

What was the actual intelligence in terms of what had been happening at the arena but also the other information that was being relayed to you as you were traveling towards the scene?

KYLE GORDON: Yeah, so as the Operations' Superintendent I would have an overview of all of the operational deployment, if you like, within the jurisdiction that I have responsibility for. So I had been aware from a briefing that there was a concert on on the night in question. I hadn't had any particular briefing in and around it. There was certainly no information or intelligence to suggest to me or to the colleagues that were planning that that this was anything other than a normal pop concert.

I was potentially vaguely aware of who Ariana Grande was having young children myself, but certainly nothing that would make me think that there was an event on that was of particular significance to policing.

The sort of antisocial behaviour and crime element that sometimes comes with some of these events isn't maybe as prevalent in a concert that's going to attract a lot of parents and children. So for us this was very much a low key event, something that the arena was running and that we would have a policing presence at purely for reassurance or maybe somebody has a missing child or somebody wants to report lost property. That's really for me what the concert on the night in question was.

The briefing that I was receiving then as the events of the night unfolded were specifically in and around what resources we had at the scene and what resources we could get to the scene.