy with that if that's clearly reflecting what
 7 firefighters have said. Mine was only a considered
 8 view; I have never done any sort of analysis of that at
 9 all.
 10 MR COOPER: Two more questions on two different matters.
 11 The chair raised this yesterday, and I was going to
 12 deal with it, but I can deal with it briefly. It's
 13 about the coordination of not just training sessions but
 14 exercises. We've heard a lot about a number of
 15 exercises with a number of different names. Do
 16 I understand your evidence correctly that you say in
 17 fact there should be more coordination and nexus, for
 18 want of a better expression, between all these exercises
 19 so that they don't necessarily stand alone but talk to
 20 each other, for want of a better expression? Is that
 21 something that you would particularly feel would be of
 22 assistance rather than them standing in isolation?
 23 A. Yes, sir, I do. I think there does need -- they need to
 24 stream, they need to be interconnected. I'm not saying
 25 that they're not, but certainly -- I'm certainly not

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1 saying that that isn't an intention to do so, but it
 2 doesn't sing through that that actually is what happens.
 3 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Does it come down to better planning?
 4 A. Absolutely. Planning and preparedness is at the core
 5 of -- must be at the core of everything we do.
 6 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Planning the exercising progress and the
 7 training all in a coordinated way?
 8 A. Absolutely, knowing what it is that you want out of that
 9 exercise, I think, is the most key thing, otherwise it's
 10 just engaging in activity for its own sake.
 11 MR COOPER: And there's a risk therefore that lessons may
 12 not be learned, do you agree?
 13 A. Exactly, yes, sir.
 14 Q. I want to finally take you to your paragraph 28, please,
 15 of your statement and I will read it because it may be
 16 important and you may want to observe:
 17 "That there were not more fatalities on the night
 18 was the consequence of the dedication and commitment of
 19 the front line staff in all of the emergency services.
 20 They did this despite the failings of those others. The
 21 failings of those others came as no surprise to the FBU.
 22 If a similar incident was to occur in the UK, the FBU
 23 would be surprised if those failings were not to be
 24 replicated. In fact, we will be surprised if the FRS
 25 performance in any such future incident were not to be

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1 worse."
 2 That's a serious observation you make in a statement
 3 that's dated this year. You say that on 19 January 2021
 4 that:
 5 "[You] would be surprised if the FRS performance in
 6 any such future incident were not to be worse."
 7 Would you like to elaborate on paragraph 28, please,
 8 Mr Dark?
 9 A. Happy to do so with a little bit of difficulty. I stand
 10 by the statement. I suppose that I would summarise it
 11 like this -- is that Greater Manchester is, on a UK-wide
 12 basis, I think number 5 in terms of size. That's on
 13 a UK basis. I think it's number 3 in terms of size in
 14 England. Yes, still contained within the unredacted
 15 version is that not all FRSs have a capability...
 16 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: We don't want to go into too much
 17 detail. Do you stand by what you said in that
 18 statement, basically?
 19 A. I do, sir. I suppose... Greater Manchester has a --
 20 now has again or is about to have again quite
 21 a developed capability. Other FRSs don't necessarily
 22 have that.
 23 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: I'm just going to drill down a bit on
 24 that before you come back on that.
 25 Are you, and I want to be clear about this, on

19

1 behalf of the FBU, saying that as far as the Fire
 2 Service are concerned, none of the lessons of the arena
 3 bombing have been learnt and taken on board?
 4 A. No, I am not saying that.
 5 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Okay.
 6 A. I'm not saying that. What I am saying is that we've got
 7 no way of telling how well or how wide that -- how
 8 widely they can be applied across the variety of FRSs
 9 that do have a capability.
 10 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Okay, thank you. So we're talking about
 11 other forces maybe and where these sort of facilities
 12 may not be available?
 13 A. Yes, sir.
 14 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Mr Cooper, do come back on that.
 15 MR COOPER: You'll understand, Mr Dark, whether you're
 16 speaking nationally or locally, and just a few questions
 17 based on that, whether you're speaking nationally or
 18 locally, what you say there will be of profound -- cause
 19 profound anxiety to the families that hear it. You
 20 understand how serious it is, what you have said? I'm
 21 not saying you're wrong to say it. You say:
 22 "If a similar incident was to occur in the UK, the
 23 FBU would be surprised [you use the word 'surprised'] if
 24 those failings were not to be replicated. In fact,
 25 we will be surprised if the FRS performance in any such

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1 future incident were not to be worse."
 2 You don't say "were not to be the same", you say
 3 "were not worse". And you can understand the profound
 4 anxiety that will cause many listening to this hearing.
 5 I suggest to you what you've just said to the chair is
 6 watering down a little, if I may put to you, what you
 7 say in paragraph 28.
 8 Would you agree with this question: you are saying
 9 in January of this year that you would be surprised if
 10 a similar incident happened again, that Fire Services,
 11 either in Manchester or anywhere else in the UK -- you'd
 12 be surprised if they -- you wouldn't be surprised if
 13 they performed worse? Is that what you're saying?
 14 Because that's what your statement says.
 15 A. For the reasons that I've said, without any sense of
 16 satisfaction, it's not a salacious comment. I stand by
 17 the comment, both individually and for the Fire Brigades
 18 Union.
 19 Q. And your comment is simply: if an atrocity like
 20 Manchester occurred now, you would expect, on what you
 21 know, Fire Services, either in Manchester or nationally,
 22 to perform the same if not worse?
 23 A. No, I didn't say I would expect. I did not say --
 24 Q. You would be surprised --
 25 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Mr Cooper, stop for a moment, please.

21

1 We have now been over this wording a number of times and
 2 I understand the importance of it and I understand the
 3 importance of it to the families. But I think
 4 I understand what Mr Dark is saying and I hope everyone
 5 else does. I'm sure everyone recognises the import and
 6 importance of it. Okay?
 7 MR COOPER: As always, sir, I am guided by your steers on
 8 this.
 9 Those are my questions. I've got the answer to the
 10 reference I made earlier on and I'm grateful to
 11 Mr Jamieson for sending it to me. The reference is
 12 page 63 when I think I may have said paragraph 63.
 13 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: You did, thank you.
 14 MR COOPER: Page 63 of {INQ039409/1}, the middle of 10
 15 in the first box on the right.
 16 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Yes, absolutely. I see it there now.
 17 Thank you for that.
 18 MR COOPER: Thank you, sir. I have no further questions.
 19 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you very much.
 20 MR DE LA POER: Sir, in just one moment I'm going to see
 21 whether Ms Simor Queen's Counsel has any questions in
 22 open session for Mr Dark. Can I indicate, whether she
 23 does or doesn't, we're going to need a restricted
 24 session which will take some minutes to set up. We are
 25 satisfied, having been told about the nature of that

22

1 session, that it is necessary. Plainly, once it has
 2 taken place, we can review which parts of it may be
 3 capable of being in open.
 4 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Right. So the press have been notified
 5 of this and the press will be able to hear the
 6 restricted session?
 7 MR DE LA POER: Mr Suter is nodding. They will be able to
 8 follow that in the usual way.
 9 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: If they want to put forward any argument
 10 to suggest that it shouldn't be in restricted session,
 11 they can put that forward.
 12 MR DE LA POER: They can either do it immediately or upon
 13 reflection they can contact the solicitor to the
 14 inquiry. I see Ms Simor has joined us over the link.
 15 Can I ask whether you have any questions in open
 16 session for Mr Dark?
 17 MS SIMOR: I have no questions, sir, thank you.
 18 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you very much.
 19 MR DE LA POER: Can I ask you to adjourn for a few moments,
 20 please? I think it'll take about 10 minutes or so.
 21 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you.
 22 (10.35 am)
 23 (The inquiry sat in a restricted session)
 24 (11.14 am)
 25 MR DE LA POER: Sir, we have returned to open session.

23

1 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you. And I think Mr Dark has now
 2 finished his evidence.
 3 MR DE LA POER: He has.
 4 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: I wanted to say thank you very much
 5 indeed for your evidence. It has taken some time and
 6 I'm grateful for your patience. I also look forward to
 7 the assistance of the FBU with other matters as they
 8 come up, and you've already agreed you'll be supplying
 9 us with things, so thank you very much for your input,
 10 I'm grateful. And I hope you feel you've had an
 11 opportunity to say everything you wanted to.
 12 A. Very much so, sir.
 13 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you very much.
 14 MR DE LA POER: Thank you, sir. As Mr Dark leaves, can
 15 I ask, please, that Police Sergeant David Cawley comes
 16 into the hearing room.
 17 SERGEANT DAVID CAWLEY (affirmed)
 18 Questions from MR DE LA POER
 19 MR DE LA POER: Please can you state your full name?
 20 A. David Cawley.
 21 Q. What is your current rank within British Transport
 22 Police?
 23 A. Police sergeant.
 24 Q. Sergeant Cawley, we're going to take your evidence in
 25 a series of sections. Firstly, we're going to introduce

24

1 you and your training. We're then going to look at
 2 22 May and your actions and then, at the conclusion of
 3 your evidence, I'm going to ask you some questions, if
 4 they haven't already been covered, about the particular
 5 themes that the inquiry has an interest in in relation
 6 to chapter 10, the emergency response.
 7 So we have your training records and it may be that
 8 it's a useful place for us to start. Mr Lopez, can we
 9 bring up, please, {INQ003666/1}. And because it's
 10 arranged in reverse order, with the oldest entry at the
 11 bottom of the last page, can we go to {INQ003666/4},
 12 please.
 13 Can you make that out adequately, sergeant?
 14 A. I can, thank you.
 15 Q. We can see that the very bottom entry on that page is
 16 dated 28 January 2008, and you are identified as a:
 17 "Student officer progress induction, probationer,
 18 internal."
 19 A. Yes.
 20 Q. Are we right to infer from that entry that that date
 21 marked the start of your service with British Transport
 22 Police?
 23 A. Yes, that's correct.
 24 Q. Prior to that, is there any particular experience or
 25 training relevant to your actions on the night of 22 May

25

1 that you wish to draw to our attention?
 2 A. No.
 3 Q. I'm going to work through some of the entries within
 4 this that I have picked out. If at any point I move
 5 over an entry that you think is relevant to what you
 6 were required to do on 22 May 2017, please draw it to my
 7 attention.
 8 As that first entry indicates, you began as
 9 a probationer with an induction programme?
 10 A. Yes.
 11 Q. That initial training that you received from BTP, did
 12 that include any training in relation to major incidents
 13 or was it more general than that?
 14 A. It was more general, but I believe there was some --
 15 I do recall the SADD CHALETS mnemonic.
 16 Q. The SAD CHALET mnemonic?
 17 A. Yes.
 18 Q. Right, we'll come back to it and perhaps it'll be
 19 easiest if, when we work through it, we can see if
 20 we have missed any out and you can tell us what your
 21 state of knowledge was in 2017.
 22 If we move up, please, regrettably they're not
 23 numbered, but the date is 8 February 2008, which is the
 24 third from the bottom, you received some first aid
 25 training at an early stage in your training.

26

1 Then, if we move up to 15 February 2010, so by now
 2 you are out of your probationary period; is that
 3 correct?
 4 A. Yes, that would be correct, yes.
 5 Q. Is the probationary period 2 years?
 6 A. Yes.
 7 Q. So having started in January 2008, by February 2010
 8 you are by then a constable?
 9 A. Yes.
 10 Q. And you had what is indicated on here as:
 11 "... critical incident -- PC/PCSO/special, general
 12 police duties internal."
 13 Just help us with that. It's some time ago, but
 14 critical incident, it's not labelled as major incident.
 15 Do you recall what that training was in relation to?
 16 A. I don't recall exactly, but I believe that would have
 17 been e-learning online computer-based training.
 18 Q. Would it have been relevant in any way to a response to
 19 a major incident?
 20 A. Probably not.
 21 Q. Probably not?
 22 A. No.
 23 Q. Just above that entry, we can see you received a first
 24 aid refresher, 28 May 2010. And then continuing up the
 25 second to top entry:

27

1 "First responder, active shooter, firearms,
 2 22 November 2010."
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. That training, did that training -- you tell us: what do
 5 you recall about that training, if anything?
 6 A. That again would be e-learning, computer-based training.
 7 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Is that because it's got "internal" at
 8 the end? Is that what that means?
 9 A. I know that I've never done anything other than
 10 e-learning in that respect.
 11 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you.
 12 MR DE LA POER: When you say "in that respect", do you mean
 13 in relation to a major incident or --
 14 A. Specifically in respect to first responder active
 15 shooter.
 16 Q. Just help us: approximately how long does that sort of
 17 e-learning take? Is it a whole day to complete it or is
 18 it shorter than that?
 19 A. No, the average time for e-learning is probably 30 to
 20 40 minutes.
 21 Q. Moving up to {INQ003666/3}, please, Mr Lopez.
 22 6 May 2011, which is further... Thank you very much
 23 indeed. 6 May 2011 is my reference.
 24 (Pause)
 25 The very bottom. There we are. We can see some

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1 more first aid training .
 2 A. Yes.
 3 Q. And then no other entry that I'm going to seek to draw
 4 your attention to here other than on 25 January 2012, do
 5 we see some more first aid training?
 6 A. Yes.
 7 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: It says you passed. If it was
 8 e-learning, does that mean you were tested at the end of
 9 the session?
 10 A. Those first aid trainings aren't e-learning, they're
 11 attendance annually at a training day course.
 12 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you.
 13 MR DE LA POER: We'll come to the content of that and what
 14 your state of knowledge was in due course, but I think
 15 we can see another such first aid training . No.
 16 {INQ003666/2}, please. On 27 January 2015, we can see
 17 some more refresher first aid training and the entry
 18 above it in February 2015. So is it your recollection ,
 19 as you've just told us, that you had annual training?
 20 It seemed in 2015 you had more than one course.
 21 A. I think one of those shows as cancelled and then
 22 attended, so one would be a substitute for the initial
 23 cancellation .
 24 Q. You're quite right , that's my mistake. What we're
 25 seeing here is a pattern recorded within your training

1 record of regular in-person first aid training?
 2 A. Yes, usually once a year.
 3 Q. On 15 September 2016, staying on page 2, which is the
 4 third entry down, we can see a:
 5 "Hydra exercise Richmond — fatality and disruption,
 6 general police duties, internal . "
 7 Do you have any recollection of having done that
 8 Hydra training?
 9 A. Yes.
 10 Q. Can you help us with what that was training you for?
 11 A. It's training in respect of the recovery of fatality
 12 incidents upon the railway, specifically people struck
 13 by a train .
 14 Q. So a potential mass casualty incident, but involving
 15 a train?
 16 A. No, not mass casualty. It's more at individual level .
 17 Q. I understand. Then if we go over the page to
 18 {INQ003666/1}, 5 January 2017, we have what I think was
 19 the last occasion of first aid training that I had
 20 identified within your records before May 2017.
 21 A. Yes.
 22 Q. I have no doubt that Mr Gibbs on behalf of British
 23 Transport Police is watching this keenly and he will
 24 have an opportunity to ask you about any other entries
 25 within that. But having moved through it, did

1 I obviously miss any out that you identified as we went
 2 through it?
 3 A. Not obviously, I think.
 4 Q. Well, be assured that others are looking at this right
 5 now and there will be an opportunity for them to ask you
 6 about it.
 7 We're going to take that down and have a look at
 8 another record of your training because not all of your
 9 training is captured within this document.
 10 {INQ003669/1}. This is a two-page document. We're
 11 going to need to crop and go to the bottom to run
 12 through it chronologically. Fortunately, this does have
 13 item numbers in the far left corner.
 14 Mr Lopez, can we go to {INQ003669/2}, please, with
 15 our attention on row 82. This is in 2012. I have just
 16 drawn it to your attention because although it's talking
 17 about what appear to be the Olympic Games, it talks
 18 about "tri-service awareness". What was that training
 19 about, so far as you can remember?
 20 A. I don't really recall that. As you say, I think that
 21 was e-learning specifically for preparation for
 22 attendance at the Olympic Games and the Paralympics.
 23 Q. In the row above we can see that you received training
 24 in December 2011 in the national decision-making model.
 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Again was that e-learning or in person so far as you can
 2 recall ?
 3 A. I think every entry upon this record is e-learning.
 4 Q. Then moving up to line 63, 20 October 2014, we see:
 5 "Emergency services interoperability , all staff ."
 6 A. Yes.
 7 Q. I'm just going to pause on that. Do you have any
 8 recollection of having undertaken that training?
 9 A. Yes.
 10 Q. Can you tell us a little bit more about it so far as you
 11 can recall ?
 12 A. Again, it's e-learning, and it focuses upon joint
 13 interoperability between emergency services and the
 14 protocols and procedures for that.
 15 Q. As you sit there now, you are a police sergeant. When
 16 did you become a sergeant?
 17 A. Substantive or — because the process goes —
 18 Q. Do you have a temporary —
 19 A. The process goes acting, then temporary and then
 20 substantive.
 21 Q. When did you start your process of qualifying as
 22 a sergeant?
 23 A. I think that would have been about 2015, I think, if
 24 I remember rightly.
 25 Q. So do we conclude from that, therefore, given that the

1 date that we're looking at here is October 2014, that
 2 this isn't specific to any sort of command role
 3 interoperability ?
 4 A. No, everybody did that.
 5 Q. Everybody did that?
 6 A. Yes.
 7 Q. And therefore it is relevant for police constables as
 8 much as anyone else taking it?
 9 A. Yes.
 10 Q. And that was your rank at the time?
 11 A. I believe so, yes.
 12 Q. So when did you qualify as a sergeant, completing the
 13 process you've described?
 14 A. I think 2016 I was actually confirmed in rank.
 15 Q. We'll speak in a moment about your sergeant's training
 16 and how that may have contained relevant aspects.
 17 Before we do, one other entry on this page -- sorry, on
 18 the page above within this document. Line 33, please.
 19 {INQ003669/1}.
 20 We know from the other document that we looked at
 21 that you received some active shooter training in
 22 November of 2010. Here we see recorded on this document
 23 that in October 2016, you received some active shooter
 24 training. Do you see that?
 25 A. I do.

1 Q. Do you have a recollection of having undertaken that
 2 training?
 3 A. Yes, I believe that would be a repeat of the earlier
 4 training, required to re-certify in the same way through
 5 e-learning.
 6 Q. Can you help us with any of the content of that training
 7 so far as you can recall it?
 8 A. Only generally that it would cover the Stay Safe
 9 principles, as it says there, and Operation Plato
 10 principles.
 11 Q. And Operation Plato principles?
 12 A. Yes, I believe it would. It certainly should have done.
 13 Q. By this point, you were either about to be confirmed as
 14 a sergeant or you had been. Was this module specific to
 15 your rank at that time or was it of more general
 16 application than that?
 17 A. No, it would be general application, certainly all
 18 constables and sergeants and above.
 19 Q. Those are the items that I wanted to pick out. What
 20 we're going to do is try and capture your state of
 21 knowledge based upon your training when we get to
 22 May 2017, I hope with some of that acting as a prompt.
 23 I'm just going to work through some areas with you. It
 24 may be that training that you've had has not been
 25 captured on here, but we'll see if we can tease that out

1 between us.
 2 Firstly, in relation to JESIP as a concept, as at
 3 May 2017 had you received training in JESIP?
 4 A. Yes, which would be the item you referred to earlier,
 5 the joint interoperability e-learning.
 6 Q. So that is learning aimed at everybody within BTP,
 7 including police constables?
 8 A. Yes.
 9 Q. Had you received any training in taking a command role
 10 at an incident where JESIP needed to be applied?
 11 A. No.
 12 Q. You qualified as a sergeant following the process you've
 13 described over a period of approximately a year or so.
 14 Did any of your training as a sergeant include
 15 inter-agency cooperation at an incident?
 16 A. I wouldn't be able to recall all of the different
 17 training inputs that go towards the whole process of
 18 attaining the rank of sergeant, but specifically --
 19 I think it is specifically that e-learning for joint
 20 interoperability for emergency services.
 21 Q. Obviously this is not a memory test of you and I'm sure
 22 British Transport Police are listening to this and if
 23 there is something that you had formally that they can
 24 draw our attention to, they will.
 25 I suppose whether or not you had notionally had some

1 training, what I'm really interested in is, as you went
 2 to that scene, did you have in mind any training that
 3 you had been given as to how you might act as
 4 a sergeant, the first sergeant at the scene?
 5 A. Yes, in accordance with the JESIP principles, yes.
 6 Q. So there are you referring to the e-learning package
 7 that you'd had?
 8 A. Yes.
 9 Q. Did that package equip you to be the first person of
 10 rank above constable at a major incident?
 11 A. I think this might be a longer answer than... But yes,
 12 in some ways in that you are aware of the principles and
 13 you are aware of the roles and you are aware of what you
 14 believe will be put in place and should come to pass
 15 with such an incident in terms of actually dealing on
 16 the ground and the enormity of such an event and all of
 17 the stimulus and inputs that's coming in to you in such
 18 an event. And no.
 19 Q. We'll continue to explore this as you give evidence, as
 20 I'm sure you understand, but I'm going to move on from
 21 JESIP to a related topic, namely major incidents.
 22 British Transport Police, and I'm not going to put it
 23 up, has a document entitled "The Major Incident Manual",
 24 which has, as part of its introduction, "This is
 25 a manual for all BTP employees". That's what it says.

