

CORPS RELAY

Prepared by: Mike Bluestone CSyP & Neil Shanks CSyP
James Henderson MSyl

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CORPS
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SECURITY

The Conflict between Ukraine and Russia

The nature of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine changed on 30th September 2022 with the annexation by Russia of the Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhia regions of Ukraine. Although many, including the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, question the legality of the latest move by Russia, it also marks a key change in the conflict. Russian President, Vladimir Putin, has previously stated they will use all means at their disposal to defend Russia, which is believed by many to be a statement that Russia would consider the use of nuclear weapons if they felt sufficiently threatened. Following the annexation of the four regions, any move by Ukraine or their allies to reclaim them would be classed, under Russian law, as an attack on Russia. There are clear similarities with the annexation of the Crimea to Russia from the Ukraine in 2014, which was also seen as illegal by many countries.

In response to the annexation of the four regions of Ukraine, the Ukrainian Government have requested an acceleration in their application to join NATO. This builds from the new National Security Strategy signed off by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in September 2020. Ukraine's National Security Strategy included provision for the development of the distinctive partnership with NATO with the ultimate aim of achieving membership in NATO, the latter section being the part that is being accelerated.

Corps Consult continues to monitor the situation and provide updates, as appropriate, through further special bulletins. For more information on previous guidance around the potential impact please see the [February 2022 Edition of Corps Relay](#), the [Corps Security Special Bulletin – Ukraine/Russia Conflict – Cyber Security Briefing](#), and the [Corps Security Special Bulletin – Ukraine/Russia Conflict Summarised Update](#).

Operation London Bridge

In September, the world sadly lost Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The passing of Queen Elizabeth II initiated Operation London Bridge, the formal plans written to co-ordinate the response following the death of the head of state for the UK. Operation London Bridge will stand as an

international reminder of the value and benefits of risk and continuity management, as well as an example to the world in both planning and implementation for such eventualities. Operation London Bridge dictated the detail and order of events, including contingencies and planning for specific eventualities, such as the passing of Her Majesty. This included details of how the news would be shared and specific arrangements for the immediate days following Her Majesty's death. In this instance Project Unicorn was actioned as this specifically dealt with the eventuality that the Queen passed away at Balmoral.

The execution of Operation London Bridge was exceptional and provided a gold standard for the collaboration of multiple agencies including, but not limited to, the Police Services, the Intelligence Services, the British Armed Forces, and Private Security. Significantly, the level of detail that went into ensuring the safety of the public at every point when engaging with Operation London Bridge exemplifies the impact of professional security operations. There are a number of lessons that can be taken from the risk and preparedness approach shown during Operation London Bridge that can be included in businesses preparation for the upcoming Protect Duty, including the necessity to have established contingency plans in place that are suitably tested.

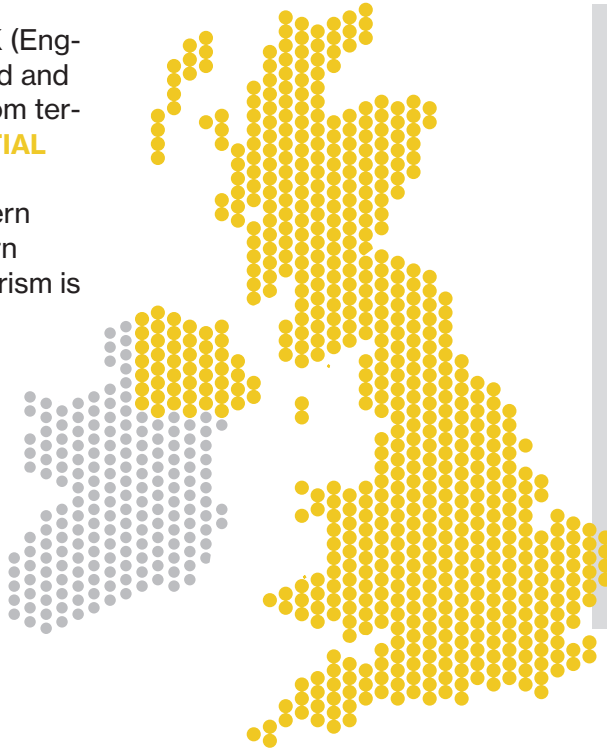
Over 800 Reports to Counter Terrorism (CT) Police During Mourning Period

