

Coroner's Inquests into the London Bombings of 7 July 2005

Hearing transcripts - 14 February 2011 - Morning session

1 Monday, 14 February 2011

2 (10.30 am)

3 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Keith?

4 MR KEITH: Good morning, my Lady. My Lady, I'm going to
5 invite Mr Andrew O'Connor to call the first witness in
6 my Lady's list for today, Mr Hesketh.

7 PC GLEN HESKETH (sworn)

8 Questions by MR ANDREW O'CONNOR

9 MR ANDREW O'CONNOR: Good morning. Could you give your full
10 name, please?

11 A. Glen Hesketh.

12 Q. Mr Hesketh, in July 2005, I believe you were a constable
13 with the Metropolitan Police?

14 A. Yes, I was.

15 Q. I'm guessing from your uniform that's no longer the
16 position you hold?

17 A. No, I now serve with the Police Service Northern
18 Ireland.

19 Q. In 2005, your role was as an explosion detection dog
20 handler, I believe.

21 A. That's correct, yes.

22 Q. We know that, on the day of 7 July 2005, you were
23 working with another constable, a man called
24 Constable Crawford.

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Was that typically the way in which you worked, with
2 a partner?

3 A. Yes, we'd always work with a partner because, if one was
4 searching, the other one would need to do the eyes, just
5 in case you missed anything, so we always worked with
6 partnerships.

7 Q. I see. You had a vehicle, a van at your disposal to
8 move to wherever you had been called to. Is that right?

9 A. That's correct, yes.

10 Q. You made three written records of what took place on
11 7 July, which we have access to. First of all, you made
12 some notes in your notebook, I think on the afternoon of
13 7 July?

14 A. Yes, that's correct.

15 Q. And then, a day or so after, on 9 July, you made
16 a statement to your colleagues in the
17 Metropolitan Police?

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. And then, much more recently, a few weeks ago, you made
20 a further statement. In fact, I think you made that
21 statement to Mr Suter, one of the Inquest staff?

22 A. That's correct, yes.

23 Q. On 7 July, we see from the police statement, I think it
24 was, that you started a shift at 7.00 in the morning
25 with Constable Crawford?

1 A. That's correct.

2 Q. Where were you actually based at that time?

3 A. We were based at Nine Elms police station, but on the
4 day in question, we were actually doing a search of
5 a naval pontoon in Greenwich.

6 Q. I see. You refer to a job in south-east London. Was
7 that the job that you have in mind?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Was that a routine search or was there a particular
10 concern that had led to you being called?

11 A. No, it would have been a typical defensive venue search.
12 If there was military personnel or a VIP, we would have
13 done the search prior to their arrival. It would be
14 fairly routine.

15 Q. I see, so just to be clear, then, not a search that was
16 triggered by any particular concern about there being an
17 explosive device, just a defensive search, as you put
18 it, in advance of a visit?

19 A. That's correct, yes.

20 Q. So did you go straight to that job on the morning of
21 7 July?

22 A. Yes, we went -- I think we went to Greenwich, the
23 canteen, had some breakfast, then went down and
24 completed the search in conjunction with the police
25 search adviser, and then we were actually on our way

1 back from that job -- I think we'd just gone to
2 Elephant & Castle, when we heard the first calls on the
3 radio.

4 Q. I see. Mr Hesketh, if you can try to keep your voice
5 up, that would be --

6 A. Sorry, yes, of course.

7 Q. -- of assistance. There is a microphone in front of you
8 that is relaying your voice to the marquee in the
9 courtyard where the press are, but it's sometimes quite
10 difficult for those at the back of this courtroom to
11 hear people in the witness-box unless you try to keep
12 your voice a little higher.

13 A. Okay.

14 Q. Thank you. You mentioned that you received a call while
15 you were -- when you'd finished your job in Greenwich
16 and when you were driving back into the centre of town?

17 A. The search in Greenwich probably would have been our
18 only work for the day, but actually, on the main police
19 radio, I heard the first calls, I believe it was to
20 King's Cross. So, being the nature of our work, I felt
21 it appropriate that we volunteer to go straight there.

22 Q. So you weren't formally tasked to go there?

23 A. No, we volunteered.

24 Q. Clearly, given the nature of the calls that were coming
25 in, you felt that your expertise would be needed at

1 King's Cross?

2 A. That's correct.

3 Q. You were already in the van, so you simply diverted and
4 made your way there?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. You refer in your witness statement to this taking place
7 at about 9.30, I think.

