

4 December 2019

NATIONAL BULLETIN

Counter Terrorism Policing security advice.

Last week, a terrorist incident at London Bridge resulted in the death of two innocent members of the public and injuries to several more. National Counter Terrorism Policing shares our deepest sympathies for those affected, their families and their communities.

Since the attack, officers and staff have worked tirelessly to investigate the circumstances of this incident and increase police presence.

The circumstances of the attack have been widely reported in the media, and are a reminder to us all that attacks can take place at any time and without warning.

We depend on everyone to be our extra eyes and ears to help keep all of our communities safe. This month our towns and cities are crowded and there are many events and festivities to enjoy. This bulletin includes a reminder of our most important festive, and event security advice.

London Bridge Incident Update

At approximately 1400 on Friday 29 November, police were called to a stabbing at Fishmongers' Hall, near London Bridge, EC1.

The attacker was attending an event called "Learning Together", and some of those present at the event confronted the attacker. The attacker then left the building and ended up on London Bridge, pursued and detained by members of the public, as well as a British Transport Police officer in plain clothes, before armed officers from both the City of London and Metropolitan Police arrived and confronted the attacker and shot him. The suspect died at the scene.

Two people died as a result of the attack: Jack Merritt and Saskia Jones. Both were graduates of the University of Cambridge and were involved in the Learning Together programme – Jack as a co-ordinator and Saskia as a volunteer. A number of other people received injuries during the incident.

The suspect has been identified as Usman Khan. During the incident, he was armed with knives and was wearing a hoax explosive device. He had been living in the Staffordshire area and as a result searches were carried out at addresses in Staffordshire and Stoke on the evening of Friday 29 November. He was known to authorities, having been convicted in 2012 for terrorism offences. He was released from prison in December 2018 on licence.

The Police have found no evidence to suggest anybody else was involved in this attack. However, we are still making extensive enquiries to ensure there were no other people involved. Our investigative priority at this time remains to ensure that there is no related outstanding threat to the public.

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The festive period is a busy one. There are more events, more mail and deliveries, and more crowded places. Here is a reminder of the steps you can take to support the police, protect your business, staff and customers, and make the UK safer for everyone.

1. Accreditation, search and screening at your events. Ensure you have the right arrangements in place to keep attendees safe and secure. There is [CPNI guidance on personnel and people security](#) here.
2. Busier than usual? If your business is enjoying an increase in festive footfall, then remind yourself of our [Crowded Places Guidance](#), and take steps to mitigate the threat from terrorism.
3. Festive vigilance. We all have a role to play. Please use our free festive campaign materials with your staff and customers, and remind them to report any concerns to staff, security or the police. <https://www.counterterrorism.police.uk/winter2019ext/>
4. Handling more mail and deliveries. Remind your team of our mail handling protocols and make sure you have effective and appropriate mail screening measures in place. Consider off-site screening. There is [mail handling advice available here](#) and a [Mail Screening and Security Guide here](#).
5. Encourage your staff to play their part. Invite them to complete our [ACT Awareness e-Learning course](#), which is now even easier to access – just log on and learn. More than 1 million people have already completed it.
6. Look out for vulnerable individuals. Your staff may be in a position to identify and support someone who may be vulnerable to becoming involved in extremism or terrorism. There is advice on the signs to spot at www.ltai.info, and support for organisations on [educating staff to identify and report unusual or concerning workplace behaviour](#).
7. Follow our [Run Hide Tell advice](#). Last week we saw acts of incredible bravery by members of the public. But in the unlikely event you are caught up in a firearms or weapons attack, police advice is still: Run to a place of safety. This is a far better option than to surrender or negotiate. If there is nowhere to go then... Hide, it's better than to confront. Remember to turn your phone to silent and turn off vibrate. Barricade yourself in if you can. Then finally, and only when it is safe to do so, Tell the police by calling 999.

Thank you for your support.

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