Matt Jukes, Head of Counter Terrorism Policing, has thanked the public for their vigilance during the period of national mourning that followed the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Reports of suspicious activity doubled during "Operation London Bridge" (Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II funeral plan). Out of approximately 800 reports, around 100 are now actively being used as intelligence by CT Police investigators. Furthermore, the use of detective and effector equipment that was deployed during Operation London Bridge resulted in the detection of 40 drone flights across London, subsequently leading to 4 prosecutions for drone-related criminal offences and the seizure of equipment by Police.

Current National Threat Level

The threat to the UK (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) from terrorism is **SUBSTANTIAL**

The threat to Northern Ireland from Northern Ireland-related terrorism is **SUBSTANTIAL**



NOTE:

Threat levels are designed to give a broad indication of the likelihood of a terrorist attack

LOW means an attack is highly unlikely

MODERATE means an attack is possible, but not likely

SUBSTANTIAL means an attack is likely

SEVERE means an attack is highly likely

CRITICAL means an attack is highly likely in the near future

Civil Unrest in Leicester

August and September saw instances of unrest in Leicester city, initially following an Asia Cup T20 cricket match that saw India beat Pakistan. Despite the cricket match taking place in Dubai, Leicestershire Police reported clashes between fans from Hindu and Muslim communities, with eight initial arrests being made for suspicion of assault and violent disorder. There were further arrests following similar instances over the following days. Issues intensified again on 17th September when a group of Hindu men were filmed “marching” through an area of the City that is home to both a Hindu Temple and many Muslim-owned businesses. Some of the men are alleged to have been wearing balaclavas and shouting incendiary comments in the area that were anti-Islam. There are ongoing tensions in the area between the two groups, with both sides stating they feel threatened and under attack from the other, and that they will take steps to protect themselves rather than relying on a police response.

The civil unrest in Leicester had an impact across the whole city, and given the close links between communities across the country, and the fact these clashes were influenced by international rivalries, there is potential for similar clashes to happen in related communities in other areas of the UK. Whilst Leicestershire Police (and related police services were necessary) are aware of the incidents and working with the communities to reduce tensions, we have provided guidance and advice for businesses in protecting their property and personnel at the end of this document in the “Security Top Tips” section.

Notable Dates/Events

Key Religious Events, National Celebrations, and Anniversaries

There are significant days for several religions and nations throughout October. It is not only important to be mindful of these dates to celebrate our diverse society, but also because several terrorist groups have been known to select these days to carry out their actions.

Notable dates in October include:

- 2nd October – The birthday of Gandhi Jayanti ‘Father of the Nation’ – a Hindu celebration
- 5th October – Yom Kippur – the most sacred day in the Jewish calendar
- 9th-16th October – Sukkot – a Jewish celebration
- 15th October – First Anniversary of the murder of MP Sir David Amess – a key event anniversary
- 16th-18th October – Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah – a Jewish celebration
- 24th October – Diwali– a Hindu celebration
- 27th September to 2nd October – Festival of Navaratri – a Hindu celebration

First Anniversary of the murder of MP Sir David Amess

On 15th October 2021, MP Sir David Amess was murdered whilst holding a constituency surgery in Leigh-on-Sea whilst as part of his role as the Member of Parliament for Southend West. Sir Amess was stabbed multiple times by 25-year-old Ali Harbi Ali. Ali was later sentenced to life in prison for with murder and preparing terrorist acts. The murder of Sir Amess shares similarities with the murder of MP Jo Cox in 2016 and is a reminder of the threat posed by cold weapons and the necessity for appropriate security arrangements to be in place for public figures. Such arrangements should include security threat and risk assessments being completed by a suitably qualified/competent person, a point that is expected to be included in the upcoming Protect Duty.