1 Had you received any training by May of 2017 which
 2 involved consideration of BTP's major incident manual?
 3 A. My only recollection, I think, is in initial sergeant or
 4 first line supervisor development courses, then there
 5 were references to major incident manuals. I'm pretty
 6 sure it probably would have been referred to in the
 7 JESIP training e-learning, but no specific training
 8 in the major incident manual, no.
 9 Q. So I suppose looking at it from a practical point of
 10 view, when you attended the incident on 22 May 2017, did
 11 you have in your mind a clear sense of the major
 12 principles within the BTP's major incident manual?
 13 A. The major incident manuals are a very, very weighty
 14 document.
 15 Q. It is.
 16 A. It's hundreds of pages. So I couldn't say that I would
 17 know every word and paragraph within that document. In
 18 terms of the principles of responding to a major
 19 incident within the JESIP principles and being a first
 20 supervisor on scene, then yes.
 21 Q. So the importance of establishing a rendezvous point,
 22 was that something that you had in your mind when you
 23 attended in May 2017?
 24 A. Yes.
 25 Q. Did you understand that to be a rendezvous point for BTP

1 officers or a rendezvous point for all emergency
 2 services?
 3 A. All emergency services.
 4 Q. METHANE. You know that the inquiry has already heard
 5 your METHANE message, and we're going to come to that,
 6 although we won't replay it. Did you have an
 7 understanding of METHANE and how it should be used at
 8 a major incident when you attended?
 9 A. Yes.
 10 Q. The concept of a forward command point. Was that an
 11 idea that you were familiar with in May 2017?
 12 A. It was a principle I was aware of.
 13 Q. We know now that for a period of time at least you were
 14 the most senior BTP officer on the ground. In May 2017,
 15 did you have any understanding about what operating
 16 in that role might mean in terms of where you might need
 17 to go, who you might need to speak to?
 18 A. Yes.
 19 Q. Again, we'll come back to that and explore it as it
 20 applies to what you did.
 21 I'm going to move on from major incidents and I'm
 22 going to ask you about something that you've mentioned
 23 already, which is Operation Plato, and I'm sure you will
 24 appreciate that everybody is very familiar now --
 25 certainly everybody who was involved with events on the

1 night of 22 May has a clear sense of Operation Plato or
 2 at least an idea of what it might involve.
 3 Are you able to say whether on 22 May 2017 that was
 4 an operation name that you were familiar with?
 5 A. Yes, the name, yes.
 6 Q. Did you understand what it designated?
 7 A. Yes.
 8 Q. And how had you learned that?
 9 A. Through e-learning, which would be the active shooter
 10 modules you've already covered.
 11 Q. What you've told us about them, as well as mentioning
 12 Operation Plato, is that they had the Run, Hide, Tell
 13 principles. Are you able to help us -- and again BTP
 14 may be able to assist us with precisely what that
 15 learning package in 2016 consisted of, but what do you
 16 recall about what you had been told about
 17 Operation Plato before 22 May?
 18 A. The Plato principles are largely with regard to the
 19 protection of emergency services responding to the scene
 20 of a major incident with regard to the further threat of
 21 a marauding terrorist or terrorist firearms attack and
 22 ensuring or trying to ensure that those resources are
 23 safeguarded from further attack.
 24 Q. So do you think that if somebody in firearms authority
 25 had said to you, "This is a warm zone", on 22 May, you

1 would have known what they meant?
 2 A. Yes.
 3 Q. And what that meant for you and for people under your
 4 command?
 5 A. Yes.
 6 Q. At any point on 22 May 2017 did Operation Plato cross
 7 your mind?
 8 A. No, not to call it as an Operation Plato incident, no.
 9 Q. At any point on the night of 22 May, did you know that
 10 GMP had declared Operation Plato?
 11 A. No.
 12 Q. We'll come to some of the detail in due course, but from
 13 your interactions with the firearms officers, even if
 14 they didn't mention Operation Plato, did they give you
 15 any indication of what zones might exist or that there
 16 were areas of active terrorist threat or potential
 17 threat?
 18 A. No.
 19 Q. Again, we will come back to Operation Plato in due
 20 course. The final topic area is first aid. You know,
 21 because I've told you, and I know that British Transport
 22 Police lawyers have told you this, that we're not going
 23 to go into the detail of those who you directly helped.
 24 But of course we also need to remember that you were
 25 ordered, weren't you, to take a step back from the

1 incident in order to provide on—scene situational
 2 awareness?
 3 A. Correct.
 4 Q. So it may be that first aid as a topic area for you is
 5 slightly different to those who were obliged to treat
 6 a number of people; is that fair?
 7 A. Yes, that's fair.
 8 Q. Even so, in relation to your first aid training, did you
 9 regard it on 22 May as being adequate for what you might
 10 need to do?
 11 A. No.
 12 Q. In what way, if you're able to articulate it, did you
 13 think that it lacked something that you needed?
 14 A. I think in particular the training that myself and my
 15 colleagues had received did not anticipate or prepare us
 16 for tending to people with those type of injuries.
 17 Q. So injuries caused by the device that was used?
 18 A. Yes. I don't obviously want to be too distressing in my
 19 words, but massive injuries.
 20 Q. I'm going to turn now to 22 May. Are you all right to
 21 continue?
 22 A. Absolutely.
 23 Q. On 22 May — and here and for your reference, although
 24 you may not need to turn it up, I'm starting at the top
 25 of your witness statement, sergeant — you reported for

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1 duty at 10 pm; is that right?
 2 A. That's correct.
 3 Q. And you were stationed at Peninsula House?
 4 A. Yes, Peninsula, yes.
 5 Q. And that, as we know, is a short distance from the
 6 Manchester Victoria Station complex?
 7 A. It is.
 8 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Do you mind just stopping for a moment?
 9 I do notice this is dated 22 June, so a month later.
 10 A. Yes.
 11 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Is the length of time because you
 12 weren't feeling able to make a statement before that or
 13 you'd made a previous statement or you had notes which
 14 you made a statement from? It seems quite a long time
 15 before making the statement.
 16 A. I can explain. I made no notes on the night.
 17 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Understandably.
 18 A. We received — officers who attended received
 19 instruction not to complete a statement and those
 20 instructions changed over a number of weeks until
 21 a month later, when we were told to write our own
 22 statement. So that's why.
 23 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Okay. I'm sure there's perfectly good
 24 reason for it, so I am not suggesting that, it's just
 25 from our point of view to know that it was a month after

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1 the event you were making the statement.
 2 A. That's correct.
 3 MR DE LA POER: Should we also remember what you say right
 4 at the very end, that you didn't just have to rely on
 5 your recollection because you did have access to the
 6 British Transport Police incident log, which helped you
 7 structure things by reference to that which was
 8 objectively recorded?
 9 A. Absolutely, yes.
 10 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: That's helpful, thank you.
 11 MR DE LA POER: So you were in Peninsula and you say in your
 12 statement that you heard a loud noise?
 13 A. Yes.
 14 Q. And also that the windows shuddered in some way?
 15 A. Yes.
 16 Q. I think at the time you were with your colleague
 17 Temporary Police Sergeant Wilcock?
 18 A. Correct.
 19 Q. And he made an exclamation when that occurred?
 20 A. I made the exclamation.
 21 Q. What you say in your statement was that you were sure
 22 that the noise had come from Manchester Victoria
 23 Station?
 24 A. Yes.
 25 Q. And that your first thought was a train crash?

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1 A. Yes.
 2 Q. You immediately started to run towards the station?
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. When you started to run, had you picked up anything?
 5 A. I picked up my tac vest, tactical vest, which was on the
 6 chair behind me.
 7 Q. You had a radio with you?
 8 A. That was attached to the tactical vest, yes.
 9 Q. Did your tactical vest have any first aid equipment?
 10 A. The only first aid equipment I had was steri wipes.
 11 Q. Sort of anti—bacterial hand wipes?
 12 A. Correct.
 13 Q. When you stood up and began to run, at any point did you
 14 think that you might need to pick up first aid
 15 equipment?
 16 A. No. The thought in my mind was immediacy, just to get
 17 there, and any first aid equipment that would be
 18 available would only be the small green boxes that are
 19 in most offices, which kind of contain plasters and
 20 small bandages.
 21 Q. Given that you've seen such boxes, are those aimed at
 22 the sort of injuries that might occur in a place of
 23 employment as opposed to being directed at something
 24 like that which you were going to face?
 25 A. Yes, they are exactly that. They are exactly those that

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1 any office would have and I'm aware that our vehicles
 2 have specific first aid equipment within the equipment
 3 bags in the vehicles.
 4 Q. What we're going to do now, and for some of the rest of
 5 your evidence, sergeant, is we are going to refer to
 6 radio and other audio broadcasts that have been prepared
 7 into a schedule. Can I say this for the reassurance of
 8 everybody listening, that we are not going to listen to
 9 any audio and that you have that document in front of
 10 you. It is not going to be displayed on the screen.
 11 Instead, doing our very best, you and I are going to try
 12 and pick out the most important aspects of it and, where
 13 appropriate, summarise.
 14 A. Yes.
 15 Q. So the first entry that I would like you to draw your
 16 attention to, please, Sergeant Cawley, is the entry
 17 in the left-hand column labelled "1,316". It's timed at
 18 22.32.12, although as I'm sure you will agree, when
 19 I give those timings, in fact they relate to what must
 20 be a longer period of time than just a second. That's
 21 right, isn't it? Because we can see that as against
 22 that timestamp, we've got a number of entries.
 23 A. Yes, that would appear to be the case, yes.
 24 Q. So everybody will bear in mind that when we give that
 25 time, that reflects the start of this extract and

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1 obviously some seconds pass in the course of it.
 2 The first entry that I draw to your attention is --
 3 can you see four lines down, you broadcast en route?
 4 A. Yes.
 5 Q. At that stage were you still in your office or were you
 6 well on your way to the station?
 7 A. My recollection is saying that as I was actually running
 8 out of the Peninsula Building.
 9 Q. We can see a little further down, not many seconds will
 10 have passed, you broadcast:
 11 "To officers at Victoria, give me a sitrep as soon
 12 as you can."
 13 A. Yes.
 14 Q. So almost your first thought was to seek to gain
 15 situational awareness for yourself?
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. We are not going to go into the details of this radio
 18 channel, but it's clear from what we can see and what
 19 the public have already heard in terms of this
 20 broadcast, which has already been played during
 21 Detective Inspector Russell's evidence, is that there is
 22 more than one person on that radio channel, isn't there?
 23 A. Correct.
 24 Q. So that means that you can hear what other speakers are
 25 saying and they can hear you?

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1 A. Yes.
 2 Q. So it's not just a person-to-person communication
 3 between you and control?
 4 A. No, it's an open channel.
 5 Q. So we can see that PC Bullough tells you what you had
 6 already heard for yourself, namely that there was a loud
 7 bang and that an evacuation was starting. You say,
 8 having acknowledged that:
 9 "Try and establish what it is as soon as you can."
 10 A. Yes.
 11 Q. We can see just a couple of lines further down there,
 12 again everybody has already heard this, the audio of it,
 13 PC Bullough:
 14 "It's definitely a bomb. People injured. At least
 15 20 casualties."
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. So all of that taking place, together with other entries
 18 that I don't need to draw your attention to, as you are
 19 making your way to Manchester Victoria?
 20 A. Yes.
 21 Q. The route that you took took you into the NCP car park;
 22 is that right?
 23 A. That's correct.
 24 Q. What you indicate in your statement is that you could
 25 see that people were emerging from that entrance?

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1 A. Yes.
 2 Q. Was it immediately apparent to you that something very
 3 significant had occurred?
 4 A. Yes, it was.
 5 Q. We don't need to go into the detail of why you drew that
 6 conclusion, but it was apparent from the appearance of
 7 the people you were encountering?
 8 A. Exactly.
 9 Q. We know that the NCP car park has an access into an area
 10 which we termed the Fifty Pence Piece, as it is commonly
 11 referred to, as we understand it, by SMG and ShowSec.
 12 Do you know where I mean by the Fifty Pence Piece?
 13 A. I do.
 14 Q. And did you make your way through the NCP car park in
 15 the direction of that area?
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. Whilst you were making your way there, did you encounter
 18 a colleague of yours, who the inquiry heard from,
 19 PCSO Morrey?
 20 A. I did.
 21 Q. Again, we are not going to go into the detail of all of
 22 this, but was he attending to somebody?
 23 A. Yes, he was.
 24 Q. Did you seek to assist him?
 25 A. Not specifically assist him, no. I saw somebody else

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1 next to him.
 2 Q. So somebody next to him, somebody next to the person
 3 he was assisting?
 4 A. Yes.
 5 Q. One of the things that you record in your statement that
 6 PCSO Morrey says to you is he asked you if you had any
 7 dressings.
 8 A. Yes.
 9 Q. And the reason he gave for asking you that is because
 10 he had run out?
 11 A. Yes.
 12 Q. And I think that together you, at that stage, sought to
 13 fashion something from what he had?
 14 A. From what both of us had together, yes.
 15 Q. That was an improvised dressing?
 16 A. Yes, it was an improvised compress, yes.
 17 Q. At around the time that that conversation was taking
 18 place, there was another casualty present, wasn't there?
 19 A. Yes.
 20 Q. We will simply identify that person as a child. They
 21 were there with their parent?
 22 A. Both parents.
 23 Q. And again we are not going to go into the detail, but
 24 did you make her your focus?
 25 A. I did.

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1 Q. Did that involve you realising that you needed an
 2 ambulance?
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. Running down the Trinity tunnel, out on to Trinity Way?
 5 A. Not the tunnel, back out of the car park.
 6 Q. Forgive me, on to Trinity Way, looking for an ambulance?
 7 A. Yes.
 8 Q. I'm just going to take you to radio broadcast 1,547,
 9 which is timed at 22.36.54. Again, taking all the care
 10 I can with this, summarising I hope accurately, I'll
 11 quote you first:
 12 "Anyone know where any ambulances are yet?"
 13 You broadcast.
 14 A. I did.
 15 Q. Then you give your location, which you identify, among
 16 other things, as being opposite where the Boddington's
 17 Brewery car parks are.
 18 A. Yes.
 19 Q. We're just going to take a moment to have a look at
 20 a couple of maps because it has been a while since the
 21 inquiry has done so and it may help people who don't
 22 know the area well understand where you are referring
 23 to, although it may already be obvious.
 24 {INQ033902/1}. If you can crop in a little.
 25 This is a document prepared by Greater Manchester

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1 Police's Operation Manteline team at the inquiry's
 2 request. Just so that nobody feels we're moving over
 3 this too quickly, because it's the first time we've
 4 looked at it, it captures a number of the rendezvous
 5 points as they were described on the night.
 6 Philips Park Fire Station is on the far right—hand side.
 7 You don't need to trouble yourself with that, sergeant,
 8 but clearly, sir, that's something we have had some
 9 discussion about over the last few days.
 10 Moving from right to left, we see that the next
 11 entry towards the left—hand side of the page is
 12 Thompson Street Fire Station. And then can we crop into
 13 the far left—hand side, having identified those two
 14 fire stations, just so we can see where we're talking
 15 about?
 16 If we orientate ourselves from the top, we can see
 17 that labelled D, with a red dot, is the site of the
 18 former Boddington's Brewery, which we can see is on the
 19 opposite side of the road of the arena complex which
 20 appears in that sort of T—shape and that orangey/pinky
 21 colour?
 22 A. Yes.
 23 Q. Is that where you were referring to when you were
 24 describing where you were?
 25 A. Yes, specifically trying to identify Trinity Way as

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1 the — I think on here it's actually referred to as
 2 Bridge Street, I think.
 3 Q. We know that that green road between the white area
 4 marked as Boddington's Brewery and that peach—coloured
 5 area, that is at least, in part, Trinity Way, isn't it?
 6 A. Yes.
 7 Q. That's what you were trying to focus attention on?
 8 A. Yes.
 9 Q. Of course, that broadcast is not going directly to the
 10 Ambulance Service, that's going to the BTP channel that
 11 you're on?
 12 A. BTP Control, yes.
 13 Q. We're going to identify a couple of other areas as this
 14 map is up. In particular, what I would like people to
 15 look at is the Fishdock car park, which is an area in
 16 white. If we look below the words
 17 "Boddington's Brewery", we can see Manchester Arena
 18 identified in green and then the horizontal line below
 19 the words "Manchester Arena" has Fishdock car park at
 20 one end and ends in a red dot at the other. Do you have
 21 that?
 22 A. Yes.
 23 Q. For reasons that we will come to, that's an important
 24 location. We're going to just look at this in
 25 a slightly different way so everybody has it clearly in

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1 mind.
 2 Mr Lopez, can we please take down this map and just
 3 look at {INQ033900/1}. We will all have these areas
 4 well in mind.
 5 If you crop in as far as you can. Thank you very
 6 much.
 7 To the furthest right of the labels, just above
 8 halfway up, is Victoria Station. The word "station" is
 9 in a green area; do you see that?
 10 A. Yes.
 11 Q. Is that green area which surrounds the word "station",
 12 although that is a label of the building, is that the
 13 Fishdock car park?
 14 A. Yes, it is.
 15 Q. When I say is, in fact I should say was that the
 16 Fishdock car park at the time?
 17 A. Yes.
 18 Q. In fact, it's a building site now, isn't it?
 19 A. It is.
 20 Q. But at the time it was a car park, and when we come to
 21 that area being mentioned, that's where we're talking
 22 about?
 23 A. We are.
 24 Q. Thank you very much indeed, Mr Lopez. You can take that
 25 down.

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1 So where we were in our chronology was 22.36.54 and
 2 you identifying that area on Trinity Way between the car
 3 park and the Old Boddington's Brewery site.
 4 A. Yes.
 5 Q. We're going to move forward in the radio transmissions,
 6 but having been outside, made that broadcast, did you
 7 then go back to the casualty that you were assisting?
 8 A. I did.
 9 Q. Whilst you are doing so, we can see here entry 1,877
 10 within that schedule that you have.
 11 A. I don't have 1,877, sorry.
 12 Q. It's 22.43.25 if that helps navigate.
 13 A. Sorry, yes, I do. My apologies.
 14 Q. Not at all. Take your time, sergeant, please. We have
 15 a number of exchanges here. We'll pick out one because
 16 you will have been able to hear this, had you had your
 17 attention on the radio. We can see your colleague,
 18 PC Carl Roach, right in the middle, is responding to
 19 a request for whether a rendezvous point has been
 20 identified. Do you see that?
 21 A. Yes.
 22 Q. That's a broadcast on the radio channel that you can
 23 hear by a colleague of yours, labelled as Wildridge.
 24 Who is that?
 25 A. That is, at the time, Sergeant Wildridge, who,

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1 I believe, was in Liverpool at the time.
 2 Q. So Sergeant Wildridge asks:
 3 "Has a rendezvous point been identified?"
 4 The controller says, "Negative", and then your
 5 colleague Carl Roach says:
 6 "Maybe the Fishdock car park, it appears quite
 7 (sic)."
 8 That is how it appears on this rendering.
 9 A. Mm—hm.
 10 Q. PC Roach makes clear where he's talking about, doesn't
 11 he, and that's going to become relevant to you, isn't
 12 it, when you have to respond about rendezvous points?
 13 A. Yes.
 14 Q. But whilst that's happening, do we see at the bottom of
 15 the page you begin a radio transmission with "urgent"?
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. If we go over the page to 2,002, we can see what that
 18 urgent transmission is. I'm not going to invite you to
 19 linger over it, I'm going to do my best to summarise it.
 20 But do you give a description of the casualty you're
 21 dealing with and stress the need for an ambulance?
 22 A. Yes.
 23 Q. So at that time, would we understand that you are in the
 24 area of the casualty, still seeking to look after them?
 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. In fact, what then occurs is that you carry the casualty
 2 out on to Trinity Way, don't you?
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. And you arrange for a colleague of yours, who's in
 5 a police vehicle, to take that casualty to hospital?
 6 A. I do.
 7 Q. At that point did you turn your attention to finding out
 8 more about what had occurred?
 9 A. Yes.
 10 Q. Did you do so by running back into the area of the
 11 Fifty Pence Piece?
 12 A. Yes, via the Trinity Way tunnel.
 13 Q. You went up the Trinity Way tunnel to the Fifty Pence
 14 Piece?
 15 A. Yes.
 16 Q. And as we all know, because we looked at the images
 17 many, many times over the course of the months before
 18 Christmas, one of the doors from the Fifty Pence Piece
 19 gives access to the station concourse, doesn't it?
 20 A. It does.
 21 Q. We also know that there's a flight of stairs there up
 22 into the City Room?
 23 A. There is.
 24 Q. Did your route take you out into the station?
 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. And help us with your thinking at that point. At that
2 stage did you know that the City Room had been the seat
3 of the explosion?
4 A. I don't think "know", but I was... That was my... That
5 was my belief at the time.
6 Q. So your decision to go up to the station concourse
7 rather than the City Room, what informed that?
8 A. It's in accordance with JESIP principles and the need
9 for the first person in charge to provide an overview
10 known as a METHANE report, and within those principles
11 you are trained not to get involved in the treatment of
12 casualties, but to provide an overview in order to give
13 a METHANE report and gain situational awareness and
14 report for the whole of the incident area.
15 Q. So this is important then. At that time, and we're
16 talking about 10.45, was it your sense, knowing where
17 you thought your colleagues might be, that you were
18 likely to be the most senior British Transport Police
19 officer on scene?
20 A. That was my belief at the time, yes.
21 Q. So you were acting as such?
22 A. Yes.
23 Q. We don't need to look at it, but is it right that
24 requests at around 22.45 were coming in from control,
25 the force incident manager, asking for a METHANE report?