8 A. Yes, that would be the approximate time.

9 Q. You go on to describe how you arrived at King's Cross
10 and spoke to a police officer who you now know to be
11 Inspector Nasmyth-Miller, whom we've heard evidence
12 from?

13 A. That's correct, yes.

14 Q. What did you say to him and what did he say to you?

15 A. Being as, you know, he's the inspector, he would be in
16 charge -- well, he was the most senior officer I could
17 see on the forecourt at King's Cross, I remember asking
18 him what was happening, and he told me it was unclear at
19 that moment whether it was an explosion or an electrical
20 failure. There was mixed reports coming in, nothing was
21 actually crystal clear at that time.

22 Q. Sorry, did he say anything about a further explosion at
23 Tavistock Square at the time that you arrived with him?

24 A. No, no, he didn't. While at King's Cross, we weren't
25 actually sure what was happening there at that

1 particular moment, we were informed that there had been
2 an explosion at Tavistock Square, which is obviously
3 a very, very short distance away.

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. So we immediately turned the van round and went straight
6 to it.

7 Q. What I wanted to try to get a better understanding of,
8 Constable, is whether you think the explosion at
9 Tavistock Square had already happened when you arrived
10 at King's Cross or whether it happened while you were
11 there talking to Inspector Nasmyth-Miller?

12 A. I don't honestly know. I mean, if I think of the
13 timings, I would suspect it probably happened around the
14 time we were speaking to him or, you know, very, very
15 shortly before. I would say just probably about that
16 time.

17 Q. We know that the calls on the police radios went out
18 within a minute or so of the explosion at
19 Tavistock Square.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Do you remember hearing those calls?

22 A. Yes, there was a -- I can't remember who it was,
23 somebody said there's been an explosion at
24 Tavistock Square, and that's when we -- I mean, once
25 somebody said that, then obviously that's where we've

1 got to go, because that's positive information, we have
2 to attend that scene.

3 Q. Why would that have been? You were already at
4 King's Cross where there was a suspicion that there had
5 been an explosion. Why would you have gone immediately
6 to Tavistock Square?

7 A. Because nobody really could clarify exactly what had
8 happened at King's Cross at that time, and, you know,
9 I think my thinking was they're very close in proximity
10 to each other and, you know, being called to
11 King's Cross and, as we'd seen, there'd been an
12 explosion, Tavistock Square, it could have been one and
13 the same incident, but somebody had positively said
14 "There's an explosion at Tavistock Square". So that's
15 where we're needed. If somebody had said there's
16 definitely one, you know, in King's Cross, we would have
17 gone straight down there.

18 Q. I see, I see. Now, we know that a few minutes after the
19 bomb exploded at Tavistock Square, the police on the
20 scene became concerned about a possible secondary
21 device, and actually started sending out calls
22 requesting explosive officers.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Do you think that those were the calls that were being
25 made before you went, or do you think you just responded

1 to general news of the primary explosion?

2 A. I think it was more the general one. I mean, they would
3 automatically call for an ATO, an ammunition technical
4 officer who really is the expert. I mean, my role, as
5 an explosive search dog handler, I mean, we're an
6 indicator, you know, a very useful tool, but he would be
7 the expert.

8 Q. I see.

9 A. Concerns of a secondary explosion or a secondary device,
10 I mean, they're always there, and people would have been
11 concerned at the scene, I've no doubt --

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. -- but we would still have to attend to sort of see what
14 was going on, and certainly the ammunition officer, you
15 know, he's -- he can only go there and look at what he
16 would maybe consider to be a secondary bomb, you know,
17 there would have to be some substance to it, he would
18 say, you know, "There's a box or a briefcase", something
19 would have to give him specific concerns.

20 Q. All right, all right. In any event, you did make your
21 way to Tavistock Square?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. You went in your van?

24 A. Yes, PC Crawford was driving, I think we turned straight
25 round and down the Euston Road.

1 Q. Down Euston Road and then down Upper Woburn Place?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Presumably a journey that took you only a minute or so?

4 A. Yes, very, very quick. Once we'd turned round, I mean,
5 traffic was heavy, but once we turned round and put the
6 sirens on, literally a couple of minutes.

7 Q. Now, in terms of when you arrived at Tavistock Square,
8 from the narrative that you've given, would it be
9 reasonable to say that you arrived about five minutes
10 after the explosion, something of that nature?

11 A. It would have been shortly afterwards. It's hard to say
12 because I don't know exactly when the explosion
13 happened.