Anniversary of the 2020 French Terror Attacks

October 2020 saw a number of terror attacks in France. Whilst the attacks occurred two years ago, it is worth remembering the attack methodologies that were used as some of these were sadly similar to those used in the 2021 attack on MP Sir David Amess and other attacks on UK soil. The attacks used a combination of hot and cold weapons, in the form of guns and bladed weapons, with the latter being the most common attack type in UK terrorist attacks over the last decade. It is important to highlight that the vigilance demonstrated by the public during Operation London Bridge, as well as the impact that Protect Duty is anticipated to have, will help protect the public against such attacks by ensuring that suspicious behaviour is identified and acted upon at the earliest opportunity. Once again, the “Security Top Tips” section at the end of this document provides guidance to businesses in preparedness for such eventualities.



Demonstrations and Protests

Don't Pay UK

Don't Pay UK are a grassroots movement seeking what they determine to be a fair price for energy for everyone. Their movement targets energy providers as they state millions of people will be unable to afford their energy bills this winter and that the current energy system needs to be broken. They have stated that they will strike by withholding payment to the energy companies, but only once the number of people signed up to join the strike action reaches 1 million. The movement's founders remain anonymous at this point for fear of reprisals and, as the group relies heavily on grassroots protestors spreading the word in their local areas. It is possible that the group will foster splinter groups, as previously stated, that may deviate from the initial plan. This could include direct action in addition to the initial plan of refusing to pay the October energy bill. As the refusal to pay energy bills was initially planned for the October fuel bill, and the movement failed to gather sufficient support ahead of this time to trigger the planned action, this may result in splinter groups taking unilateral action.

Just Stop Oil (JSO)

JSO activists launched a six-week campaign to 'occupy Westminster' on the 1st of October. Their campaign was initially targeted at stopping all new oil infrastructure but has since broadened its goals through integration with a number of other groups, including Insulate Britain and Animal Rebellion. The campaign included rallies in Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester and Norwich, although the Activists marching and blocking bridges in London in a bid to overwhelm police and clog up the justice system had the greatest impact. Their action in London over the weekend of 1st October saw them blockade 4 bridges over the Thames with sit down protests, namely Waterloo Bridge, Westminster Bridge, Lambeth Bridge and Vauxhall Bridge.

JSO are known for using non-violent major disruptive actions, such as banner drops, using chemical lock on methods (such as gluing themselves to roads), using mechanical lock on methods (e.g. chains and handcuffs) and using signs and speakers on marches. It is highly likely that the group will continue to create blockades during the 6 weeks of action, potentially targeting the same/other bridges over the Thames. The disruption is expected to be most noticeable in London, however, the group will be active nationwide.



Corps Relay

October 2022

Extinction Rebellion (XR) Autumn Rebellion

XR are planning a series of actions throughout Autumn and announced four phases, two of which are expected within October 2022. The second phase of the actions, which was scheduled in September 2022, was postponed out of respect for the period of national mourning following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The new date for Phase 2 is yet to be confirmed.

XR's Autumn Protests are in addition to the "Just Stop Oil" Westminster Action that occurred between the 1st-3rd October and went ahead as planned as detailed above. XR have invited both Animal Rebellion and Just Stop Oil to join them in their "Weekend of Resistance" action planned for 14th October.