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1 A. Yes.
2 Q. And bearing in mind your belief about the seniority of
3 others, did you realise that that was for you to give?
4 A. Yes.
5 Q. As you emerged into the station concourse, was your
6 attention drawn to the trams?
7 A. It was.
8 Q. What about that drew your attention?
9 A. Just to explain, as you go through the doors from the
10 Fifty Pence Piece area, it's on to a station overbridge,
11 which spans platforms 3 to 6, so I'm not yet actually
12 down on the main concourse, I'm on the bridge, and from
13 that bridge you get a view pretty much of the whole
14 station, including the Metrolink lines and the platforms
15 for the Metrolink, and I could see trams still running,
16 arriving at the station.
17 Q. In fact, we can time that moment because if you look at
18 2,348, we see that you broadcast the fact that the trams
19 are running and that that needs to stop.
20 A. Yes.
21 Q. As you're making your way through the station concourse,
22 do you hear a broadcast from a colleague, and I hope
23 I pronounce this correctly, PC Trow?
24 A. PC Trow, yes.
25 Q. That his belief at that time was that there were at

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1 least four fatalities?
2 A. Yes.
3 Q. Obviously at this moment, we'll need to remind
4 ourselves, you have not yet been into the City Room,
5 have you?
6 A. Correct.
7 Q. So you are relying upon the information that you have
8 been given. Did you make your way to the bottom of the
9 stairs which lead up to the City Room?
10 A. I made my way on to the concourse. I can't remember if
11 that's the exact location I made my way to.
12 Q. Let's see if I can give you some help on that. I'm
13 going to pause and indicate this. We're going to show
14 an image of you now. You know that because I've given
15 you a warning about it.
16 A. Yes.
17 Q. It was on the evidence proposal and in fact everybody
18 watching the evidence of Detective Inspector Russell
19 will already have seen this image. It is of the area of
20 the station concourse. It's at the bottom of the steps
21 and it does not show anything which in the inquiry legal
22 team's judgement is overtly distressing, although
23 of course we recognise that it can be distressing. So
24 I'm just going to pause for a moment.
25 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Okay. Can I take this opportunity to

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1 enquire, are people all right or would they like
2 a break? I'm sure people will indicate if they do need
3 a break.
4 MR DE LA POER: Thank you, sir, I'm very grateful for that.
5 People will make their arrangements. We're going to
6 look at it for less than a minute, well under, and,
7 Mr Lopez, it's very important that you do not show
8 anything until you have got to the page.
9 {INQ035612/126}. Can you crop into that a little,
10 please?
11 Have you seen this image before?
12 A. No.
13 Q. I'll give you a moment.
14 (Pause)
15 The person who's compiled this has identified you as
16 being the person within the right circle. Does that
17 look right?
18 A. It is.
19 Q. In a moment we'll cover a radio transmission that
20 confirms that you are amongst that group at least.
21 We can see that they are seven Greater Manchester Police
22 Tactical Aid Unit officers, including Sergeant Hare, who
23 was the senior officer amongst that group, and you have
24 encountered them and you spend a period speaking to
25 them?

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1 A. Yes.
 2 Q. That is timed at 22.49.34.
 3 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Is this the Fifty Pence Piece?
 4 MR DE LA POER: No, sir, this is on the Victoria Railway
 5 Station concourse.
 6 The flight of stairs that the leads up to, can you
 7 confirm, officer, that takes you to the overbridge which
 8 leads you into the City Room?
 9 A. Yes.
 10 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: I have now located myself, thank you.
 11 MR DE LA POER: Thank you very much indeed, Mr Lopez, you
 12 can take that down.
 13 That gives us a moment in time of your movements
 14 that night. Can I please can you to look at entry 2,524
 15 within the schedule you have, which is timed just
 16 a minute or two later, 22.51.18.
 17 We'd already looked at this to hear what your
 18 colleague, PC Trow, had said. Towards the bottom
 19 we have a section of text in which you say:
 20 "I have liaised with the GMP TAG."
 21 Tactical Aid Group, presumably, as opposed to
 22 Tactical Aid Unit, but that's the same people?
 23 A. It is.
 24 Q. "That's turned up on Victoria Station main concourse and
 25 asked if they can deploy their teams for a sweep of the

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1 station for secondary devices. They're calling that up
 2 now. Received."
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. Sergeant Cawley, I'm sure you know that the issue of
 5 primacy is one of interest to the inquiry and one that
 6 I'm going to come back to in due course. But just
 7 looking at what you are saying there to your control,
 8 would we be right in concluding that effectively you
 9 gave those GMP officers an instruction or is that not
 10 the right interpretation?
 11 A. I don't think it's exactly the right interpretation.
 12 I would be aware that the officer I was speaking to was
 13 the same rank as myself, so it wouldn't be appropriate
 14 or have any authority to give an instruction. It's
 15 a request for assistance and aid from force to force,
 16 what we would call mutual aid.
 17 Q. Just thinking about the concept of primacy, and we will
 18 come back to this as a single piece, but pausing here
 19 for a moment. You have said it's not appropriate.
 20 In the event that one police service has primacy for
 21 a scene, are they able to issue instructions to the
 22 service that doesn't have primacy as you understood it
 23 in May?
 24 A. Yes, they are. However, in practical terms, working on
 25 the ground, if you're speaking to someone of the same

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1 rank, then it's a request because they also will have
 2 their command structure that may not agree with my
 3 request from British Transport Police to GMP to do what
 4 I was asking.
 5 Q. Should we conclude from the fact that you made that
 6 request that at the time that you did so you took the
 7 view that BTP had primacy in that situation?
 8 A. Yes. If I could clarify?
 9 Q. Of course. It's important that do you.
 10 A. I am aware that the incident has occurred upon BTP
 11 jurisdiction and therefore in the initial response that
 12 British Transport Police were the first officers there,
 13 and as far as I was aware I was the most senior officer
 14 there at the time, then the initial responsibility for
 15 the scene is largely the British Transport Police's.
 16 However, I'm also aware at all times that for an
 17 incident of that magnitude, the Home Office force will
 18 ultimately assume primacy. I know that that is going to
 19 happen at some point.
 20 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Does that actually go through your mind
 21 at the time?
 22 A. Yes.
 23 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Okay, thank you.
 24 MR DE LA POER: So I'm going to reflect that back to you in
 25 a slightly different way, so tell me if I've got it

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1 right or wrong. At this point of the incident your
 2 belief is that BTP has primacy?
 3 A. Yes, in the initial stages of dealing, yes.
 4 Q. And this is the initial stages, is that right?
 5 A. Yes.
 6 Q. You know that every indication is that a bomb has gone
 7 off, so you at that stage are operating on the basis
 8 that this is a terrorist attack?
 9 A. Yes.
 10 Q. Did you have in mind that GMP would deploy firearms
 11 officers in response?
 12 A. Yes, that would be my expectation, definitely.
 13 Q. By this stage, and we don't have it captured one way or
 14 the other so far as I'm aware, were you aware that there
 15 were GMP firearms officers already on scene?
 16 A. No.
 17 Q. In your journey you hadn't encountered any?
 18 A. No, I hadn't encountered any.
 19 Q. So your expectation, your belief is this is a terrorist
 20 attack, it's on BTP jurisdiction -- well, in an area
 21 that BTP has jurisdiction, therefore BTP has primacy,
 22 but there will come a point in the future when GMP take
 23 primacy?
 24 A. Yes.
 25 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: And do you expect that to be actually

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1 something which is spoken of and announced or is it just
 2 de facto, they have got more policemen there, they've
 3 got the armed police and all the rest of it there, so
 4 effectively they are in control?
 5 A. A bit of both. (a) in terms of resources and capability
 6 to deal, yes. Secondly, I would expect there to be
 7 a formal handover at some point, so whether that would
 8 be myself handing over to a Greater Manchester Police
 9 inspector or somebody from BTP Control saying that
 10 they've formally handed over the incident to Greater
 11 Manchester Police.
 12 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Is this all written down somewhere? I'm
 13 not suggesting you'd be reading something on the night,
 14 but is it something you understand, you've been taught
 15 it, or it's in an instruction manual?
 16 A. I think it's in the major incident manual, though
 17 I couldn't swear that it is. And it's certainly
 18 something that you learn over a policing career. If you
 19 go to previous examples of major incidents that have
 20 involved the railway then you are aware that eventually
 21 the Home Office force will take primacy in dealing with
 22 the whole investigation.
 23 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you.
 24 MR DE LA POER: Just staying with this for one more question
 25 and we'll perhaps need to come back to it. You're

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1 expecting either to be the one to hand over primacy if
 2 you are the senior person on scene or that you'd be
 3 informed of that by a senior officer on scene or through
 4 control? Is that right, those are the three ways you
 5 believe primacy will formally cease to rest with BTP?
 6 A. Yes.
 7 Q. In the event a firearms officer came up to you and said
 8 to you, "You need to do this, you need to do that", how
 9 does that fit in with your expectations about primacy?
 10 Do you just follow their instruction because of their
 11 training or --
 12 A. It would depend upon whether an Operation Plato order
 13 had been called with regards to that. If there was an
 14 Operation Plato in place and a firearms officer was
 15 instructing myself or my officers that there was a hot
 16 zone or a warm zone and we needed to be out of it, then
 17 yes, I would obey that instruction.
 18 MR DE LA POER: We'll come to that. I'd like to just keep
 19 moving through your account -- I'm just looking at the
 20 time. I'm conscious that we've been going for about
 21 an hour and this is the first time everyone has been
 22 hearing evidence of this very difficult nature. If
 23 you're content, sir, we'll persevere for another
 24 5 minutes, take a short break, and then have another
 25 short session before lunch.

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1 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Fine. I don't mind doing it now or in
 2 5 minutes' time, whatever is more convenient to the way
 3 you are progressing the narrative.
 4 MR DE LA POER: Well, perhaps given that we have had a break
 5 in the narrative, on reflection now is the best time.
 6 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Okay. We'll break until half past and
 7 then maybe go on until 1.15 afterwards.
 8 (12.19 pm)
 9 (A short break)
 10 (12.27 pm)
 11 MR DE LA POER: We had reached the point that you had told
 12 Control that you had liaised with GMP and that is time
 13 stamped at around 22.51.18.
 14 Of course, as we have already covered, you put
 15 yourself in that position, that is to say on the station
 16 concourse, because you were expected to provide
 17 a METHANE message?
 18 A. Yes.
 19 Q. There was some discussion between you and the force
 20 incident manager about the best way for you to do that,
 21 is that right --
 22 A. Yes.
 23 Q. -- because the channel that you were on, because lots of
 24 people could speak on it, wasn't regarded as ideal?
 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. So you made adjustments to the way in which you were
 2 communicating to make sure Inspector Dawson, as we know
 3 it was, could receive your message clearly?
 4 A. Yes.
 5 Q. And the inquiry has already heard that message. I'm not
 6 proposing to play it again or indeed to rehearse the
 7 entire content of it, but in summary, Inspector Dawson,
 8 at your request, talked you through each of the letters
 9 of the acronym METHANE and you, to the best of your
 10 ability, I'm sure this is right, answered those letters?
 11 A. Yes.
 12 Q. There are a couple that I would just like to pick out
 13 with you to seek your assistance on. If we have a look,
 14 please, at line 3,374. You are being asked about the E
 15 of METHANE, exact location. Do you see that?
 16 A. I do.
 17 Q. And having told Inspector Dawson what the exact location
 18 was, Inspector Dawson says:
 19 "Yeah, received. So there's no question of
 20 jurisdiction, this is ours, yeah."
 21 To which you reply in the next row:
 22 "Yes, yes, it's our jurisdiction, confirmed."
 23 A. Yes.
 24 Q. We just need to be clear about what you're saying there
 25 because we've got two concepts, the concept of

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1 jurisdiction and the concept of primacy. Given the
 2 language being used there, "Our jurisdiction", is that
 3 a reference to jurisdiction or is that a reference to
 4 primacy?
 5 A. Definitely a reference to jurisdiction . It's a direct
 6 answer to the question, yes.
 7 Q. So it's not just do we have jurisdiction -- so the
 8 question is to the effect , as you understood it, "Do
 9 we have jurisdiction to operate there"?
 10 A. Yes. Well, no, it was wider than that. The question
 11 is: has this happened in a geographical location which
 12 is defined as BTP jurisdiction? And my answer is yes to
 13 that.
 14 Q. So although you've already told us that at this point in
 15 the evening it was your belief that BTP had primacy,
 16 that isn't in fact what's being said here?
 17 A. No. Again, could I explain the context?
 18 Q. Of course.
 19 A. I'm aware that Police Inspector Dawson is in a control
 20 room in Birmingham and will not have geographical local
 21 knowledge and it will be being conveyed to him that this
 22 has happened in a concert arena and I can understand
 23 that he may be questioning how that forms part of
 24 a railway jurisdiction , how that is part of a railway
 25 station, which is what I believe his question is. So

1 therefore I'm responding directly, saying, yes, this is
 2 in a geographical area that is policed by the British
 3 Transport Police.
 4 Q. I understand. Next, if we look at line 3,654, we're
 5 just returning to something that we have touched upon
 6 already. Part of the acronym of METHANE is access.
 7 Your answer to that is:
 8 "Best access is from Cross Street and Trinity Way
 9 and there's an RVP point being set up on the Fishdock
 10 car park, which is..."
 11 And then you spell it:
 12 "Received."
 13 We've already tracked this through. Is the origin
 14 of your belief that the rendezvous point was Fishdock
 15 car park what you'd heard your colleague Carl Roach say?
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. Obviously you are senior to Carl Roach at the time. Did
 18 you regard yourself as having the authority to change
 19 that in the event that you thought that he had selected
 20 a bad one, and so does it follow that you were approving
 21 of his choice of rendezvous point when you broadcast
 22 this as part of the METHANE?
 23 A. I'm not approving concerning -- that that was the
 24 designated rendezvous point. At the time I did have
 25 some reservations about that rendezvous point and it was

1 my -- one of my intentions to get to that rendezvous
 2 point and assess its suitability .
 3 Q. I think that we come to some of those concerns later in
 4 the radio messages, but given that you've raised them
 5 now, can you just summarise for us what your concerns at
 6 that stage were about the choice of Fishdock car park as
 7 a rendezvous point?
 8 A. It's probably the most obvious rendezvous point that
 9 could be chosen and one that, in my view, could be
 10 anticipated by anybody with an intention to plant
 11 secondary devices or cause further harm at that
 12 location. You try to second-guess, think ahead or
 13 foresee where someone with intentions of harm would
 14 expect the emergency services to gather, and in my view
 15 that would be the most likely point that someone of that
 16 intention would anticipate.
 17 Q. We're going to see later that one of your concerns is to
 18 make sure that that is checked and access to it is
 19 controlled?
 20 A. Yes.
 21 Q. So for the time being, your colleague has declared that
 22 or indicated that that was a rendezvous point and you
 23 are sticking with that; is that a better way of putting
 24 it, bearing in mind that's already been said by someone
 25 else?

1 A. Yes, rather than contradict or nominate somewhere else
 2 that I personally haven't checked, am not aware of.
 3 It is or was a wide open area that would be suitable in
 4 terms of the ability to put lots of emergency vehicles
 5 in that area and, for the want of being able to nominate
 6 somewhere better, which had been secure and checked,
 7 then knowing that the emergency vehicles are going to
 8 have to congregate somewhere, to go with that at that
 9 time.
 10 Q. On the subject of rendezvous points, are you aware now
 11 of where the other emergency services identified
 12 rendezvous points?
 13 A. The other emergency services? No.
 14 Q. You're not?
 15 A. No.
 16 Q. So for example, a rendezvous point by Greater Manchester
 17 Police was indicated in the vicinity of the cathedral.
 18 The fact that you don't know it now, it must follow that
 19 you didn't know it on the night.
 20 A. I did not, no.
 21 Q. The person who nominated that as a rendezvous point was
 22 Inspector Smith, who is someone, as we will see, that
 23 you did speak to, but in the course of those
 24 conversations it must follow that he didn't mention that
 25 rendezvous point to you?

1 A. At that point, I hadn't spoken to Inspector Smith.
 2 Q. At this point, no, but at any point in the night. You
 3 certainly spoke to him later in the night.
 4 A. I did speak to him later in the night. I don't recall
 5 him saying that that was the rendezvous point.
 6 Q. At any point did you tell him or any other person from
 7 GMP who you interacted with that Fishdock car park was
 8 the rendezvous point?
 9 A. I don't think so. I can't remember, but I don't think
 10 so.
 11 Q. We're going to come to this in a moment in terms of
 12 NWAS --
 13 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Just before you go on, I'm really sorry.
 14 I ought to remember, I know, but the time at which GMP
 15 nominated a rendezvous point?
 16 MR DE LA POER: From recollection, it was 22.36. It will be
 17 certainly in that vicinity. I'm sure somebody will
 18 correct me on that. I may be a couple of minutes out.
 19 Certainly, sir, you will recall, and I hope I'm
 20 accurately summarising the evidence, North West Fire
 21 Control, Mr Berry, says that he felt that that had been
 22 declared so early that it must be a predetermined
 23 rendezvous point. And certainly that seems to have
 24 formed part of his thinking on behalf of the Fire and
 25 Rescue Service.

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1 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: It obviously looks slightly odd that BTP
 2 have jurisdiction and haven't handed it over. No one
 3 appears to know when you do it of your rendezvous point
 4 and you didn't know of GMP's rendezvous point?
 5 A. Yes, it looks odd, but that's the situation.
 6 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: And while I'm asking questions, there
 7 may have been no alternative to this, but did it seem
 8 odd to you that you were reporting to someone who was,
 9 as it were, going to take control of the incident who
 10 was actually in Birmingham and didn't know the area, so
 11 you were having to explain and spell places out to him?
 12 A. Yes, it's something as a transport police officer that
 13 you become accustomed to because we have moved away
 14 from -- we had a regional control centre in Manchester
 15 and that was moved away to Birmingham. So you become
 16 used to having a knowledge that the person you speak to
 17 may not have or probably doesn't have the geographical
 18 knowledge you have and having to explain that further.
 19 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you.
 20 MR DE LA POER: Again, remaining with the subject of
 21 rendezvous points, do you have a recollection of having
 22 spoken to anyone from NWAS that night?
 23 A. No.
 24 Q. So does it follow that you were unaware that they had
 25 identified Hunts Bank as a rendezvous point?