14 Q. No.

15 A. But certainly from getting the information to us
16 arriving was fairly sharp.

17 Q. One thing that you do say in your statement is that all
18 the walking wounded passengers were off the bus by the
19 time that you arrived at the scene.

20 A. Yes, as we turned into Tavistock Square and I -- where
21 we left the van and I could look up at the bus, there
22 was nobody still getting off the top deck. So ...

23 Q. I'm going to ask you in a minute about how it was that
24 you came to approach the bus, but again, just to help us
25 with the timing, as did you approach, were the

1 casualties who were in the street being treated by
2 doctors?

3 A. There was sort of a melee round the bus. It would be
4 hard to identify who was doing what, really. Certainly,
5 even from where I was, I could see there was numerous
6 casualties round the bus and also members of the
7 public -- I don't know if they were doctors. I assumed
8 people had come out the British Medical Association and
9 were helping.

10 Q. The evidence, as you say, is doctors not wearing any
11 medical clothing, but in plainclothes, had come out of
12 the BMA --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- and were treating the casualties?

15 A. There was certainly people who were there assisting at
16 the scene, yes.

17 Q. Could we see on the screen, please, the photograph,
18 INQ10345 [not for publication]?

19 Now, Constable, this is a photograph that was taken,
20 we think, at about 10.00, so possibly a few minutes
21 after you arrived, from a bedroom in probably the
22 County Hotel, but behind the bus, in the direction of
23 Euston Road.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. In your statement, you describe parking on

1 Upper Woburn Place, about 40 to 50 metres, you say,
2 behind the bus.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. So can we take it that you parked somewhere perhaps just
5 below where this photograph was taken? We don't see
6 your vehicle in this shot, do we?

7 A. No, we would maybe be just behind the end one, I can't
8 see it there.

9 Q. But on the left-hand side of the road as we look, was
10 it?

11 A. Yes, I'm just trying to look at the topography. Which
12 way is the Euston Road?

13 Q. Let's be clear, the bus that we're looking at has the
14 front of the bus away from us, the rear of the bus
15 closer to us. The photograph is taken from the hotel
16 and the Euston Road is behind where this picture is
17 taken from.

18 A. We were on the Euston Road side, so you can't actually
19 see our vehicle, we're back this way.

20 Q. Yes, exactly.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. So either somewhere underneath where the photograph is
23 taken or even a little bit further back?

24 A. I would say just underneath that position there.

25 Because we were certainly within viewing distance of the

1 bus, but close enough back, you know, to get a cordon up
2 and running.

3 Q. Yes. When you got out of your vehicle, did you both get
4 out of the vehicle or just you?

5 A. No, we both got out straightaway.

6 Q. Did you take your dogs at this point or leave them in
7 the van?

8 A. Yes, we did.

9 Q. What was in your mind as being what it was that you
10 needed to do at that time?

11 A. It would -- within my role, I would always -- you know,
12 anything, whether it's defensive searching or at a scene
13 like this, you know, you would try and -- if people have
14 concerns of a secondary device, you would try to allay
15 those fears, and certainly the training is that we would
16 search the incident control point, you know, the field
17 hospital in this particular case, and if anyone had
18 concerns of a suspect package prior to the arrival of
19 the ATO, we would clear a route for him -- because he's
20 the expert -- to deal with anything that they considered
21 suspicious.

22 Q. Can we have the photo back on the screen, please?

23 I will ask you a few more questions in a moment about
24 exactly how you carried out those searches.

25 A. Certainly.

1 Q. But before that, in the statements that you've given,
2 you've described a number of casualties whom you saw
3 pretty much immediately on your arrival at the scene.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. First of all, in the police witness statement that you
6 made just a day or two after the events, you talked
7 about seeing a body on the road to the left of the bus.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. In the statement you made a week or so ago, you
10 described a body on the pavement to the left-hand side
11 of the bus. Looking at this photograph, does that help
12 you to describe what you remember? It may of course be
13 that your memory is so blurred after all this time that
14 you really can't take matters any further.

15 A. I specifically remember what I can only describe as
16 a torso on the left-hand side of the bus.

17 Q. I see.

18 A. Obviously, it's a fairly disturbing thing, and
19 I specifically remember that.

20 Q. Yes. We've heard a fair amount of evidence about what
21 I think you're describing, Constable, and that -- let me
22 help you. If you look on the left-hand side, you can
23 see a blue piece of, in fact, tarpaulin, I think.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. That, I think, is what you're describing.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. It is, in fact, perhaps on the pavement, but that's what
3 you're describing, is it?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. You also describe in your statement seeing two other
6 bodies on the road. You describe those as being on the
7 right-hand side of the bus. Do we take that to mean on
8 the other side, on the offside of the bus?