The remaining three phases for XR's Autumn Protest are:

- **Phase 2:** Festival of Resistance – This action has been postponed and a new date is yet to be set. If it follows the previous plans it will involve a march beginning at Marble Arch, followed by a three day camp being established in Hyde Park. The "festival" was planned to include outreach work and talks, although they also claim it will provide opportunities to defy the Police, Crime, Sentencing, and Courts Bill. The camp will be disassembled on the morning of on the morning of the third day and be followed by a march to Parliament.
- **Phase 3:** Country-Wide Bus Tour – Ongoing and continuing until 14th October – The tour is billed as an educational piece to raise awareness however direct action cannot be ruled out. The route will include the majority of the UK and the route suggests they will go through Wales, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and the Midlands. There will be three busses used.

- **Phase 4:** Protest in London "Weekend of Resistance" – 14th-16th October –
 - 14th October – Meet at Trafalgar Square at 12:00 and remain until 18:00
 - 15th October – Meet at Tate Modern Garden at 11:00 and move into London en masse at 17:00 for a continuation of the "Paint the Streets" campaign from Phase 1. This is a predominantly London focused action, albeit there may some mirroring elsewhere in the UK, whereby Activists are encouraged to replace tube and bus stop advertisements with XR artwork.
 - 16th October – Meet at Reformers Tree (Hyde Park) ahead of a 12:00 march to Parliament Square – the demonstration finish time is as yet unknown

It is anticipated that Phase 4 will include largely disruptive demonstrations. XR have invited other groups to join them from the 14th October, including Just Stop Oil and Animal Rebellion. Given the current focus of XR largely on the Government it is likely that the action could target other areas in and around Westminster, including posing a risk to Government buildings.



Month of Industrial Action

Corps Focus: Security Issue of the Month

September 2022 was set to be one of the biggest months for strike action in modern memory, however, the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II resulted in many Unions postponing their planned action out of respect. The suspension has seen much of this move to October and beyond. Below is a summary of the action planned for October. It should be noted that some of the events that were postponed can now be expected later in the year, with some of the Unions saying they will provide 2 weeks' notice for further action.

List of Current and Proposed Dates for Industrial Action Sectors (UK)

The following is a list of current and proposed dates for Industrial Action Sectors (UK):

- Transportation (Railways): Due to industrial action passengers will experience significant disruption on Saturday 1st, Wednesday 5th October and Saturday 8th October 2022:
 - Saturday 1st October 2022 – strike action by the RMT, TSSA, Unite and ASLEF unions
 - Wednesday 5th October 2022 – strike action by the ASLEF union
 - Saturday 8th October 2022 – strike action by the RMT.
- Map of open lines:<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Map-showing-open-lines-for-Saturday-1-October.pdf>
- The companies are yet to publish their timetables, but expect services to be significantly disrupted, as they have been during previous walkouts. Readers may wish to consider adjusting their travel arrangements accordingly as there is usually a knock-on effect with lines being busy.
- List of train companies:https://www.nationalrail.co.uk/tocs_maps/tocs/TrainOperators.aspx

- Transportation (TfL): No industrial action is planned for October 2022 however, there will be minor disruption during the Nail Rail strikes. TfL statement is to check on the status of lines before travel.
- Legal
 - Criminal Bar Association (CBA) from 5th September 2022 will carry out an indefinite, and uninterrupted strike. The High Court have ruled that defendants may be released from prison if the industrial action is not stopped Ref: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/barrister-strike-uk-prison-government-b2177092.html>
- Education
 - UCU college propose Industrial action/ strikes from 26th September – 20th October 2022. The strikes are being held by around 4,000 staff at 29 different FE colleges, says the Universities and College Union (UCU).
- The colleges affected are as follows:
 - o Abingdon & Witney College
 - o Bath College
 - Blackburn College
 - Bridgwater and Taunton College
 - Chichester College Group (Crawley)
 - Chichester College Group (Chichester)
 - City College Plymouth
 - City of Bristol College
 - Croydon College
 - Derby College
 - Halesowen College
 - Hereward College of FE
 - Lambeth College
 - New College Swindon
 - Lewisham College
 - Southwark College