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1 A. Yes, I was unaware.
 2 Q. So that's the rendezvous point that you broadcast as
 3 part of your METHANE message. Do we see from row 4,046
 4 that at the conclusion of that call, around 23.03.43 --
 5 and I'm looking here at what Inspector Dawson is saying
 6 to you -- he says about five or six lines up from the
 7 bottom:
 8 "I need you, until there's somebody that can take
 9 over from you, to take a step back and be my eyes and
 10 ears there and give me the updates."
 11 A. Yes.
 12 Q. That instruction from Inspector Dawson, is that having
 13 the effect, you tell me, of conveying to you that
 14 you are, even after 11 o'clock, the most senior person
 15 on the scene?
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. We're now just over half an hour after the explosion.
 18 You have, in the time line we've looked at so far, had
 19 a conversation with the GMP Tactical Aid Unit. You're
 20 being told by Inspector Dawson that you are apparently
 21 still the most senior person on site. Did it occur to
 22 you whether or not you needed to go and liaise with
 23 somebody senior on the ground from GMP?
 24 A. Yes.
 25 Q. When in the course of our review, before or after or

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1 at the time of this entry that we're looking at, just
 2 after 11 o'clock, can you say when you had that in your
 3 mind that you needed to do that?
 4 A. I would have had that in my mind constantly throughout,
 5 from minute 1 of responding to the incident. At all
 6 times when whilst I was there I was looking for somebody
 7 of inspector rank to report to.
 8 Q. Were you doing that just by looking around or were you
 9 stopping people to say, "Where is the GMP
 10 Bronze Commander"?
 11 A. Just by looking around.
 12 Q. Do you think it might have helped to find
 13 Inspector Smith sooner than you did if you had been
 14 stopping and asking people or was that just not
 15 practical?
 16 A. No, I'm sure it would have helped me find him sooner.
 17 Again, if I can explain the context. Within the areas
 18 I was, there were still lots and lots of people and
 19 families and people seeking people and people wishing to
 20 speak to police officers, lots of external inputs, so
 21 basically under the pressure and the different inputs
 22 I was getting at the time, I didn't think to do that.
 23 Q. Doing the best you can with what I'm sure is a difficult
 24 question to answer, do you think that if you had had
 25 more training in preparation for the potential of you

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1 being the senior person on scene for a period of time,
 2 whether that might have assisted you or was it just that
 3 the situation would overwhelm a person no matter how
 4 much training they'd had?
 5 A. I think the situation would be likely to overwhelm
 6 certainly ...
 7 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: You don't -- I well understand why what
 8 happened happened, all right? So believe me, this is
 9 not a criticism . But you don't actually need training
 10 to be told, well, maybe in some circumstances the best
 11 way to find someone is to ask someone who might know?
 12 A. Absolutely.
 13 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: So it's just a matter of the situation
 14 and dealing with other inputs, as you've said?
 15 A. Yes, and my expectation, rightly or wrongly, was that my
 16 Control would be carrying out a lot of the liaison with
 17 Greater Manchester Police, fire and ambulance, and that
 18 I would be advised of their communications in the belief
 19 that they would appreciate how difficult my situation
 20 was on the ground. Again, referring back to the
 21 e-learning that we do, it's quite clean and clinical and
 22 sterile and posed situations that there are obvious
 23 solutions to and it's very easy to --
 24 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: So real life is entirely different?
 25 A. Exactly what I'm saying, sir, yes.

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1 MR DE LA POER: I don't think we've covered anywhere in your
 2 training that you'd actually participated in any live
 3 action training or anything like that that might have
 4 made it a little less sterile .
 5 A. No, I never have, no.
 6 Q. We're going to move forward to 23.15, row 5,444. This
 7 is a conversation that you are having with the force
 8 incident manager, Inspector Dawson. There he says:
 9 "Just an update really. Are you still senior person
 10 on scene or has somebody come to take over yet?"
 11 And you reply:
 12 "Yeah, I'm still first supervisor on scene."
 13 So it seems from that that your belief has continued
 14 from 11 o'clock that you are the most senior BTP officer
 15 present within the complex?
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. I think at this point, and we'll come to it, 11.15, you
 18 hadn't yet gone up to the City Room; is that right?
 19 A. That's correct.
 20 Q. So do you recall what it was that you were doing between
 21 11.00 and 11.15? I'm looking here at your statement.
 22 On the third page you mention liaison with a sergeant
 23 from the GMP firearms team. Is that occurring at about
 24 this time?
 25 A. I do not recall the exact times. I couldn't answer

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1 that.
 2 Q. Let's have a look further down in that entry just to see
 3 if I can help your memory. What you say is:
 4 "Yes, yes, I can confirm that GMP firearms team are
 5 now currently commencing a sweep of Victoria Station and
 6 then the entrance to Manchester Arena City Room so far."
 7 A. Yes.
 8 Q. So putting your statement and this together, does it
 9 sound like that at some point between 11.00 and 11.15
 10 you've encountered a sergeant from GMP, they've told you
 11 what they're doing, and you're able to report that to
 12 BTP?
 13 A. Yes, it's either that or I've actually observed their
 14 team start to do an operational sweep, which I've
 15 recognised to be as such.
 16 Q. Do you have a recollection -- what your statement says
 17 is, "I liaised", which might suggest some sort of
 18 conversation --
 19 A. Yes, in which case I must have spoken to a firearms
 20 sergeant.
 21 Q. And you go on, and I think this was a concern of yours
 22 at the time, what you say in your statement is you
 23 enquired whether an explosive detection dog unit was
 24 en route.
 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. So it sounds like a proper conversation in which you are
 2 asking questions and understanding what the sergeant is
 3 doing?
 4 A. Yes, and it appears to be a follow-up to when I spoke to
 5 the TAU sergeant requesting that resource to come to the
 6 footprint .
 7 Q. As we'll see, one of the potential uses of an explosive
 8 dog was to check the rendezvous point?
 9 A. Yes.
 10 Q. Although of course there were other areas that would
 11 need checking as well?
 12 A. All of the footprint, yes.
 13 Q. So to the best of your recollection, your interaction
 14 with the GMP officer, help us to understand, again
 15 in the context of primacy, was that in your mind or was
 16 this just two colleagues getting on with their different
 17 jobs?
 18 A. Most definitely the latter. Again, to sort of explain,
 19 on the ground at the time there's just a willingness and
 20 a level of cooperation to just get on, deal as best as
 21 we can and deal with what needs to be done with the
 22 resources that we've got and talk to each other on the
 23 ground, because it was clear to me that that wasn't
 24 really happening on the radio.
 25 Q. That wasn't happening on the radio?

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1 A. No.
 2 Q. And in terms of everybody working to a joint plan,
 3 is that something which, to your mind, needed to be
 4 coming down over the radio or something that you could
 5 formulate and discuss with other people or at that stage
 6 was it everybody just working to their own plan?
 7 A. On the ground, not working on their own plan, on the
 8 ground definitely cooperating, but my expectation, again
 9 from JESIP e—learning and maybe other inputs, is that
 10 there would be a joint radio channel set up for all the
 11 emergency services and by that time it had become clear
 12 to me that that wasn't happening.
 13 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: So involving Inspector Dawson, would
 14 you have expected a joint radio channel?
 15 A. I would expect as part of the whole emergency services
 16 response and the JESIP principles there should be
 17 a joint radio channel set up. I would expect that to be
 18 done between the different forces and response services'
 19 control rooms and to agree and then for me to be
 20 informed of what that was.
 21 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Exactly. So here, on this particular
 22 one, if we look at it, Inspector Dawson is asking you
 23 what's happening and who's there, and all the rest of
 24 it, whereas perhaps you expected the information to come
 25 the other way round?

1 A. Yes.
 2 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: And you were telling him, for example,
 3 that there were multiple ambulances now on the scene
 4 whereas you might have expected that he would be saying
 5 to you, "They're all on the way", or, "What's
 6 happening"?
 7 A. Yes.
 8 MR DE LA POER: We're now going to deal with the period when
 9 you go up to the City Room. Can I reassure you and
 10 everybody listening that I'm not going to ask you for
 11 a description in any detail of what you saw.
 12 I am going to ask you, though, just to deal with
 13 emergency personnel that you might have noticed when you
 14 went into the City Room.
 15 We know that at the point that you went up into the
 16 City Room there were three NWS paramedics in that room.
 17 That is a matter of agreed fact, two members of the HART
 18 team and an advanced paramedic called Patrick Ennis.
 19 You can take that from me. When you went up into the
 20 City Room, did you notice whether there were any people
 21 who you thought were NWS paramedics?
 22 A. I noticed that there were certainly paramedics. Whether
 23 they were NWS or not, not specifically, and it wouldn't
 24 have been a great concern of mine as to who they
 25 belonged to, just that there were paramedics there.

1 Q. What about their appearance made you think that those
 2 people were paramedics? Is it the way they were
 3 dressed?
 4 A. Yes.
 5 Q. We know that there were people who, I hope I can recall
 6 this correctly, were wearing green uniforms who were
 7 first —aiders employed as part of the arena operation.
 8 They were not paramedics and, certainly in the case of
 9 almost all of them, they didn't have the standard of
 10 training that paramedics do. Might the people that
 11 you are describing as paramedics be included in that
 12 category or were you sure that the uniform was
 13 clearly —
 14 A. No, if they were wearing green then they may well have
 15 been what I thought were paramedics, yes.
 16 Q. At this point when you go up there, you have it in mind
 17 that you are the senior BTP supervisor on scene.
 18 A. Yes.
 19 Q. We've seen that from the quarter past.
 20 A. Yes.
 21 Q. And at this point there's been no formal handover of
 22 primacy. Did you see it as any part of your role to
 23 bring together the emergency services, you participating
 24 on behalf of BTP, to discuss what the best way of
 25 managing the situation was?

1 A. I think at the time and place, my expectation was that
 2 that would be carried out at a control room level, that
 3 there was an appreciation of my situation on the ground,
 4 that unless I'm actually encountering one of those
 5 people face to face, without a joint shared radio
 6 channel, it's very difficult for me to do that. So no,
 7 not at the time, no.
 8 Q. I am not for a moment suggesting that this was your role
 9 on the night and I want that to be very clear. But at
 10 any point in the night did it occur to you that you
 11 might be or could be the Bronze commander for BTP?
 12 A. No.
 13 Q. Why do you think that was? Is it to do with your rank,
 14 your training, or some other reason?
 15 A. Yes, to be a Bronze commander you have to have qualified
 16 on the Bronze commander training course, which I hadn't
 17 done at the time. And in a reactive, responsive
 18 environment like that, I don't think a Bronze is —
 19 unless somebody actually contacts you and says, "You are
 20 going to be my Bronze", and identifies themselves as
 21 Silver, you are not considering yourself to be Bronze.
 22 Within BTP we use a term ground commander, which we
 23 use quite often in incidents of railway fatalities, and
 24 that's the role that I viewed myself in, as being
 25 a ground commander or person on scene, but certainly not

1 Bronze, no.
 2 Q. Does the ground commander in your understanding of that
 3 role have any JESIP commander responsibilities?
 4 A. Absolutely, yes, and will undertake a lot of the
 5 responsibilities and roles that a Bronze commander would
 6 do as part of that, but not be officially recorded and
 7 designated as a Bronze commander at the scene.
 8 Q. We have touched on it already, the issue of forward
 9 command points. Was it in your mind at any point that
 10 that would be something that you needed to find to
 11 attend on behalf of BTP?
 12 A. No. The honest answer is I didn't really consider
 13 forward command points within that scene.
 14 Q. Was it a scene, now looking back, that you think would
 15 have benefited from a forward command point or --
 16 A. Yes.
 17 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: I am just imagining you would have to
 18 find a location and say: right, here's the forward
 19 command point. Then you have to find the appropriate
 20 people within the Ambulance Service?
 21 A. Yes.
 22 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Within the armed officers?
 23 A. Potentially, yes.
 24 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: And, if they come, the Fire Service?
 25 A. Yes.

1 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: To locate them at that point?
 2 A. Yes.
 3 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: I just wonder how practical it was.
 4 A. Exactly. It's supposed to happen and classroom learning
 5 tells you it'll happen and it will tell you people will
 6 be there with white tabard vests on to identify
 7 themselves as those people. But my experience on the
 8 night is that the overwhelming chaos of what was going
 9 on means that that didn't happen and, yes, it would have
 10 been better if it did.
 11 MR DE LA POER: I'm going to look at another radio
 12 transmission, please, which is 6,414 at 23.25. I'm not
 13 going to ask you to speak to the detail of it, but
 14 can you confirm that that makes clear that at that time
 15 what you're saying is, "I've attended the City Rooms"?
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. So in other words we can conclude from that that between
 18 that time, 23.15 and 23.25, was the period in which you
 19 were first in the City Room?
 20 A. Yes.
 21 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Just going back to the entry before,
 22 ironically, perhaps in a way, Mr Dawson says you're
 23 doing excellent work, which no doubt was right, and goes
 24 on to say:
 25 "If you need anything, give us a shout."

1 No doubt you could have thought there were a lot of
 2 things you could have done with, really?
 3 A. Absolutely.
 4 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: It was just fairly impractical?
 5 A. I think at that time there's an element of shock --
 6 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: I'm absolutely sure.
 7 A. -- beginning to kick in, yes.
 8 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Yes.
 9 MR DE LA POER: We've reached 23.25 and we are not going to
 10 look at very many more. But did there come a point at
 11 around 23.27, so a couple of minutes later, that you
 12 became aware of a GMP chief inspector?
 13 A. Yes.
 14 Q. The radio transmission I invite you to consider is
 15 6,648. Five lines up from the bottom we see you
 16 indicating:
 17 "There is a GMP chief inspector on scene now."
 18 A. Yes.
 19 Q. That is, I don't think there is any dispute, I'm sure
 20 there isn't any dispute, Chief Inspector Dexter, who the
 21 inquiry will hear from in due course. But you know,
 22 don't you, sergeant, that Chief Inspector Dexter had
 23 a dictaphone on him that night?
 24 A. I know now. I didn't know until a few days ago.
 25 Q. Sorry, that was a bad question from me. You now know

1 because you have been shown part of the transcript of
 2 that?
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. Which I don't need to bring up on scene, but you can
 5 confirm, can't you, that in the transcript that you were
 6 shown, which is as it appears on the inquiry website,
 7 you are the unknown male who is marked on pages 1 and 2?
 8 A. Yes.
 9 Q. In fact that radio broadcast is captured on the
 10 dictaphone, isn't it?
 11 A. I believe so.
 12 Q. What I want to read out to you, because we don't need to
 13 bring it up on the screen, is just one small part of
 14 that which is caught. And there is not a lot of you
 15 speaking on there, is there?
 16 A. No.
 17 Q. What you say is:
 18 "I'm just staying here because -- in case anyone
 19 comes back, if we've got people coming in and out.
 20 I was just staying here for now."
 21 A. Yes.
 22 Q. What did you mean by that?
 23 A. I think that's a response -- I'm pretty sure that's
 24 a response to a question from BX Control on my radio, so
 25 it's something that won't be heard on the transcript of

1 the chief inspector's, and because I said, "I've handed
 2 over to the GMP chief inspector", then the question is,
 3 "What are you going to do now?", or, "Where are you
 4 going now, are you going to withdraw from the scene?"
 5 So I think my response is saying: I'm staying here
 6 because there are still people coming in and out of the
 7 City Rooms.
 8 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Are we able to link them up at all?
 9 MR DE LA POER: The BTP broadcast, I don't think I've seen
 10 that within the material that we have here.
 11 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Okay. We've seen you saying, "There is
 12 a GMP chief inspector on scene now".
 13 A. Mm—hm.
 14 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: We don't actually see in that call, what
 15 I've got here anyway, you saying, "I've handed over to
 16 him". Would you expect that to be implied because he's
 17 a senior rank to you?
 18 A. Yes, I would expect it to be implied. It may be
 19 somebody stood next to me asking what I'm going to do
 20 now. I am surmising about who I am speaking to there.
 21 I can't be certain.
 22 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: That's fine. You've only known about
 23 the dictaphone very briefly. But would you have said to
 24 Chief Inspector Dexter, "Right, you're in charge now",
 25 or was it just because he's the chief inspector,

1 although of a different force, that's assumed?
 2 A. I recall approaching the chief inspector and saying,
 3 "This is my situational report", and I would expect that
 4 to be recognised as a handover.
 5 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you.
 6 MR DE LA POER: That's a handover in one sense between
 7 ranks; is it also a handover between police services?
 8 A. That would be my belief at the time because, as far as
 9 I was aware, there was no formal handover that had taken
 10 place at a control room level or by anybody else at
 11 a rank above mine. To my view, that was the first
 12 senior Greater Manchester Police officer I'd seen at the
 13 incident and my belief was still that there was only
 14 sergeant level rank there until I saw that person. So
 15 yes, I would constitute that as a handover and
 16 a handover of primacy at that time, yes.
 17 Q. Obviously you're familiar with the concept of primacy.
 18 In order for somebody of that rank to understand that
 19 that handover was taking place in relation to primacy,
 20 is it necessary to mention primacy expressly or is it
 21 sufficient that everybody knows what they're talking
 22 about and that there's no risk of any misunderstanding?
 23 A. I suppose it's ideal that one formally says, "This is
 24 a formal handover and I am handing over primacy".
 25 However, my expectation would be that somebody of that

1 rank would understand that that's what I was doing.
 2 Q. I'm just going to ask you about something that you said
 3 in your Lord Kerslake interview, if you can help us with
 4 that. I can bring it up on screen if we need to, but
 5 I'm going to quote it and see if it resonates with you.
 6 It was one of the documents you were asked to consider,
 7 but it was one of a number.
 8 What you say is:
 9 "... first person I'd seen with pips."
 10 A. Yes.
 11 Q. Is that a reference to the chief inspector?
 12 A. Yes.
 13 Q. "Tried to hand over but he appeared in shock."
 14 A. That was my perception, yes.
 15 Q. That was your perception of Chief Inspector Dexter
 16 at the time you spoke to him?
 17 A. Yes, it was.
 18 Q. And just to help us, and we don't need to linger long
 19 about this, what was it about his appearance or the way
 20 he was that led you to conclude he was in shock?
 21 A. My view was that he was — whilst I was trying to speak
 22 directly to him, he was staring straight ahead and not
 23 particularly acknowledging what I was saying. It was
 24 more of an aside, the acknowledgement of my presence and
 25 what he was saying and didn't, to me, grasp the gravity

1 of what I was saying.
 2 Q. Does the fact that you're in different police services
 3 and that he is several ranks above you, two ranks above
 4 you, prevent you from repeating your message or ensuring
 5 that he has understood or is that not how it works in
 6 practice?
 7 A. There's nothing to prevent me from doing it, no.
 8 I could do that, but yeah, there is a certain amount of
 9 respect for rank that one has to show.
 10 Q. At all events, in your mind you were handing over
 11 primacy and command for the scene —
 12 A. Yes.
 13 Q. — to Chief Inspector Dexter? We're going to move to
 14 the next radio entry, which is at 7.430. This is timed
 15 a few minutes later.
 16 We can see, as it's recorded here, that:
 17 "Silver is asking for a sitrep, if you can oblige."
 18 Sitrep, situation report?
 19 A. Yes.
 20 Q. And so this is a request coming from the Silver
 21 commander, just to spell out what I'm sure is obvious to
 22 everybody, over the radio for a situation report from
 23 you?
 24 A. Yes.
 25 Q. We don't need to look at the rest of that entry because

1 there's some discussion about the best way in which that
 2 can happen, isn't there --
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. -- ie, the channel of communication?
 5 A. Yes.
 6 Q. Over the page on your record, we can see 23.39, that you
 7 say:
 8 "I'm still standing by for Silver."
 9 A. Yes.
 10 Q. And there were some technical difficulties, it seems,
 11 with Silver getting through. Do you recall, because
 12 Chief Superintendent Gregory is not recorded on this,
 13 whether you actually ever spoke voice to voice to Silver
 14 on that night?
 15 A. I... I recall the conversation. I wasn't aware that it
 16 was Mr Gregory.
 17 Q. He's someone who certainly you have met since?
 18 A. Absolutely, yes.
 19 Q. And you knew at the time?
 20 A. Yes.
 21 Q. So you would know you were speaking to him. We can see
 22 your sitrep there given, and the person you're marked as
 23 speaking to is "controller".
 24 A. Yes.
 25 Q. That's how it's recorded here. Obviously this is not

1 a BTP prepared document, I'm sure that Mr Gibbs will be
 2 considering this right now and seeing what help he can
 3 give, as he always does, with these things. You're
 4 there giving a sitrep?
 5 A. Yes.
 6 Q. Either directly to Silver or with the expectation that
 7 it will be passed on to Silver?
 8 A. Yes.
 9 Q. The next event that I'm going to ask you to consider,
 10 and we can deal with it in less detail than we have
 11 been, given the time that we are approaching, is if you
 12 can go forward to 8,762. This is an extract of
 13 body-worn footage. I say to everybody, and you don't
 14 need to trouble yourself with this, sergeant, that this
 15 interaction is also captured on Inspector Michael
 16 Smith's sequence of events, so for anybody who wishes to
 17 look further into this, that is there.
 18 I'm going to just ask you a couple of questions
 19 about this. What is recorded here is that you are
 20 interacting with a Sergeant Darren Prince. Do you
 21 recall speaking to a GMP sergeant at around 11.55?
 22 A. Yes.
 23 Q. And the way it's described, and it's a narrative by
 24 somebody who's watched the footage, is that he takes you
 25 in the City Room to Inspector Mike Smith?

1 A. Yes.
 2 Q. Do you remember speaking to Inspector Smith?
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. I think you had a recollection of that when you gave
 5 your statement. You indicate that in your statement
 6 that the GMP...
 7 "I was requested by a GMP inspector to tape off the
 8 sliding glass doors entrance to the City Room which was
 9 duly put in place."
 10 A. Yes.
 11 Q. Within the bounds of what you have told me about
 12 inter-police service interactions, is this him in effect
 13 giving you an instruction or making a request?
 14 A. No, at that time that's him giving an instruction.
 15 Q. That's him giving an instruction?
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. What the record within Inspector Smith's sequence of
 18 events confirms, and I'm sure you'll be able to confirm
 19 it given your recollection, was that the discussion was
 20 about a cordon?
 21 A. Yes.
 22 Q. That's what's being spoken about when taping off
 23 a particular area?
 24 A. Yes.
 25 Q. Was that the first time, to the best of your

1 recollection, that you encountered Inspector Smith?
 2 A. Yes.
 3 Q. At the time did you know that he was GMP
 4 Bronze commander?
 5 A. No.
 6 Q. An obvious question, I should have asked earlier: at the
 7 time you met Chief Inspector Dexter did you know that
 8 he was the GMP ground assigned tactical firearms
 9 commander?
 10 A. No.
 11 Q. Was that a term that you were familiar with?
 12 A. It's a term I would have been familiar with at the time.
 13 My only recollection of him is being a chief inspector
 14 was just from recognising the rank on his epaulettes.
 15 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Were any of these people wearing tabards
 16 of any sort?
 17 A. No, sorry.
 18 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: No, that's perfectly understandable.
 19 MR DE LA POER: In your mind, at the time you met the GMP
 20 Bronze you had handed over primacy. Was it still your
 21 belief at 23.55 that you were still the most senior BTP
 22 officer on scene?
 23 A. Yes, I think so, at 23.55, yes. Yes.
 24 Q. We're going to come to Chief Inspector Graham in
 25 a moment and it is in a moment from 23.55.

1 A. Yes.
 2 Q. When speaking to him, obviously he's given you an
 3 instruction . Did you see your role as being confined to
 4 acting under his direction or did you see yourself as
 5 having a role to represent the BTP officers at your
 6 disposal and discuss a plan?
 7 A. Both, but his seniority at the scene takes the primacy
 8 with that — in respect of that. If him as a police
 9 inspector, irrespective of force or whether primacy is
 10 handed over at that time, he's an inspector and he can
 11 give me an instruction.
 12 Q. As I say, we come now to Chief Inspector Graham, who is
 13 a British Transport Police officer , isn't she?
 14 A. At the time she was, yes.
 15 Q. At 8,937, which is just after midnight, about two-thirds
 16 of the way down that entry we see a reference to
 17 "Wedderburn". The inquiry has heard from an Inspector
 18 Michelle Wedderburn; is that the one and the same?
 19 A. No, this is Inspector Michael Wedderburn.
 20 Q. Inspector Michael Wedderburn broadcasting, "Yeah", and
 21 then he gives a call sign to CI Graham?
 22 A. Yes.
 23 Q. And then a question:
 24 "Any PM at the arena who knows the whereabouts of
 25 CI Graham?"

1 And we have an indication from somebody on the
 2 ground, PC Conway:
 3 "She's on the overbridge from the station into the
 4 City Room."
 5 So that gives us a good idea, certainly so far as
 6 PC Conway was concerned, of where Chief Inspector Graham
 7 was at that time. Do you recall meeting with
 8 Chief Inspector Graham that night?
 9 A. Yes.
 10 Q. And was it around the time of this radio broadcast,
 11 whether before or after, or was it at a very different
 12 time?
 13 A. It was just after BTP officers had left the City Rooms
 14 and the City Rooms had been taped off. I gave a hot
 15 debrief to the BTP officers on the overbridge there, and
 16 as we walked down the overbridge there, I waited for all
 17 the officers to go so I was sure that everyone was
 18 accounted for. Then as I followed, that's when I met
 19 Chief Inspector Graham.
 20 Q. On the overbridge?
 21 A. The steps, the first steps of the overbridge, yes.
 22 Q. What you've described, I'm sure, is a visual image in
 23 many people's minds from Detective Inspector Russell's
 24 evidence, which is a large congregation of BTP officers
 25 who were receiving a briefing just outside the doors of

1 the City Room.
 2 A. Yes.
 3 Q. I'm sure those watching will remember that. So it's
 4 around that time that you encountered Chief Inspector
 5 Graham?
 6 A. It's after that time.
 7 Q. What was the conversation between you and
 8 Chief Inspector Graham at that time?
 9 A. I don't recall a great deal of that conversation or any
 10 of it particularly . I think it would have been, again,
 11 a situational report.
 12 Q. Can I tell you what you put in your statement:
 13 "I liaised with BTP Chief Inspector Graham
 14 requesting permission to stand this group of officers
 15 down from the station. I received this authority and
 16 led those officers back to BTP Peninsula in order that
 17 they obtain respite ."
 18 A. Yes, that absolutely was the — I think my... That
 19 absolutely did happen. I think I gave a situational
 20 report to her just before that, I think.
 21 Q. I appreciate you don't have a clear recollection of
 22 that, only, by the sound of it, a sense that that's what
 23 you did. Are you able to help us with whether or not
 24 you will have explained the primacy situation to her or
 25 the fact that there was a chief inspector from GMP or an

1 inspector from GMP? Any of those sort of details?
 2 A. I can't recall whether I did.
 3 Q. Well, Chief Inspector Graham is coming to give evidence
 4 in due course and I'm sure she will give us her best
 5 recollection of that.
 6 Before you left the site, there are just three brief
 7 entries to deal with and then perhaps it will be
 8 appropriate for us to break. The first entry is 9,535.
 9 This is a conversation captured on body-worn footage at
 10 00.21. You are recorded as asking Inspector Michael
 11 Smith if he is the incident commander.
 12 A. Yes.
 13 Q. He confirmed that he was, and there's then
 14 a conversation between you and two people who are
 15 explosive experts.
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. So was this the first time in the night that you were
 18 aware of what Inspector Smith's role was?
 19 A. Officially , yes.
 20 Q. Officially . Was it your belief before that that he must
 21 be operating in that sort of role?
 22 A. Yes. I knew that I had previously spoken to
 23 Inspector Smith after subsequently speaking to
 24 Chief Inspector Dexter and that my report to him
 25 appeared to be received well in terms of his

1 understanding and therefore, as the senior rank within
 2 the City Rooms at that time, my expectation and training
 3 says that he is now the person in charge.
 4 Q. Penultimate entry, 3 minutes later, at 9,604, a further
 5 conversation with Inspector Smith. In your presence,
 6 a GMP officer describes you as:
 7 "[A] BTP sergeant that works here, he will tell you
 8 everything you need to know, sir."
 9 A. Yes.
 10 Q. Is that a good summary of the role that you had adopted
 11 at that stage, a person who could assist GMP based on
 12 your local knowledge?
 13 A. Yes.
 14 Q. And finally, a subject that we haven't gone into in very
 15 much detail and really have only summarised so far, but
 16 we'll just deal with an entry at 41 minutes past
 17 midnight, at 9,971. The fact that we're only looking at
 18 one, nobody should infer that this is the only time that
 19 this was mentioned by you or was something that you were
 20 concerned about, but it's here. Even at 00.40,
 21 do you see that you make a broadcast in the middle there
 22 to Chief Inspector Graham?
 23 A. Yes.
 24 Q. What you say here is:
 25 "Yeah, I'm just wondering, boss, whether any sweep

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1 has been one (sic) of the vehicles that are in Fishdock
 2 car park. We've OT (sic) multiple vehicles still parked
 3 up here before we let members of the public back in.
 4 Has an expo dog been through this car park?"
 5 A. Yes. I think the broadcast is actually to Inspector
 6 Michael Wedderburn, not to Inspector Graham. I think
 7 it is.
 8 Q. Certainly Inspector Wedderburn says, "Go ahead",
 9 immediately before that.
 10 A. Yes.
 11 Q. I think your preceding broadcast is addressed to
 12 Chief Inspector Graham.
 13 A. Okay.
 14 Q. But at all events you are here broadcasting your concern
 15 about the Fishdock car park?
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. Which you still had at 00.40?
 18 A. Yes.
 19 Q. Is that because it was still your belief at that time
 20 that that was the rendezvous point?
 21 A. No, it's a different concern at that point. I've just
 22 become aware that there are still multiple vehicles
 23 within the Fishdock car park and normally after the
 24 egress of an arena event, we would expect that car park
 25 to clear in the majority with maybe two or three or four

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1 cars left, but there were lots and lots of cars left, so
 2 I believe that the -- it's highly likely a lot of those
 3 would have been people attending the event or picking
 4 people from the event, and they would be wanting to
 5 return to that area to get their cars and go home and,
 6 to my knowledge at that time, that area still had not
 7 been checked and made secure.
 8 Q. So it's not the concern of a rendezvous point, more
 9 a concern that you're about to let members of the public
 10 back in potentially?
 11 A. Into an area that, to my knowledge, there's no dog been
 12 over it for secondary devices.
 13 MR DE LA POER: Sergeant, that's all that I want to ask you
 14 directly about the events of 22 May in terms of
 15 a chronology.
 16 Sir, I wonder if we might break now for an hour and
 17 when we return, I'll have some questions about the
 18 themes the inquiry has identified.
 19 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Are you happy with an hour? Is that
 20 long enough for you?
 21 A. Fine, sir, yes. Thank you.
 22 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you. Just after 2.15 then.
 23 (1.18 pm)
 24 (The lunch adjournment)
 25 (2.15 pm)

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1 MR DE LA POER: Sergeant Cawley, I have been able to reflect
 2 on the questions that I had in mind to ask you, and in
 3 fact we've covered a lot of them, so there won't be an
 4 awful lot more from me.
 5 Before we go any further, can I correct an error
 6 that is entirely of my own making and doesn't reflect
 7 upon you adversely in any way. Do you recall that
 8 shortly before lunch we were discussing your
 9 conversation with Chief Inspector Dexter?
 10 A. Yes.
 11 Q. And there was a particular passage from the dictaphone
 12 transcript which I put to you and asked you whether that
 13 was you and you thought it was on the basis of the way
 14 that I framed my question.
 15 A. Yes.
 16 Q. In fact, further work has been done on that transcript
 17 and it was drawn to our attention over lunch that that
 18 might not be you speaking. Have you had an opportunity
 19 to listen to the audio, together with the transcript,
 20 over lunch to see whether that is in fact you?
 21 A. Yes, I have.
 22 Q. Whilst it's correct that all of the preceding entries
 23 ascribed to an unknown male in the version you saw are
 24 you speaking, that one is not?
 25 A. That's correct.

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1 Q. It's the first occasion on which someone identified as
 2 an unknown male isn't you speaking?
 3 A. Correct.
 4 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: It's a very understandable mistake.
 5 MR DE LA POER: Well, perhaps, but even so, the error was
 6 mine.
 7 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: I'm sorry you had to spend your
 8 lunchtime doing that.
 9 A. That's fine, thank you, sir.
 10 MR DE LA POER: You have had an opportunity, haven't you,
 11 and as I understand it a subsequent version of that
 12 transcript is to come out, to be able to be certain in
 13 your own mind that those other earlier entries are all
 14 you?
 15 A. They are me.
 16 Q. So if we briefly have a look at them -- and you have
 17 a copy in front of you so we don't need to put it on
 18 screen -- do you begin by saying:
 19 "It was being processed a few minutes ago. I don't
 20 know. Have we got an explo dog in? I put the request
 21 in but I don't know whether it's been done"?
 22 A. Yes.
 23 Q. Do you then go on to indicate how many fatalities you
 24 believed there were at that time?
 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. Does Chief Inspector Dexter ask you:
 2 "What cordon have we got on around here"?
 3 To which you reply:
 4 "The whole station is cordoned off."
 5 A. Yes.
 6 Q. Do you then say:
 7 "Every entrance. All the roads around and
 8 everything."
 9 And then there's a bit which has been redacted:
 10 "I have put your firearms officers on every
 11 entrance, guarding every entrance."
 12 A. Yes.
 13 Q. Can you help us, given that we're looking at this, when
 14 you say, "I have put your firearms officers" what did
 15 you mean by that?
 16 A. I mean that I've requested or liaised with your firearms
 17 sergeant and requested that they do that. I wouldn't
 18 really be in a position to put them in terms of rank.
 19 Q. So a shorthand for the conversation that took place, but
 20 nonetheless it reflects a conversation in which you had
 21 indicated where firearms officers should position
 22 themselves?
 23 A. Yes.
 24 Q. This conversation is taking place at 23.27, so
 25 approximately when do you think that conversation had

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1 taken place?
 2 A. With regards to the request for the firearms officers?
 3 Q. Yes.
 4 A. It would be -- I can't remember the times, but we
 5 referred to it earlier when I liaised with the GMP
 6 firearms sergeant.
 7 Q. I think that was -- we have timed that as some time
 8 between 11.00 and 11.15.
 9 A. That's correct, yes.
 10 Q. I don't think that you say anything more substantial
 11 until we get to the point at which you can be heard
 12 speaking on your radio, although it's recorded on the
 13 dictaphone, "The GMP chief inspector's on the scene
 14 now"?
 15 A. Yes.
 16 Q. I hope that that has covered that off satisfactorily and
 17 removed any doubt there may have been in people's minds
 18 generated by me about that.
 19 Just two last topics from me. The first relates to
 20 a colleague of yours, Superintendent Kyle Gordon.
 21 A. Yes.
 22 Q. Was he someone who you knew before 22 May 2017?
 23 A. I knew of him and his position in the organisation, yes.
 24 Q. Had you met him, do you think?
 25 A. I don't think I had before that night, no.

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1 Q. Did you meet him that night?
 2 A. Yes.
 3 Q. Did you meet him within the Manchester Victoria Station
 4 footprint?
 5 A. Yes, within the concourse, yes.
 6 Q. Are you able to say, based upon the timings that we have
 7 already looked at, approximately when in the evening it
 8 was that you think you came across
 9 Superintendent Gordon?
 10 A. My recollection is approaching Superintendent Gordon
 11 shortly after requesting permission from Chief Inspector
 12 Graham to remove the initial responding officers from
 13 the scene.
 14 Q. We know that conversation, based on the images that
 15 we've seen on the bridge and that are timed, was around
 16 the time that Chief Inspector Graham was on the bridge.
 17 You think that shortly thereafter you met
 18 Superintendent Gordon?
 19 A. Yes.
 20 Q. The time Chief Inspector Graham is said to be on the
 21 bridge, as we looked at, is just after midnight,
 22 00.00.57. There is an audio transmission, but we will
 23 check against the video footage which has that
 24 congregation of people on it.
 25 But in all events, shortly after that you think you

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1 met Superintendent Gordon?
 2 A. Yes, I approached him, yes.
 3 Q. Was that by arrangement or did you simply come across
 4 him?
 5 A. I believe -- my recollection is that I requested
 6 permission to remove the first attending officers that
 7 had been granted and, as I recognised him as the senior
 8 BTP officer on scene, I was going to inform him that
 9 that was what I was about to do, to take those officers
 10 off to Peninsula.
 11 Q. And did you inform him of that?
 12 A. Yes.
 13 Q. Was there any more discussion between you?
 14 A. No, he was on a mobile phone.
 15 Q. So not so much of a conversation but something you were
 16 telling him whilst he was doing something else at the
 17 same time?
 18 A. Yes.
 19 Q. Did that reflect then the time at which the BTP officers
 20 were leaving the site?
 21 A. It would be shortly after that I gathered them and left
 22 the site with them, yes.
 23 Q. So were you aware whether Superintendent Gordon was
 24 actually senior officer on site in charge of any
 25 officers?

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1 A. I was aware of his presence and his rank and therefore
 2 I would -- it would be my belief that he is the senior
 3 BTP officer and therefore in charge.
 4 Q. Were you told at any point on that night that he'd been
 5 appointed the Bronze commander?
 6 A. No.
 7 Q. If you had been told that, would that have made any
 8 difference to anything you had done?
 9 A. Yes. I would probably have looked to liaise with him at
 10 an earlier point, but I believe the first time I saw him
 11 was at that juncture.
 12 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: The officers that you sent back to
 13 Peninsula House, did you go with them, did you say?
 14 A. Yes.
 15 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: We've got you on radio calls at 00.30.
 16 Does that mean you went and came back or you hadn't gone
 17 by then?
 18 A. I'm not sure, but I did go and come back, yes.
 19 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you.
 20 MR DE LA POER: I'd just like to take you to something that
 21 was said in your presence about Superintendent Gordon to
 22 see if we can see what your perspective on it is. We've
 23 already mentioned that you had an interview with
 24 Lord Kerslake's investigation. Were there two other
 25 people from BTP present with you during that interview?

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1 A. More than two. There was Chief Inspector Graham, Area
 2 Commander Gregory and Superintendent Wylie, I think that
 3 was them.
 4 Q. Was Assistant Chief Constable Smith also present?
 5 A. Sorry, he was, yes.
 6 Q. The reference for this meeting is {INQ000262/1}.
 7 Mr Lopez, if you could take that down for a moment,
 8 please. I'm going to put something from there rather
 9 than us having all that information up on screen.
 10 What Chief Superintendent Gregory said in the course
 11 of that interview was, and it's recorded in the
 12 transcript like this:
 13 "Karl Gordon [no doubt a mishearing] SPOC..."
 14 Would you know what that term meant?
 15 A. Senior police officer specialist or single point of
 16 contact?
 17 Q. All right. What is said there is:
 18 "Karl Gordon SPOC arrived quickly."
 19 Was it your experience as somebody who was on the
 20 ground very early that Superintendent Gordon had arrived
 21 quickly?
 22 A. Not in my experience. The first time I saw him was
 23 after speaking to Chief Inspector Graham.
 24 Q. The second topic to ask you about. You've already
 25 described going into the City Room, identifying some

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1 people who you thought were paramedics. What thoughts,
 2 if any, did you have about the need for stretchers?
 3 A. By the time I'd arrived at the City Rooms, the officers
 4 had organised themselves into already using makeshift
 5 stretchers at that time. I didn't have any further
 6 thoughts beyond noticing that that was happening.
 7 Q. Did you see it as any part of your role to go and speak
 8 to somebody from NWS about arranging that sort of
 9 equipment to come into the City Room?
 10 A. It didn't occur to me at the time, no.
 11 Q. Sitting there now, looking back, do you think that was
 12 within the role that you had that night or was it not
 13 within the role that you had that night?
 14 A. No, I think it is within the role and in an ideal world
 15 that would have happened, yes.
 16 Q. On the subject of stretchers or at least related to it,
 17 at any point before midnight did it strike you that
 18 there was nobody there from the Fire and Rescue Service?
 19 A. No, it didn't on the night, no.
 20 Q. So does it follow as a matter of logic that at no point
 21 did you think, "If Fire and Rescue Service were here,
 22 they might be able to help"? Presumably you just didn't
 23 think about them at all.
 24 A. No, I... In my assessment of what was happening,
 25 I didn't see that it would be a great addition by their

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1 attendance, no.
 2 Q. So you didn't perceive a need that led you to think if
 3 they were here, they'd be able to help?
 4 A. No.
 5 MR DE LA POER: That's the conclusion of my questions now
 6 unless the chairman wants to follow up on anything
 7 I have just asked.
 8 I'm going to turn now to the core participants.
 9 First can I ask Mr Wood on behalf of, as he is now,
 10 Superintendent Dexter to ask his questions.
 11 Questions from MR WOOD
 12 MR WOOD: Good afternoon, sir. Can you see and hear me?
 13 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: We can, yes, thank you.
 14 MR WOOD: Sergeant Cawley, I'm going to ask a few questions
 15 of you on behalf of now Superintendent Dexter about the
 16 interaction that we know you had with him at around
 17 about 11.25 on 22 May. Okay?
 18 A. Yes.
 19 Q. I don't expect to take more than 5 or 10 minutes. I may
 20 ask for some documents to be shown on the screen, which
 21 have some sensitivity attached to them, so before I do
 22 that, I will flag it well in advance in case any
 23 objection is to be taken, but I hope none will be or
 24 will be required.
 25 I want to establish, if I can, first ,

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1 Sergeant Cawley, the precise timing of you radioing
 2 BTP Control to say that there was a GMP chief inspector
 3 on scene. Okay?
 4 A. Yes.
 5 Q. I think you have the chronology in front of you and that
 6 radio transmission is contained at line 6,648. The
 7 totality of what you say in that transmission is:
 8 "There is a GMP chief inspector on scene now."
 9 Do you see that?
 10 A. Yes.
 11 Q. The timing on that document you are looking at is
 12 23.27.55; do you see that?
 13 A. I do.
 14 Q. I want to clarify that if I may, please. On the
 15 transcript of BTP radio and telephone calls — you don't
 16 have this document, I'm just establishing it with the
 17 chair if that's all right, sergeant, the reference for
 18 which is {INQ028932/1}. I don't suggest this needs to
 19 be brought up.
 20 On page 91 of that transcript, officer , will you
 21 take it from me that that radio transmission from you is
 22 timed at 23.29.40?
 23 A. Yes, if that's what it says on the transcript , yes.
 24 Q. If I'm wrong I will be corrected and we can deal with it
 25 in another way. That's the time on the radio

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1 transcript .
 2 What I would like to do now, please, is just
 3 establish the times when Chief Inspector Dexter, as
 4 he was then, came into and then out of the City Room on
 5 this occasion. Okay?
 6 A. Okay.
 7 Q. I'm going to ask for that purpose, sir , please, that two
 8 pages from the sequence of events, so that's INQ35612,
 9 be put on the screen.
 10 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Sorry, we've got six—digit references.
 11 I think there may be a zero before the 3. I'm only
 12 guessing.
 13 MR WOOD: You are entirely correct. It's {INQ035612/1}.
 14 Thank you.
 15 Just so that everyone knows what that contains,
 16 firstly in case there is — please don't put it up just
 17 yet. This is going to be two images from within the
 18 City Room. Sergeant Cawley, I don't believe you are in
 19 either of these photographs. Virtually all of the
 20 photograph is obscured in both instances. It's
 21 {INQ035612/310}, which will show Mr Dexter's entry into
 22 the room, and {INQ035612/332}, which will show his
 23 leaving the room with some commentary to one side.
 24 There shouldn't be anything on either of those pages
 25 of particular sensitivity , although of course it's an

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1 image of the City Room itself and I'm conscious that
 2 that obviously is potentially distressing .
 3 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Just stop for a moment, Mr Wood, would
 4 you? This is to establish the time of entry by the
 5 chief inspector into the City Room and the time of exit;
 6 is that right?
 7 MR WOOD: Yes, that is right.
 8 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: That's the purpose of showing these?
 9 MR WOOD: That is right. There is also — it can also be
 10 seen to whom he is talking when he enters the room and
 11 there is also some narrative about when he leaves. I'm
 12 quite happy simply to put it if you would prefer me not
 13 to have the images on screen.
 14 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Let's have the footage. I can obviously
 15 look at it and if anyone else wants to look at it then
 16 we can do that too. Just tell us what it says
 17 in relation to those things and of course it can be
 18 checked.
 19 MR WOOD: On {INQ035612/310}, there is an image which is
 20 timed at 23.25.32 GMT. It shows the chief inspector
 21 entering the City Rooms with a GMP firearms officer,
 22 Sergeant Lee Sharples. And the narrative is that they
 23 walk across the City Room heading towards the arena
 24 entrance doors.
 25 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you.