Month of Industrial Action

- Carlisle College
- Newcastle College (including Newcastle Sixth Form)
- West Lancashire College
- Bournville College of FE
- South & City College Birmingham
- Strode College
- Truro & Penwith College
- Weston College
- Wiltshire College
- Yeovil College
- The strike dates are as follows:
 - Tuesday 4th October 2022 – for Burnley, Liverpool and Oldham Colleges
 - Wednesday 5th October 2022 – for Burnley, Liverpool and Oldham Colleges
 - Thursday 6th October 2022 – for all, including Burnley, Liverpool and Oldham
 - Friday 7th October 2022
 - Monday 10th October 2022
 - Tuesday 11th October 2022
 - Tuesday 18th October 2022
 - Wednesday 19th October 2022
 - Thursday 20th October 2022
- Health Service
 - Royal College of Nursing (RCN) are set to hold a ballot for industrial action from 15th September 2022 – 13th October 2022.
 - Royal College of Midwives (RCM) Scotland are set to hold a ballot for industrial action from 29th September 2022 – 27th October 2022.
- Transportation (Airports)
 - Industrial action was conducted between July 2022 – August 2022 and Spanish Ryanair staff are proposing to continue action through to 7th January 2023. No formal dates are announced however, Heathrow now employ a 'flight cap' of 100,000 departing passengers a day. BA narrowly avoided industrial action being carried out and it is certainly worth watching.
- Telecoms (BT Openreach EE)
 - Communications Workers Union (CWU) some 40,000 workers, including BT Group's 999 emergency call handlers, will hold a strike for four days next month:
 - 6th October 2022
 - 10th October 2022
 - 20th October 2022
 - 24th October 2022
- Post Office/Royal Mail
 - Royal Mail having postponed their strikes due to the death of the Queen are planning for industrial action which began at the end of September and will continue through October 2022.
 - Around 115,000 members of the Communication Workers Union (CWU), who collect, sort, and deliver parcels and letters to take strike action on the following dates:
 - 1st October 2022
 - 13th October 2022
 - 20th October 2022
 - 25th October 2022
- Transportation/Public Transport (Bus Services)
 - The bus strike on Arriva services planned from Tuesday 4th October 2022 has been suspended. Services will run as usual.
- Emergency Services (Fire)
 - Fire Brigade Union (FBU) held talks on 6th September 2022 to propose a ballot for industrial action over the next 5 weeks (ongoing until 11th October).

Security Top Tips



Be a Hard Target, not a Soft Target

- Restrict both pedestrian and vehicular access to authorised persons and vehicles only – Stop Tailgating, Check ID's and record all visitors and contractors
- Be able to physically secure and “lockdown” your premises in an emergency
- Prepare and practice your “invacuation” procedure to secure people within the building, the same way you practice your evacuation plan for getting people out the building
- Have the right calibre of trained people in place, including well trained Security teams



Keep Informed, Keep Communicating

- Maintain a good flow of intelligence and information, including close liaison with local Police
- Always ensure that Security teams are alert to suspicious behaviour, record it and report it (internally or to the authorities if deemed necessary). Remember, if in doubt, Report It.



Get Ready, Stay Ready

- Ensure that Contingency and Emergency plans are in place, up to date and are easily accessible for all relevant personnel
- Carry out regular tests (including Penetration Tests) and drills of all security and safety systems, taking remedial action for any weaknesses that are identified
- Implement both internal and external security audits to identify and remove vulnerabilities

Useful Numbers		
Event	Agency	Number
If an attack is happening	Police	999
If you see something suspicious	Anti-Terrorist Hotline	0800 789 321
	OR Police	999
If you would like any guidance or support with your Security	Corps Security Central Support	0141 378 7000



Market House
85 Cowcross St
London
EC1M 6PF



07890 590352
Neil Shanks



intel@corpssecurity.co.uk
www.corpssecurity.co.uk