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1 MR WOOD: That's at 23.25.32.
 2 Then on {INQ035612/332}, a still image of
 3 Chief Inspector Dexter leaving the City Rooms. The
 4 narrative on the summary says this, sir:
 5 "GMP Chief Inspector Mark Dexter walks across the
 6 City Room and exits on to the footbridge. As he is
 7 leaving, it is believed he has a very brief conversation
 8 with a number of firearms officers who are stood near to
 9 the exit doors."
 10 The timing of that image on the sequence of events
 11 is 23.29.40.
 12 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Okay. That's certainly sufficient for
 13 me, Mr Wood, but if you feel at any time that we need to
 14 see the image, we will.
 15 MR WOOD: No, all I was seeking to establish apart from the
 16 entrance and exit times — Sergeant Cawley, can you see
 17 that the timing of your transmission to BTP Control
 18 saying, "There's a GMP inspector on scene", is precisely
 19 the same time as the sequence of events appears to have
 20 noted Chief Inspector Dexter leaving the scene?
 21 A. I don't have those documents in front of me.
 22 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: The time you've got is 23.25 to 23.29,
 23 and the radio transmission is said to be?
 24 MR WOOD: 23.29.40. The point, sir, and it can be checked,
 25 is that 23.29.40 is the timing both of the radio

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1 transmission to BTP and of Chief Inspector Dexter
 2 leaving the City Room.
 3 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you.
 4 MR WOOD: Can I turn to the conversation you actually had
 5 with Chief Inspector Dexter. You have, I think, a copy
 6 of the dictaphone transcript in front of you, don't you?
 7 A. I do.
 8 Q. Does the version that you have say at the start that the
 9 timing begins at approximately 23.27?
 10 A. Yes.
 11 Q. And that all timings below are accurate to within
 12 1 minute; is that right?
 13 A. That's what it says, yes.
 14 Q. Thank you. I just want to go through the conversation
 15 that you had at that point. As Mr de la Poer
 16 Queen's Counsel pointed out, it begins, doesn't it,
 17 halfway through the conversation you appear to be having
 18 with Mr Dexter?
 19 A. I don't know when it begins.
 20 Q. The first words that it records are from you, saying:
 21 "It was being processed a few minutes ago. I don't
 22 know. Have we got an explo dog in? I put the request
 23 in but I don't know whether it has been done."
 24 A. Yes, it does.
 25 Q. There is then a response from Chief Inspector Dexter

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1 which on this transcript is marked as being
 2 operationally sensitive; do you see that?
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. You then say, "Yeah", to that?
 5 A. Yes.
 6 Q. Mr Dexter then said, "What is it, 11.30?" Do you see
 7 that?
 8 A. Yes.
 9 Q. There's then an entry from what appears to be somebody's
 10 radio. Do you see an entry on this transcript from
 11 Dale Sexton GMP?
 12 A. On mine it just says "background radio transmission".
 13 Q. Right. Does the version that you have include a radio
 14 transmission about a vehicle and the number of people
 15 who were in it?
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. Does it say:
 18 "Boss, we've got four in a vehicle now, 5 minutes
 19 from Piccadilly. Do you want us to go there?"
 20 A. Yes.
 21 Q. Thank you. You then provide to Chief Inspector Dexter
 22 the update about the number of fatalities, don't you?
 23 A. I do.
 24 Q. The response he gives is to say, "Huh?", as it's
 25 recorded in this transcript.

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1 A. Yes.
 2 Q. And you then clarify again the number of fatalities;
 3 do you see that?
 4 A. Yes.
 5 Q. He then says:
 6 "Right, okay. What cordon have we got on around
 7 here?"
 8 Do you see that?
 9 A. Yes.
 10 Q. You tell him that the whole station is cordoned off;
 11 do you see that?
 12 A. Yes.
 13 Q. He said, "Right". You then say:
 14 "Every entrance, all the roads around, everything's
 15 on [and then something which has been redacted] metres
 16 outwards. I have put your firearms officers on every
 17 entrance guarding every entrance."
 18 Do you see that?
 19 A. Yes.
 20 Q. And that's the comment which counsel to the inquiry
 21 asked you to clarify a moment ago.
 22 A. Yes.
 23 Q. After that, there is then further radio transmission,
 24 isn't there, on the dictaphone transcripts?
 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. And you can see at the bottom of the first page of that
 2 transcript some transmissions from the force duty
 3 officer , relating to ARVs. Can you see that?
 4 A. Yes, again it says "background radio transmission" on
 5 mine.
 6 Q. Is that all it says on yours? All right.
 7 A. "Background radio transmission, Merseyside 2."
 8 Q. Yes, thank you. There's a postcode there, isn't there,
 9 "Mike 67 Romeo Alpha Merseyside 2"; do you see that?
 10 A. Yes.
 11 Q. And there's a reference to ARVs. Can you see
 12 a reference to ARVs there? The second entry up on the
 13 first page of the transcript . The second entry from the
 14 bottom on the first page:
 15 "People inside ARVs making their way to Manchester
 16 Piccadilly ."
 17 A. Yes.
 18 Q. Do you understand ARV to mean armed response vehicle?
 19 A. Yes.
 20 Q. Thank you. And if you then go on to the second page of
 21 the transcript you can then see further radio
 22 transmissions, can't you, between people on the radio
 23 talking about the destination of the armed response
 24 vehicles ; do you see that?
 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. The final transmission before you say, "The GMP
 2 chief inspector's on the scene now", on the transcript
 3 I'm looking at, and I hope the one you're looking at,
 4 says:
 5 "Boss you've got 3 ARVs over en route."
 6 A. Yes.
 7 Q. Then there's what you say -- the final thing you say on
 8 this transcript :
 9 "The GMP chief inspector's on the scene now."
 10 Do you see that?
 11 A. Yes.
 12 Q. We know that that's, assuming the timings, correct from
 13 the transcript , is at 23.29.40. Do you accept that?
 14 A. It 's timed differently on the BTP log, I think, but
 15 I said that, yes.
 16 Q. Well, we know you said that and if the timings are
 17 wrong, we can correct that in a different way. But
 18 that is the totality of the conversation that you had
 19 with Chief Inspector Dexter that night, isn 't it?
 20 A. I believe so, yes.
 21 Q. Is it right, because we've looked at there being some
 22 background radio traffic, that there was actually a gap
 23 of some time between you telling him that you have "put
 24 firearms officers on every entrance, guarding every
 25 entrance", and the entry we have with you radioing

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1 control, "GMP chief inspector's on the scene now"?
 2 A. I can only go off the timings that are in front of me.
 3 I don't ...
 4 Q. It was not perhaps a very good use of your lunch break,
 5 but you listened to this transcript , did you, over
 6 lunch?
 7 A. Yes.
 8 Q. And if you can't remember then say so, but the last
 9 thing you actually say to Chief Inspector Dexter is that
 10 the -- you've "put firearms officers on every entrance,
 11 guarding every entrance"?
 12 A. Yes.
 13 Q. Thank you. All I'm suggesting is that there is then
 14 a period actually of some 10, 20, 30 seconds before you
 15 radio in to BTP Control to tell them that the GMP
 16 inspector is on scene.
 17 A. Yes, it 's probably about that, yes.
 18 Q. All right . Two final points, please, to deal with, if
 19 I may.
 20 Part of what you said to the Kerslake Review was put
 21 to you this morning, where you referred to
 22 Chief Inspector Dexter appearing to be in shock. All
 23 right?
 24 A. Yes.
 25 Q. You told us this morning you didn't know at the time

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1 that he was the ground assigned tactical firearms
 2 commander; is that right?
 3 A. That's correct.
 4 Q. And you have come to understand, I think from this
 5 morning, some of what that role involves; is that right?
 6 A. Yes. Do you mean at the time or subsequently?
 7 Q. Subsequently -- well, did you at the time know what
 8 ground assigned tactical firearms commander meant?
 9 A. Yes.
 10 Q. It 's a specific command role within the firearms
 11 hierarchy, isn 't it?
 12 A. It is, yes.
 13 Q. And we can see in the short conversation you've had with
 14 Chief Inspector Dexter that he has asked you about where
 15 the cordons are; is that right?
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. And at the very end of this conversation, he's asking
 18 about where his OFC is, so that's the operational
 19 firearms commander; is that right?
 20 A. Yes.
 21 Q. Within that first page of the transcript and on to the
 22 second page of the transcript, there is also radio
 23 traffic picked up on his dictaphone about the
 24 destination of armed response vehicles. Do you see
 25 that?

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1 A. Yes.
 2 Q. This was obviously a horrifically shocking scene,
 3 there's no doubt about that, but rather than him being
 4 in shock and not taking in what you were saying, do you
 5 think it might be that he was concentrating instead on
 6 his specific firearms responsibilities?
 7 A. That may well be the case. My statement is my
 8 perception of how my information to him was received and
 9 was made with regards to why then further -- I gave
 10 a further update to Inspector Smith some minutes later.
 11 Q. I'm going to come to that. Thank you very much,
 12 officer.
 13 Just before I do, in terms of the nature of this
 14 handover, as you've described it, you said earlier this
 15 morning that, as far as you were concerned, formal
 16 control of, for example, primacy, you expected to take
 17 place at control room level; is that right?
 18 A. Yes.
 19 Q. Nevertheless, Chief Inspector Dexter was the first
 20 officer you saw of that seniority in the City Rooms;
 21 is that right?
 22 A. Yes.
 23 Q. You obviously had important information to give to him
 24 and so very properly you did give it to him.
 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. But this was not a formal handover of the scene from you
 2 to him, was it?
 3 A. In my judgement of that scenario, yes.
 4 Q. Do you agree that the second however much of it is of
 5 the conversation you had between him and yourself on the
 6 dictaphone doesn't at any point say that it's a formal
 7 handover?
 8 A. No, it doesn't.
 9 Q. The final thing you say to him, you tell him about the
 10 firearms officers being in place, you don't finish that
 11 conversation with, "This has been a formal handover", or
 12 anything to indicate that that's what you believe had
 13 happened, do you?
 14 A. No, I don't.
 15 Q. And the radio transmission that you make to control
 16 doesn't refer to you handing over to him, does it?
 17 A. No.
 18 Q. It just says, "There's a GMP chief inspector on scene";
 19 is that right?
 20 A. Yes, correct.
 21 Q. All right. Notwithstanding that, you did in any event
 22 give a handover to Inspector Mike Smith, didn't you?
 23 A. I did.
 24 Q. I just want to -- this is the final point -- clarify
 25 that with the full context of what you said to the

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1 Kerslake Review, all right? This was a conversation we
 2 know that took place on 14 November 2017; all right?
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. And on page 2 of the transcript that we've got, it says
 5 this:
 6 "GMP chief inspector arrived in City Rooms. First
 7 person seen with pips. Tried to hand over but he
 8 appeared in shock. Not taking in update, so I carried
 9 on. Five minutes later GMP inspector appeared at his
 10 side with scribe, so passed sitrep to him."
 11 A. Yes.
 12 Q. Two short questions and then that's all I ask,
 13 Sergeant Cawley.
 14 Firstly, the words:
 15 "Tried to hand over but he was not taking in the
 16 update."
 17 Does that not suggest to you that in fact when you
 18 finished speaking to him, you didn't consider that you'd
 19 actually carried out a formal handover?
 20 A. My perception was that he hadn't fully comprehended
 21 everything that I'd said, yes.
 22 Q. And in any event, you did then give a handover to a GMP
 23 inspector, you say in the Kerslake conversation,
 24 5 minutes later; is that right?
 25 A. Yes, I think so.

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1 Q. We know that Inspector Smith is the GMP officer who, for
 2 example, was later giving instructions to you about the
 3 cordon; is that right?
 4 A. Yes.
 5 Q. And otherwise giving commands to unarmed officers as
 6 opposed to armed officers on scene; is that right?
 7 A. Yes.
 8 MR WOOD: Thank you very much for your time,
 9 Sergeant Cawley.
 10 Sir, that's all I ask.
 11 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you very much, Mr Wood.
 12 MR DE LA POER: Sir, next can I invite Mr Atkinson Queen's
 13 Counsel to ask questions on behalf of the bereaved
 14 families.
 15 Questions from MR ATKINSON
 16 MR ATKINSON: Good afternoon, Mr Cawley. Can you hear and
 17 see me?
 18 A. Yes, I can.
 19 Q. As has just been indicated, Mr Cawley, I'm asking
 20 questions on behalf of the bereaved families and can
 21 I give you this assurance at the outset: that those
 22 aspects of what you could tell us about that are most
 23 upsetting for you are also those that will be most
 24 upsetting for them, so I'm going to not seek to do that
 25 at all. All right?

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1 A. Okay.
 2 Q. Equally, can I assure you that the object of these
 3 questions is to get your help as to whether you and your
 4 colleagues were as well—prepared by your training and
 5 instruction as you could be for dealing with something
 6 like this so that we can see if there are things that
 7 could be done better in the future. All right?
 8 A. Yes.
 9 Q. In what I'm asking you, I'm not seeking to criticise
 10 you, I want to reassure you of that. All right?
 11 A. Yes.
 12 Q. In relation to your training, you've already been asked
 13 a good deal about this, but a little bit more help,
 14 please. In terms of first aid training you received
 15 that on a regular basis each year, I think?
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. As a part of that training, were you instructed in the
 18 use of tourniquets?
 19 A. No, I don't believe we were.
 20 Q. Or the circumstances in which it would be appropriate to
 21 do so?
 22 A. I'm not sure prior to 2017.
 23 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Are you okay?
 24 A. Yes, I'm really trying to remember whether as part of
 25 that part of the first aid course we've ever been...

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1 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: That's absolutely fine. I'm really not
 2 trying to stop you thinking back.
 3 A. I don't think we've ever been given any formal
 4 instruction on the application of tourniquets.
 5 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: And still that's the position, is it?
 6 A. My recollection is since 2017 we have.
 7 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Okay. Thank you.
 8 MR ATKINSON: In relation to Operation Plato—related
 9 training, clearly you had received in October 2016
 10 training in relation to firearms and active shooter
 11 incidents, and that would therefore have covered
 12 Operation Plato, would it not?
 13 A. It would have done, yes.
 14 Q. As part of that, were you instructed in how to assess
 15 whether it was or was not an Operation Plato incident?
 16 A. Again, my recollection of it is not complete by any
 17 means. It was an e-learning module and it's four and a
 18 bit years ago. I'm sure within that there would have
 19 been something.
 20 Q. How often do you recall receiving training in relation
 21 to Operation Plato and such marauding firearms
 22 incidents?
 23 A. My only recollection is really — it prompted by seeing
 24 my training schedule, so I would say it's 2016 and that
 25 specific training.

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1 Q. You were asked a little earlier about your assessment of
 2 whether this was a situation where you should have been
 3 invoking Operation Plato. Did you consider yourself to
 4 have been trained sufficiently to make that call?
 5 A. Whether trained sufficiently, I don't know, but I felt
 6 able to call it if necessary, then yes.
 7 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: So you thought any officer you could
 8 call Operation Plato if they thought the conditions were
 9 met?
 10 A. Not call it officially but certainly provide the
 11 information for the senior officer to call it, yes.
 12 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: There is a difference.
 13 A. Yes, there is within the training.
 14 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: You wouldn't call it, but you would
 15 supply the necessary information?
 16 A. Yes, if I thought it necessary I would give the
 17 information for that to happen, yes.
 18 MR ATKINSON: What would it have been that would have led
 19 you to do that?
 20 A. If I had seen anything which would make me suspicious,
 21 aware, fearful that further attacks were imminent,
 22 possible, ongoing or anything that would lead me to
 23 believe that such a thing was imminently about to
 24 happen.
 25 Q. Because you've told us that something you were very

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1 alive to throughout your time at Victoria was the
 2 potential for a secondary device, and you've raised
 3 that, in fairness to you, in the radio transmissions
 4 that we've seen at the time. But you don't similarly
 5 raise at any point a concern that there might be
 6 a marauding terrorist with a gun. Is that because you
 7 didn't see any evidence of that?
 8 A. Yes, I didn't see any evidence of that and I was with my
 9 movements and my positioning within the station and the
 10 concourse — I could see quite a large overview of the
 11 footprint of the concourse and the Metrolink platforms
 12 and the entrances to the station, the outside roads, and
 13 there was nothing that led me to suspect or believe that
 14 there was any imminent danger of such an attack.
 15 Q. Equally, in your contact with others, from the BTP
 16 first, when you were at the location, would it be fair
 17 to say that no one suggested to you that this was
 18 a marauding firearms incident?
 19 A. No.
 20 Q. Nor from any other organisation, be it GMP or otherwise?
 21 A. No.
 22 Q. Had you been told that, would you have directed your
 23 colleagues, the BTP, to withdraw?
 24 A. Potentially, yes, because the procedure and the
 25 protocols do dictate that if they are within a hot zone,

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1 but however if there is humanitarian conditions, if
 2 people are treating people and trying to assist people
 3 in such a situation , then you have to consider whether
 4 it 's appropriate to do that with the potential that
 5 people could be more severely injured or not get their
 6 injuries treated as fast as possibly could be.
 7 Q. And certainly this is something we'll come back to again
 8 in a moment, but your view at the time was there were
 9 people there who needed to be helped and helped
 10 immediately?
 11 A. Exactly. And to go further, it's the first duty of
 12 a police officer to protect life and limb. That's an
 13 overriding principle as well that I have to consider.
 14 Q. The third area of training or potential training is
 15 in relation to terrorism incidents specifically .
 16 We will, I think, hear something about a Hydra exercise
 17 called Ickenham. I think you had not received that
 18 training by the time of this event.
 19 A. Correct.
 20 Q. We'll hear more about it from those who had. But in
 21 terms of responding to major incidents, you'd had
 22 training through the Richmond exercise in relation to
 23 one kind of serious incident involving a fatality . But
 24 had you received training in how to respond to a major
 25 incident of a terrorist nature?

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1 A. Sorry, I'm not familiar with the Richmond exercise that
 2 you mentioned.
 3 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: I think that's the train fatalities,
 4 isn't it?
 5 A. Yes, sorry, yes. The Richmond training does relation to
 6 train fatalities . No specific training with regard to
 7 responding to a major terrorist incident, no.
 8 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: As we're on the topic, Mr Atkinson,
 9 do you mind if I pursue something?
 10 MR ATKINSON: Not at all, please.
 11 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: What you've told me is the sort of
 12 training that you'd had really didn't prepare you for
 13 the real-life events that took place?
 14 A. That's my view, yes.
 15 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: In your view, what sort of training
 16 might have done that or is it that no training can
 17 really prepare you for that?
 18 A. I think there's an argument for that, but my belief is
 19 a real-life exercise, multi-agency exercise, with
 20 a scenario in real time, with real people, would be much
 21 more beneficial than an e-learning package.
 22 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you. You knew about hot zones,
 23 warm zones and cold zones. You knew that you shouldn't
 24 work in a hot zone.
 25 A. Yes.

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1 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: But it sounds to me that whatever
 2 training you'd had to say you shouldn't do that, there
 3 were going to be occasions, for humanitarian reasons,
 4 when you'd override that because it was in conflict with
 5 your basic training that one of the main features of
 6 a police officer 's duty is to maintain life?
 7 A. Absolutely, sir , and on that particular situation ,
 8 because officers were already immediately in that zone
 9 before any protocols or principles had been called or
 10 considered, they were already there.
 11 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: You could tell them to get out, but it
 12 wouldn't have made any difference?
 13 A. If I told them to get out, I'm sure they would
 14 eventually do it , but I'm sure there would be reluctance
 15 from the officers , who are human beings.
 16 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you. Mr Atkinson, I'll try not to
 17 interrupt again.
 18 MR ATKINSON: Always welcome, sir.
 19 Going back to the question of e-training as opposed
 20 to real exercise training , you have told us that you
 21 were aware that the BTP major incident plan was quite
 22 a hefty document. Had you been trained as to its
 23 content?
 24 A. Not specifically . As I have mentioned earlier, I recall
 25 an earlier course that I attended, which I believe,

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1 I think, had references to the major incident manual,
 2 but no specific training where you would go through that
 3 manual paragraph by paragraph, as it were.
 4 Q. But is that an area where real-life training with real
 5 people and doing real things would be of particular
 6 value to understand what you were meant to do in what
 7 order and with whom?
 8 A. I believe so, yes.
 9 Q. Just before we turn to the major incident plan, just
 10 a brief word about how you in particular came to be
 11 there at all . The short answer to that is because you
 12 heard the bang, you realised that something had
 13 happened, and so you ran?
 14 A. Yes.
 15 Q. Effectively deploying yourself to this incident?
 16 A. Absolutely, yes.
 17 Q. As indeed did many of your colleagues?
 18 A. Yes.
 19 Q. Both running from the location that you had been at and
 20 from elsewhere?
 21 A. Yes.
 22 Q. In the conversation that you had in relation to
 23 Lord Kerslake's report, one of those, as you've told us,
 24 who was there with you was the Assistant
 25 Chief Constable, Mr Smith. You may remember that he

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1 said that there was effectively an expectation that
 2 officers would self-deploy in such circumstances.
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. Do you agree that that is what was expected of you?
 5 A. Absolutely, yes.
 6 Q. The consequence of that, I suppose, is that you found
 7 yourself as the first supervisor on scene, as you
 8 described yourself in the radio transmission, because
 9 you happened to be the most senior officer to arrive
 10 at the outset.
 11 A. Yes.
 12 Q. Rather than because you, as opposed to anyone else, and
 13 this is no criticism of you, had been trained to do
 14 that?
 15 A. No, absolutely, because I was the duty sergeant and
 16 nearest to the scene, yes.
 17 Q. We're going to have a look, please, at the major
 18 incident plan to see what that plan suggests someone in
 19 your position was meant to do and then we'll see what we
 20 make of it. All right?
 21 A. Yes.
 22 Q. Mr Lopez, this is {INQ025700/24}, please.
 23 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: While that's coming up, Mr Cawley, were
 24 you the senior person in the police station at the time
 25 of the bang and you ran out?

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1 A. Yes.
 2 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you.
 3 MR ATKINSON: This is a page of the document which we will
 4 get slightly larger in a moment, that deals with the
 5 first stages of the scene. Do you see 4.1:
 6 "Initial actions of first officer on the scene"?
 7 A. Yes.
 8 Q. If we could just expand that section, Mr Lopez, that
 9 will help those of us wearing glasses.
 10 We can see that -- thank you very much.
 11 It says there:
 12 "Correct initial action by first responders saves
 13 lives. The initial assessment of the scene is vital for
 14 the effective management of the major incident,
 15 irrespective of the rank of the first officer to arrive
 16 at the scene. The first officer at the scene must not
 17 become personally involved in the rescue work. The
 18 priorities must be to assess, inform, establish
 19 a rendezvous point (RVP) and maintain effective contact
 20 with FCR, L or B."
 21 And FCR, is that force control room?
 22 A. It is.
 23 Q. And L or B, London or Birmingham?
 24 A. Yes, absolutely.
 25 Q. "The first officer at the scene should do a dynamic risk

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1 assessment and inform the force control room of their
 2 assessment."
 3 And so just pausing there, what this envisages
 4 is that the first officer at the scene, and you were the
 5 most senior first officer to arrive at the scene, should
 6 not become personally involved in rescue work but should
 7 step back and carry out that assessment, identify where
 8 a rendezvous point should be, and so on.
 9 A. Yes.
 10 Q. This is not being critical of you, but that is not what
 11 you did, is it, Mr Cawley?
 12 A. No, it is not what I did, no.
 13 Q. A very early radio message that you sent, and again this
 14 is not a criticism, at 22.37.36, I don't ask for it to
 15 be put up on screen, was to direct your colleagues to
 16 concentrate on the casualties?
 17 A. Yes.
 18 Q. That is what you did yourself?
 19 A. Yes. Initially, yes.
 20 Q. So dealing with that, and we just notice at the bottom
 21 of the screen now SADD CHALETS. That is the mnemonic
 22 that the first officer, at the time this document was
 23 produced, was meant to use for sending a radio message.
 24 A. Yes.
 25 Q. That had been replaced, I think, by 2017 by the METHANE

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1 message mnemonic, hadn't it?
 2 A. Yes.
 3 Q. Had you received training in relation to the use of
 4 METHANE or not?
 5 A. Yes. It's contained within e-learning of the -- I think
 6 it was referred to in the joint interoperability
 7 e-learning package.
 8 Q. So that was one that you received in October 2014, we
 9 heard. This document pre-dates, in fact, that. In
 10 terms of the METHANE message, that was something that
 11 needed to be broadcast very early on, was it not?
 12 A. Yes, it needs to be broadcast early on, yes.
 13 Q. Indeed, as early as possible?
 14 A. Yes.
 15 Q. So the process should be that the first officer at the
 16 scene assesses the scene and then sends a message in
 17 a METHANE form back to control?
 18 A. Yes.
 19 Q. Thank you. That can come down, Mr Lopez.
 20 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Can we go back to the top? Thank you:
 21 "Initial actions of the first officer on the scene."
 22 Did you regard yourself as first officer on the
 23 scene.
 24 A. No, I wasn't the first officer on the scene.
 25 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: I think this may help, Mr Atkinson, if

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1 you want to pursue it further. We know actually that
 2 PC Bullough was actually the first or one of the first
 3 on the scene and she had sent a message back to control.
 4 Did you know about that? Did you know she was the first
 5 officer on the scene?
 6 A. I was aware that she was certainly probably the first
 7 officer on the scene or certainly maybe one of two or
 8 three that would have responded from the Victoria
 9 concourse, yes.
 10 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: We know actually all of those which were
 11 there were quite junior, but you may not have been aware
 12 of that on the night?
 13 A. I knew that PC Bullough was quite junior.
 14 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: She was the most senior and she was
 15 9 months, I think, into the job at the time.
 16 A. Yes.
 17 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: So how would you regard those role? Did
 18 those responsibilities of being first officer on the
 19 scene devolve to you, did you think, or did you assume
 20 she would have done them?
 21 A. In attending as the supervisor shortly after, I would
 22 expect to assume those responsibilities upon arrival.
 23 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: So would you regard it as your job not
 24 to -- I know it's extraordinarily difficult -- not to
 25 look after casualties but just to run past?

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1 A. By the book, that is the case, yes.
 2 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Did you know that at the time you got
 3 there?
 4 A. Yes.
 5 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: But humanitarian concerns took over?
 6 A. Absolutely.
 7 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Okay. Obviously pursue that if you want
 8 to.
 9 MR ATKINSON: Just very briefly on that point, Mr Cawley,
 10 certainly at the time -- by reference to the radio
 11 transmissions that you would have been able to hear you
 12 knew that at the time that you arrived on site, no
 13 METHANE message had been sent that you had heard.
 14 A. No specific METHANE message in a structured format but
 15 I was aware that elements of that had been broadcast in
 16 terms of PC Bullough had confirmed a bomb. So yes, the
 17 start of it has been commenced.
 18 Q. No rendezvous point had been identified?
 19 A. Correct.
 20 Q. So there were still things that, if one were doing it by
 21 this particular book, needed to be done?
 22 A. Yes.
 23 Q. But as you've said, and we all understand, it's one
 24 thing to put this on a piece of paper, it's quite
 25 another to be doing it, confronted by what you and your

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1 colleagues were dealing with.
 2 A. Yes.
 3 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Which would have involved running past
 4 a child who was apparently severely injured.
 5 A. Absolutely. I believed severely and life-threateningly
 6 injured.
 7 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: I'm just asking you that so that a fair
 8 picture comes from your evidence.
 9 A. If I could expand slightly on it, sir, if you don't
 10 mind.
 11 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: I hope this won't distress people, but
 12 I think it's only fair.
 13 A. I don't think there's anything distressing, sir. Just
 14 to say that at that time that particular child that
 15 I stopped and assisted with was the most severe injury
 16 I had seen at that time and I wasn't aware of anything
 17 more severe than that at that time.
 18 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: So it was the most severe you saw?
 19 A. Most definitely at that time, yes.
 20 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Okay, thank you.
 21 Right, Mr Atkinson.
 22 MR ATKINSON: And to just illustrate that, I think
 23 Mr Cawley, you have in front of you, do you, the
 24 schedule that you were going through of the radio
 25 transmissions with Mr de la Poer this morning?

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1 A. Yes, I do.
 2 Q. The one that has the yellow in the left-hand corner with
 3 numbers in it?
 4 A. Yes.
 5 Q. If you'll be so kind, it's row 1,692, timed at 22.39.50.
 6 A. Yes.
 7 Q. At this time, 22.39.50, what was being asked over the
 8 radio effectively was for someone to set up -- to deal
 9 with the rendezvous point request, and the establishment
 10 of cordons. Do you see that? It's Mr Wildridge who's
 11 asking for that.
 12 A. It is.
 13 Q. And your response, I think to him, is to say:
 14 "At the moment that's not possible because there's
 15 multiple casualties that we're all treating."
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. So a request for a rendezvous point which you and your
 18 colleagues, for good reason, were unable to deal with
 19 there and then?
 20 A. Yes.
 21 Q. Again, in an ideal world, you as the most senior there
 22 at that point would have been able to stop, take a step
 23 back and think about, where do we want the rendezvous
 24 point to be, where's the safest place, and so on?
 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. Because you would want your rendezvous point to be as
 2 near to where you were as was safe?
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. In fact, again this is not a criticism at all, it was
 5 your colleague Mr Roach, I think he'll tell us, to save
 6 you, because he knew you were very busy doing other
 7 things, who volunteered Fishdock as a logical place.
 8 A. Yes.
 9 Q. But as you explained in your interview with the
 10 Lord Kerslake inquiry, there were pros and cons to
 11 Fishdock as a location from being where it was.
 12 A. Yes.
 13 Q. And one of the difficulties with it was that that was
 14 a location that could have been at risk from a secondary
 15 device?
 16 A. That was my view, yes.
 17 Q. Although, as we heard from your questioning earlier,
 18 a good time later, near the end of your radio
 19 transmissions, you were still raising a query as to
 20 whether Fishdock had been swept for secondary devices or
 21 not.
 22 A. Yes, I did. I did explain that earlier. It was
 23 a different concern, it was with regards to people
 24 returning to collect their cars.
 25 Q. But certainly no information that you'd received in the

1 meantime to confirm that that had happened, that there
 2 had been a sweep?
 3 A. Hence my concern. My concern was that it still had not
 4 been secured.
 5 Q. While we're looking at that schedule, and finally, sir,
 6 with your leave, before we have a break for the benefit
 7 of both Mr Cawley and the shorthand writer, on the
 8 subject of METHANE messages, it's right to say, is it
 9 not, Mr Cawley, that there were several requests of you
 10 for a METHANE message before it was possible for you to
 11 take that step back in order to give one?
 12 A. Yes, there were several requests, yes.
 13 Q. We could, if we were to go through it, see, for example,
 14 at 22.46, 22.51, 22.57, but again that's because there's
 15 that difference between what the book might suggest
 16 should happen and what you were dealing with?
 17 A. Yes.
 18 Q. Did you consider while doing what you were doing that it
 19 was practical for you to have provided that kind of
 20 assessment that was needed for a METHANE message earlier
 21 than you did?
 22 A. At the time, no, I believed it was vitally important to
 23 get an overview of the whole station footprint,
 24 including the arena, the surrounding roads, the
 25 concourse, the car parks, in order to be able to provide

1 an effective and accurate METHANE report.
 2 Q. Although by the time you gave your METHANE message at
 3 22.57, you had not yourself reached the City Room; is
 4 that right?
 5 A. That's correct.
 6 Q. But you had by then had a better sense of the scene more
 7 widely?
 8 A. Yes, the more wide scene, yes.
 9 Q. So on one view, even then you hadn't had the opportunity
 10 to carry out the full assessment that you may have
 11 wished you could have had before delivering a METHANE
 12 message?
 13 A. Yes.
 14 MR ATKINSON: Sir, I'm moving on to a different topic if
 15 that would be a convenient moment for Mr Cawley to have
 16 a break.
 17 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Okay. 10 minutes?
 18 MR DE LA POER: Certainly Mr Atkinson is doing this knowing
 19 that, bearing in mind that we've moved to a different
 20 sort of evidence with Sergeant Cawley, we are having
 21 slightly more frequent breaks, just so everybody comes
 22 to understand our process.
 23 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Right. Ten minutes from now, please.
 24 (3.19 pm)
 25 (A short break)

1 (3.31 pm)
 2 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you, Mr Atkinson. Your picture
 3 has improved enormously during the break.
 4 MR ATKINSON: I have no idea how to respond to that, sir, so
 5 I shall just move on.
 6 Mr Cawley, can you still hear me as well as now see
 7 me better?
 8 A. Yes, I can.
 9 Q. You were asked some questions earlier today about the
 10 topic of primacy, and you said that you felt that that
 11 was dealt with by the major incident plan and you're
 12 right about that. Can we have a look at what it says?
 13 Mr Lopez, this is {INQ025700/14}, please. It's
 14 paragraph 2.5.
 15 "Agreement on responsibilities between BTP and local
 16 police forces.
 17 "Agreement on responsibilities between BTP and the
 18 local police force will be subject to negotiation with
 19 all relevant local police forces at the outset of any
 20 major incident."
 21 Just pausing there, Mr Cawley, is that negotiation
 22 at your level, in the sense of those who are on scene,
 23 or is that negotiation at command level through control
 24 rooms?
 25 A. I think in the terms of an incident of this magnitude,

1 I would expect that to be done at control room level.
 2 Q. Further down that page, the second paragraph:
 3 "Generally, in relation to uniform response, BTP
 4 will lead on matters within the inner cordon and on
 5 railway property, and the local police force will assist
 6 with the outer cordons and matters off railway property.
 7 Terrorist matters will have separate arrangements."
 8 Did you know what arrangement, if any, there was
 9 between BTP and the GMP for dealing with a terrorist
 10 incident?
 11 A. No — I wouldn't like to use the word no. My
 12 expectation throughout the entire thing would be that
 13 GMP would take primacy of the incident.
 14 Q. But is this right, other than the radio communication
 15 that you were taken to earlier today where the topic of
 16 jurisdiction came up — do you remember the one?
 17 A. I do.
 18 Q. Other than that, no real conversation that even touched
 19 on who was in the prime position in relation to this
 20 incident over the radio?
 21 A. No.
 22 Q. No one telling you that it was a BTP primacy situation
 23 or that it wasn't?
 24 A. No.
 25 Q. Thank you. Again, Mr Lopez, that can come down, please.

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1 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Before it comes down, the reality of the
 2 situation, as you have described it to us, however, is
 3 if the most senior officer there came from BTP, you'd
 4 follow his or her instructions. If the most senior
 5 officer there happened to come from GMP, you'd follow
 6 his or her instructions?
 7 A. Yes.
 8 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: So primacy didn't depend on agreement,
 9 it depended on who the senior officer who was there?
 10 A. It certainly would in the initial stages in response to
 11 an incident.
 12 MR ATKINSON: In those initial stages on this occasion, so
 13 we test that, Mr Cawley, were you giving instructions to
 14 GMP police constables as to what to do?
 15 A. No.
 16 Q. Or were they coming to you to seek instruction?
 17 A. No.
 18 Q. Were others who were at the scene, paramedics or
 19 first —aiders or people like that, coming to you for
 20 instruction?
 21 A. No.
 22 Q. Would they have necessarily known that you were the most
 23 senior officer there?
 24 A. Not necessarily, especially when you consider my
 25 position, trying to assess the outer footprint of this

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1 scene. So whilst most people would be gravitating
 2 towards the City Rooms, then I'm some distance from
 3 that, so unless they're aware of my presence or another
 4 officer tells them of my presence, not within the
 5 City Rooms, then they might not necessarily know.
 6 Q. And taking a step back from this, because we understand
 7 what you were doing and why on this occasion, but
 8 is that why a forward command point is a good idea so
 9 that people know where to find the person in charge?
 10 A. Yes.
 11 Q. In terms of liaison with other agencies, your
 12 understanding, is this right, from your JESIP training
 13 was that a radio channel would be open that would be
 14 a joint channel for all those who would be involved in
 15 the emergency response?
 16 A. Yes.
 17 Q. And clearly, the advantage of that would be that you
 18 would know directly from NWAS what they were doing, from
 19 GMP what they were doing, and from the Fire Service what
 20 they were doing?
 21 A. Yes.
 22 Q. And you on site could communicate with them to tell them
 23 where they needed to be and what they needed to help you
 24 with?
 25 A. Yes. But not so much tell us, but jointly agree a plan.

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1 Q. Discuss together to work out together what the best way
 2 forward was?
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. And that never happened, did it —
 5 A. No.
 6 Q. — while you were there?
 7 A. No.
 8 Q. You were getting information from your colleagues, who
 9 had seen them, about ambulances arriving?
 10 A. Yes.
 11 Q. And you were getting information from GMP officers that
 12 you spoke to about what they were doing?
 13 A. Yes, from the ones I spoke to, yes.
 14 Q. And so those on the ground were all doing their best to
 15 work together, but disabled by the fact that they didn't
 16 have that joint channel to keep them all in the same
 17 loop?
 18 A. That's my opinion, yes.
 19 Q. So it was through luck, and I leave it to you in your
 20 own head to assess whether it was good or bad luck, that
 21 you found yourself there on that day and it was luck as
 22 to what information you got from others who were there
 23 because you saw and talked to them?
 24 A. I'm not so sure about luck, more dictated by
 25 circumstance and the actuality of the situation.

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1 Q. Another thing that you said in your interview with the
 2 Kerslake team — and I'm not going to ask for it to be
 3 put up on the screen because, as you will understand,
 4 there are things in it that are not easy for people to
 5 see. But during the course of that interview — and for
 6 your note, sir, the reference is {INQ000262/1}.
 7 I repeat I'm not asking for it to be put on screen.
 8 It 's at {INQ000262/2} of that.
 9 You were asked, Mr Cawley, whether there was triage
 10 happening on the concourse. You said that there was
 11 some, but you said that the majority seems to be waiting
 12 outside, paramedics stood outside the cordon at the far
 13 end of the concourse, and that your colleague,
 14 PC Martin, had said that the paramedics couldn't come in
 15 until all clear.
 16 Just to understand that, did you understand from
 17 what you were being told that the paramedics were being
 18 held back from coming into the incident?
 19 A. No. My understanding of the situation was more that the
 20 area on the concourse was a holding triage area in order
 21 to take people out to the ambulances which were outside
 22 of the station entrance.
 23 Q. In relation to communications, which is a topic we've
 24 already touched on, in terms of what you were able to
 25 receive over your radio, were there difficulties in

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1 getting messages through on your own radios?
 2 A. Yes. Generally speaking — I'd probably have to expand
 3 quite a bit on this, if you don't mind — where there is
 4 one channel for everybody operating an open channel at
 5 an incident of this nature, there are multiple officers
 6 who have multiple bits of information that deem it
 7 necessary to broadcast that information and only one
 8 person can broadcast at any one time and it literally is
 9 quickest finger on the button when one broadcast
 10 finishes for the next person to get in to broadcast
 11 theirs. That is further controlled by the people in the
 12 control operating room, who have the ability to what we
 13 call step on transmission. So they can stop
 14 a transmission or they can prevent the next transmission
 15 in favour of their own transmission. They have a pedal
 16 that allows them to do that.
 17 So in those circumstances you will get lots and lots
 18 of officers literally queuing up to pass their
 19 information on the radio with their fingers on the
 20 button waiting to try and transmit it, and it further
 21 prevents one-to-one transmissions on Airwave radio. So
 22 if there is constant traffic on the open channel, there
 23 is no facility to be able to get in, as we say, which
 24 means to get an opportunity to break in between the
 25 transmissions to call someone on a one-to-one facility

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1 or point to point, as we refer to it. So it makes it
 2 extremely difficult.
 3 Q. And I'm not going to take you through it now, Mr Cawley,
 4 but you'll have seen from that schedule that you have in
 5 front of you the radio and transmissions, there are any
 6 number of examples, aren't there, of times when either
 7 you were having trouble getting your message across or
 8 people were having trouble getting messages to you for
 9 that reason?
 10 A. Yes.
 11 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Is there a solution to that?
 12 A. I don't believe there is in the current Airwave set-up,
 13 no.
 14 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Okay, thank you.
 15 MR ATKINSON: Moving on to a different kind of kit, and
 16 I think I have almost finished, to give you that
 17 reassurance, Mr Cawley. That is the first aid equipment
 18 that was available to you and your colleagues. In terms
 19 of what was available to you, I think you've already
 20 told us it was that kind of first aid kit that you might
 21 have in any office.
 22 A. Yes, on that night, yes.
 23 Q. Some of your colleagues refer rather macabrely to
 24 something called a fatality rucksack —
 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. — or a fatality kit. Do you know what they're talking
 2 about there?
 3 A. Yes, I do. It's something that is carried in all
 4 British Transport Police vehicles because we deal
 5 frequently with fatalities upon the railway.
 6 Q. What items does that have in it over and above your
 7 average office first aid kit that would be of use in
 8 a situation like this?
 9 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Can I just ask this: is it anything to
 10 do with first aid and resuscitation? Does it contain
 11 things like that?
 12 A. Yes, there are bandages and other first aid equipment
 13 within it as well as more distressing items.
 14 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Yes. I don't think we want the
 15 distressing items. I think what we're interested in is
 16 first aid items. What would there be?
 17 A. Within each vehicle we carry what we describe as
 18 a fatality bag and also a first aid bag. It would be
 19 routine of officers attending any incident like this to
 20 grab both.
 21 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: The first aid bag has what in it?
 22 A. Much more extensive bandages, more bandages, there are
 23 gloves...
 24 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Tourniquets?
 25 A. I don't think it has tourniquets in it. It would have

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1 bandages within it which could be used for a tourniquet
 2 once you found some other item for the application.
 3 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: And did you at the time know how to do
 4 that? We've all been shown a demonstration of how to
 5 make use of ordinary articles to do it.
 6 A. I know how to apply a tourniquet from general life.
 7 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you, right.
 8 MR ATKINSON: Thank you, sir. Finally on that topic, and
 9 I think finally all over, in your conversation with
 10 others in relation to the Lord Kerslake inquiry -- and
 11 this is at page 1 of that for your note, sir -- you were
 12 asked about what first aid kit you had available that
 13 officers would carry. You said some carry small first
 14 aid kits, you didn't on the night, you just had some
 15 steri wipes. And you were asked about your training and
 16 you said:
 17 "We didn't get them when I trained; they do now."
 18 Relating to first aid kits:
 19 "Now it's a conscious decision to carry them as
 20 an individual. Vehicles have equipment. It's optional
 21 for officers."
 22 Is that right, Mr Cawley, that the vehicles would
 23 have those kits in, police officers wouldn't necessarily
 24 be carrying first aid equipment as part of their
 25 uniform?

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1 A. Yes, as I've said there, when I trained you were not
 2 supplied with a small package to carry, a first aid kit
 3 which you carry on your tactical vest. Subsequent to
 4 myself training, I think probably around 2015ish,
 5 I would say, officers came through training school and
 6 they turned up on post with those small green pouches,
 7 but officers who were employed prior to that weren't
 8 supplied with them.
 9 Q. What the Assistant Chief Constable then said was the
 10 kits they had were not enough. He said:
 11 "I recall the chief reflecting back on how do you
 12 strike the balance because you can't carry a rucksack."
 13 Presumably referring to the fact that it would be
 14 unrealistic for all BTP officers to carry a rucksack or
 15 first aid kit with them whenever they were on duty.
 16 A. Yes, I think what he's referring to, I don't want to put
 17 words in his mouth, is that a response police officer
 18 carries an awful lot of equipment on their person
 19 already, literally. I'm sure you've seen we have lots
 20 and lots of pouches hanging off us. So it becomes
 21 a decision, a plan for the officers as to what they
 22 carry and how they carry it. So a small package of
 23 first aid, bandages, et cetera, is possible, but how
 24 long is a piece of string as to how much you could
 25 eventually carry, I think is what he's referring to.

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1 Q. And your response, and this is where I'll finish, you
 2 say this:
 3 "Wider resources in the stations."
 4 So presumably there be more first aid kits at
 5 a railway station?
 6 A. Presumably. It depends on the time of day.
 7 Q. "It came out in debrief re first aid training and
 8 whether this might detract from police roles."
 9 Were you saying that first aid training would
 10 detract from police roles or that carrying that much
 11 might detract from police roles?
 12 A. I don't recall saying that. I don't think those are my
 13 words.
 14 Q. But certainly did you consider that it was not your role
 15 to do what you could in terms of first aid when you got
 16 to Manchester Victoria?
 17 A. Myself or officers in general?
 18 Q. Yourself and your colleagues?
 19 A. No, the first duty of a police officer is to protect
 20 life and limb, absolutely their role and my role.
 21 MR ATKINSON: Thank you, that's all I ask.
 22 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you, Mr Atkinson.
 23 MR DE LA POER: Sir, can I finally turn to Mr Gibbs Queen's
 24 Counsel on behalf of British Transport Police.
 25 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you.

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1 Mr Gibbs.
 2 Questions from MR GIBBS
 3 MR GIBBS: Thank you very much. I haven't got very much for
 4 you, Sergeant Cawley, arising out of that. Just one
 5 thing on the training, please. If Mr Lopez could help
 6 us with this. I was invited to come back on the
 7 possibility that some of your other courses might have
 8 been relevant to your understanding of major incident
 9 principles and I'd just like to see whether we might
 10 have missed one off. The document is {INQ003666/2}.
 11 I'm looking at an entry for 18 October 2016. It's
 12 the second entry on the page. That's a sergeant's
 13 leadership course. It falls under the category of
 14 "Other training, internal".
 15 Do you remember whether that course touched upon
 16 major incident principles or leadership in potentially
 17 a major incident?
 18 A. I believe it did. I believe it did briefly. It was
 19 a repeat of a previous course which I think was then
 20 called "Preparation for leadership", or something like
 21 that, that I took in 2014. It was a repeat of that and
 22 a slightly shortened version that had come down from
 23 4 days to 3 days and it's multi-topic for almost every
 24 topic that somebody preparing to take supervision of
 25 a police role would undertake. Therefore I think there

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1 will have been some input as to attending a major
 2 incident, but limited.
 3 Q. Right. Insofar as you can say what the purpose of that
 4 course was -- this is the second time you're saying
 5 you've taken it or something like it -- was it to equip
 6 you for what you might come across in a sergeant's role?
 7 A. Yes, in general, that's the whole sergeant's role, yes.
 8 Q. And how many days long was the course?
 9 A. I believe the second time round it was 3 days. The
 10 first time it was four, I believe.
 11 Q. Okay, thank you. That's all I had on training.
 12 Dealing with the chronology on the night, like
 13 Mr de la Poer, I'm going to focus on the first hour.
 14 May I just fill in a few gaps? I'm not going to refer
 15 you to that chronology which everyone in the room with
 16 you has, which we're not putting up on screen. But in
 17 due course I'm going to invite the chairman, and
 18 everyone of course has this document, if they need the
 19 details, to go back to the full list of BTP's radio
 20 calls and telephone calls. The reference which has
 21 already been given by another advocate is {INQ028932/1}.
 22 So can I just get through what you've already done
 23 and just see whether there are any other things that
 24 might be relevant. The moment you heard what turned out
 25 to be the bomb, did you take responsibility on behalf of

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1 BTP?
 2 A. You broke up slightly there. Could you repeat the
 3 question? It broke, the technology.
 4 Q. I beg your pardon. The moment you heard the noise that
 5 turned out to be the bomb, or felt it, did you take
 6 responsibility on behalf of BTP?
 7 A. Yes.
 8 Q. Your call sign from the beginning was PM61. And you
 9 broadcast as that and other people broadcast to you as
 10 that. What does that call sign tell anyone who hears
 11 it?
 12 A. It tells anybody that hears it that it's Pennine
 13 division, Manchester subdivision, and the 61 tells them
 14 that it's a supervision call sign because it's two
 15 digits and within a number range.
 16 Q. Your role that night from, what, 10 o'clock, was as the
 17 duty sergeant in Manchester?
 18 A. Correct.
 19 Q. What did that role involve?
 20 A. That role is taking over the night turn shift of the
 21 response for the Manchester and north-west area
 22 (inaudible: distorted) north-west area, supervising the
 23 night shift resources and response to incidents as and
 24 when they come in throughout the night.
 25 Q. From whom had you taken over the role?

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1 A. I took handover from Temporary Sergeant Wilcock at the
 2 time.
 3 Q. Did Sergeant Wilcock also, as we now know, go to the
 4 arena at about the same time from Peninsula as you did?
 5 A. Yes.
 6 Q. And do you know now where he went to and spent most of
 7 his time?
 8 A. No.
 9 Q. Did you on the night know where he was from time to
 10 time?
 11 A. No, I assumed he was within the City Rooms area.
 12 Q. You, we can see on the radio traffic, instantly sought
 13 information from your other officers and did you receive
 14 it?
 15 A. Yes.
 16 Q. And you gave directions to your officers. We've looked
 17 at one example of it: "Concentrate on the casualties".
 18 A. Yes.
 19 Q. And did, so far as you could tell, your officers take
 20 those instructions?
 21 A. Yes, I believe so.
 22 Q. We've concentrated, obviously, upon the calls that you
 23 made. Could you also hear the calls that others were
 24 making even if they weren't made directly to you?
 25 A. Yes, in the large part. However, there was a lot of

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1 external noise and stimulus and people around me, so
 2 yes, in large part.
 3 Q. So if I may put words into your mouth, but tell me if
 4 they're wrong, there will have been times when what was
 5 immediately in front of you would have meant you
 6 wouldn't have been able to pay full attention to
 7 what was coming out of the radio, but there would have
 8 been other times when you would have absorbed what was
 9 being said by others?
 10 A. Yes.
 11 Q. Is that right? Would you like to change that?
 12 A. No, that's absolutely right. That's pretty much always
 13 the case when there's multiple broadcasts being made and
 14 you are attending to something at the same time
 15 yourself. It's a multi-skilling thing and sometimes, as
 16 you say, when your attention is less divided, you will
 17 take in more than you will at other times.
 18 Q. So it was in that way that you overheard a transmission,
 19 for instance the first transmission, about the number of
 20 casualties that was first estimated in the City Room?
 21 A. Yes.
 22 Q. Were you aware of the duty inspector in Newcastle,
 23 Mr McMenemy, being on the airwaves?
 24 A. No.
 25 Q. You referred to the force incident manager, who was

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1 Mr Dawson, and we see his radio calls. I can't remember
 2 whether you suggested Birmingham or whether Birmingham
 3 was suggested to you, but do you know whether Mr Dawson
 4 was in fact in London?
 5 A. No, I believe he was in Birmingham.
 6 Q. All right. We'll hear from him where he was.
 7 I'll lead this because I think it's plain from the
 8 radio traffic. Between about 22.35 and about 22.45 you
 9 were attending to the young girl who was the most
 10 seriously injured of those you had seen; is that right?
 11 A. Yes.
 12 Q. Did you at that time recover an exhibit which you
 13 thought might have been of significance in terms of what
 14 had happened at the site of the explosion?
 15 A. Yes.
 16 Q. Was that an exhibit which, put together with the other
 17 information you had, contributed to your description of
 18 there being a shrapnel device having been detonated?
 19 A. Yes.
 20 Q. We're not going to go, as is plain to everybody, into
 21 the details of the young girl, but may I give the
 22 chairman a reference. It's not going to be brought up
 23 on screen. It's for his later consideration. In
 24 a paragraph of the statement -- the statement is at
 25 {INQ036798/1} and the paragraph number is paragraph 12.

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1 So just moving on to the topics that you covered on
 2 the radio. The trams, your concern was what?
 3 A. My concern was that trams were still to all intents and
 4 purposes operating normally into Victoria Station, into
 5 the Metrolink platforms, which was in effect bringing
 6 people, potential threats and potential further hazards
 7 into a controlled scene and a crime scene, and that we
 8 needed to get them stopped.
 9 Q. Did you make a request, in fact probably more than once,
 10 about that?
 11 A. I think three or four, at least.
 12 Q. The TAU or TAG team, that's a Greater Manchester Police
 13 team of officers whom you saw. Do you remember speaking
 14 to them?
 15 A. Yes.
 16 Q. Was it to them that you made a request about sweeping
 17 for secondaries?
 18 A. Yes, I asked them whether they had explo dog resources
 19 en route or available.
 20 Q. Do you remember what their answer was about that?
 21 A. I believe it was affirmative. I think the sergeant
 22 confirmed that they were en route.
 23 Q. Just to spell it out, it may be obvious, forgive me, but
 24 the concern and the need for a sweep for secondaries was
 25 with a view to what threat?

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1 A. It's the threat of further incident of what's already
 2 happened, what's happening again, be that a deliberate
 3 ploy by somebody with harmful intent or perhaps a device
 4 that was meant to go off that hasn't, that's been dumped
 5 or any set of circumstances, but those mainly are --
 6 your concern is that if that happens then emergency
 7 personnel, people who are still on the scene, witnesses,
 8 and anybody that's within or around or near the scene is
 9 still potentially in grave danger.
 10 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: You and your colleagues continued to
 11 work there, despite having realised that that danger
 12 existed?
 13 A. Yes, you're absolutely aware that that's the danger, but
 14 you carry on.
 15 MR GIBBS: The GMP firearms officers. We'll hear in due
 16 course when the first firearms officers arrived. We'll
 17 discover that it was while you were -- in the 10 minutes
 18 you were dealing with the young girl on the Trinity Way
 19 side of the site. When do you first remember seeing
 20 firearms officers for yourself?
 21 A. I think it was on the main concourse by the entrances to
 22 the main concourse. I think I recall seeing two
 23 firearms officers actually on the doors there.
 24 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Is that when you (overspeaking) and
 25 report?

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1 A. Yes, it's either before or shortly after. I think
 2 before that.
 3 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you.
 4 MR GIBBS: Sorry, I overspoke then and therefore missed part
 5 of your answer. Was that before or after METHANE?
 6 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Yes. He said it was either before or
 7 about the same time as he went on to the concourse to
 8 give the METHANE report. I'm sorry for talking across
 9 you as well. It's not the easiest situation.
 10 MR GIBBS: Quite. I didn't mean to criticise at all.
 11 I'm going to ask you and see if you can remember
 12 this, whether you had heard a call on the radio, which
 13 we can see had been made, about the presence of firearms
 14 officers on the scene before you made your METHANE
 15 report --
 16 A. No, I hadn't. Subsequently since I've read the
 17 transcripts of the BTP radio transmissions I am aware
 18 that PC Roach had broadcast that, but at the time
 19 that is one of the ones I missed.
 20 Q. Anyway, by the time you made your METHANE report you
 21 certainly referred to GMP firearms, didn't you?
 22 A. Yes.
 23 Q. Having made that first main METHANE report, were you
 24 asked for and did you provide METHANE updates after
 25 that?

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1 A. Yes.
 2 Q. If anyone is interested in the content of those,
 3 obviously they're available within the full body of the
 4 radio traffic, aren't they?
 5 A. Yes.
 6 Q. One person I think we haven't mentioned yet, who might
 7 be of significance, is the RIO. What is an RIO?
 8 A. It's a railway term for a rail incident officer,
 9 a Network Rail employee.
 10 Q. Who is that person and why might they be important in
 11 this scenario?
 12 A. That person is the senior person that transport police
 13 would expect to turn up at any incident which has either
 14 affected the running of the railway or has potential to
 15 affect the running of the railway.
 16 Q. And did you speak to the RIO?
 17 A. Yes.
 18 Q. Do you remember what time that was?
 19 A. I can't recall the exact time.
 20 Q. I'm going to give the chairman a reference of 23.13.49.
 21 We've got a radio call from a PCSO Turner saying he's
 22 with the RIO and he would like to speak with you, and
 23 you saying that you were near the Pumpkin bar; do you
 24 remember that?
 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. Did you then speak with him?
 2 A. I did.
 3 Q. And as the first supervisor on scene for the BTP
 4 speaking to the RIO, what sort of things were you
 5 concerned to learn and to communicate?
 6 A. The conversation with the RIO is largely railway-based.
 7 It's more the RIO questioning me as to what the effect
 8 upon the railway was. So I advised him that at this
 9 time we believed there's a major incident and that the
 10 railway station was a crime scene and would be closed
 11 for the foreseeable future and that there would be --
 12 there hadn't been to my knowledge any damage to the
 13 railway infrastructure itself and I think he asked where
 14 the RVP point would be, I think. So I advised him the
 15 Fishdock car park, as it was my belief at that time.
 16 Q. Two other topics, please, they are both short. You've
 17 been asked about Bronze, the Bronze commander. And
 18 you haven't described, and you have told us wouldn't
 19 describe, yourself as the Bronze commander. You used
 20 the phrase "ground commander". Could you just tell us
 21 what you mean by that and whether that is what, either
 22 at the time or in retrospect, you would describe
 23 yourself as?
 24 A. I would describe myself as that and it's a BTP-specific
 25 term, probably, that derives from dealing with

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1 fatalities on the railway, whereby it's not
 2 a Bronze commander, but as the first supervisor on scene
 3 you become the ground commander, answering to the force
 4 incident manager, who is the commander of an incident.
 5 That's the way I saw my role on the night, especially in
 6 regards to -- I'm not Bronze trained and until I hear
 7 a radio transmission or somebody of rank informs me that
 8 there is a formal Gold/Silver/Bronze structure in place
 9 and you're the Bronze, then I wouldn't consider myself
 10 to be a Bronze commander.
 11 Q. The last topic is also about command. When
 12 Chief Inspector Andrea Graham arrived at around midnight
 13 and you spoke to her at around midnight, was she then
 14 the senior BTP officer on the scene?
 15 A. I think she may -- to my knowledge at that time I think
 16 I believed she was, but I think literally within seconds
 17 I looked up and saw Superintendent Gordon at the scene,
 18 so I think very quickly -- my perception of that changes
 19 very quickly.
 20 Q. All right. Well, I think, and it's not a criticism of
 21 you, there probably will be some evidence about when
 22 Superintendent Gordon arrived at the scene. Your memory
 23 is that you saw him certainly after you had first seen
 24 Chief Inspector Graham?
 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. And your memory is that it was soon after. If it turns
 2 out that he didn't get there until quite a lot later,
 3 what would you say about your memory?
 4 A. That's my recollection, but my recollection of that
 5 night is far from perfect. It's subject to stress, the
 6 inability to record my statement as early as I would
 7 have liked to have done, the passage of time, and the
 8 experience I can now relate is that when involved in
 9 something like that, sometimes a minute seems like half
 10 an hour, sometimes half an hour seems like 30 seconds.
 11 It's a very real passage of time which -- you struggle
 12 to have an accurate grip on your exact timings of when
 13 things happened and locations of timings things
 14 happened.
 15 MR GIBBS: Thank you, Mr Cawley.
 16 Sir, those are all my questions.
 17 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Thank you, Mr Gibbs.
 18 MR DE LA POER: Nothing further from me, thank you, sir.
 19 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Right. Mr Cawley, you will appreciate
 20 that what we're looking at here is very much things that
 21 went wrong on the basis of what we can do to make
 22 recommendations to make sure that what didn't go as well
 23 as it could have done wouldn't next time. So you may
 24 feel we've all been very negative, but obviously a great
 25 deal went well on that night and you, along with other

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1 officers , stayed in an area where you knew you were in
 2 danger and seem to me to have behaved with huge courage,
 3 so I hope you will go away with that thought rather than
 4 criticism .
 5 MR DE LA POER: Sir, we have two witnesses tomorrow who only
 6 became scheduled for tomorrow earlier in the week,
 7 yesterday, and then with the cooperation of all core
 8 participants . It 's an ambitious day and it's also the
 9 last day we are sitting . I'm entirely in your hands
 10 whether we commence at 9.30. In fact, the second
 11 officer was scheduled for Monday and so it may be that
 12 we can go part heard over the weekend if it comes to it,
 13 so I am entirely in your hands.
 14 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: Does it inconvenience anybody
 15 if we start at 9.30? We'll obviously have breaks. But
 16 we will stop at the latest by 4.30. So everyone can be
 17 reassured about that. Either it means going part
 18 heard — counsel for the inquiry have the most to do at
 19 the beginning of a day.
 20 MR DE LA POER: Well, we will certainly absorb that. Can we
 21 leave it like this, sir: that we provisionally say 9.30
 22 and that in the event that there is a particular
 23 difficulty with either of the witnesses or anyone not
 24 present in the room has strong submissions to make that
 25 you will consider them overnight and the solicitor to

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1 the inquiry will communicate?
 2 SIR JOHN SAUNDERS: I think provisional starting times are
 3 not the greatest, so let 's say 10 o'clock and we'll go
 4 to 4.30. I hope no one thinks we're giving short time.
 5 Thank you.
 6 (4.13 pm)
 7 (The inquiry adjourned until 10.00 am
 8 on Thursday, 11 March 2021)
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