9 A. Yes, it was -- there was one by the front of the taxi
10 and I think there was -- I seem to remember that there
11 was something -- there was something on a vehicle bonnet
12 or by a vehicle, but definitely one by the taxi.

13 Q. Are you able to give any more detail or is it simply
14 a memory of a body in that area?

15 A. Just really, you know, I was sort of making my way to
16 the bus and sort of trying to take in the whole scene,
17 and, you know, as I'm walking forward, I'm obviously
18 scanning left and right to see exactly, you know, what
19 I can see, and I just remember, by the front of the taxi
20 and on the right-hand side of the bus, I think
21 I remember seeing two badly damaged bodies there.

22 Q. You also refer seeing at this stage -- that is very
23 shortly after you arrived at the scene -- two bodies on
24 the bus, or at least on the bus partially hanging off
25 it.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. First of all, you describe seeing a body on the --
3 again, on the right-hand side. I take that to mean the
4 offside of the bus.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Do you recall a body hanging off the bus on that side?

7 A. I remember seeing a body on that side, and then, as I'm
8 looking at the bus -- because, if you look at the bus
9 there, the left-hand side was where I was sort of drawn
10 to because that's where the majority of the attention of
11 people were, and I remember seeing a black lady hanging
12 out the side there.

13 Q. Now, this lady, you describe her as a black lady, we
14 believe that to be a lady called Shyanuja Parathasangary
15 who, in fact, was Sri Lankan.

16 A. Right.

17 Q. I'm going to come back to her because you I think looked
18 at her again when you were actually on the bus. Can
19 I just ask you this for now: at this point, as you
20 approached the bus, shortly after having arrived at the
21 scene, did you form an impression as to whether she was
22 alive or dead?

23 A. My initial impression was that she was -- by the nature
24 of the injuries I could see, you know, that she'd
25 already passed away.

1 Q. Thank you. You've described, in effect, what you were
2 doing, which was moving towards the bus.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Was that something that you were doing while you were
5 carrying out the checks that you've described?

6 A. We -- it was brought to our -- I can't remember -- it
7 was brought to our attention there was a box at the
8 front of the bus that was causing concern.

9 Now, PC Crawford, I think, started doing really what
10 he was supposed to do, and that's do the sort of 360 of
11 the area, make sure that there's no secondary devices,
12 nothing suspicious. I was drawn more to the bus, and I
13 actually entered -- it's hard to see from that picture,
14 but the actually -- the seat of the explosion, where the
15 bomb has taken the roof off and forced the upper deck
16 floor down, just past that, at the front of the bus
17 where the driver would sit, was relatively intact and
18 I could enter through the doors there to this microphone
19 box.

20 Q. Pause there, can we go back one stage? You say you were
21 aware of this, do you recall whether you were told by,
22 for example, another police officer?

23 A. Yes, I can't remember if it was a sergeant who said to
24 me -- he said, "There's a box at the front of the bus",
25 and it was obviously giving concern. Now, if I can

1 allay that concern in some way, then obviously people
2 can function better at the scene.

3 Q. We've heard evidence, in fact, from a number of police
4 officers who were aware of this box.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. No doubt it was one of those who spoke to you.

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. You describe getting on through the doors. Were they
9 the front doors directly opposite the driver's
10 compartment or the middle doors a little further towards
11 the back of the bus?

12 A. I think they were the middle doors, you know. I think
13 it was the middle doors and then I turned left, because
14 I remember putting the dog up to the box. There was
15 a lot of glass and hydraulic fluid spraying about, but
16 the dog went up and would have had a smell at it, he
17 didn't actually show me an indication, and I would have
18 got a multitool out and lifted the lid of the box just
19 to have a little look and I could see it was a microwave
20 and I could see into the glass. It wasn't giving me
21 huge concerns at that time.

22 Q. If it had been a secondary device, how would your dog
23 have reacted?

24 A. The dog gives a passive indication. The specifics of an
25 explosive search dog, when they detect an explosive

1 substance that they're trained on -- for example, Semtex
2 or C4 or a home-made explosive -- they will naturally
3 just sit back and stare at it and just focus on it,
4 because of anti-handling devices, they won't in any way
5 touch or scratch, they'll just smell and immediately sit
6 back to give a passive indication.

7 Q. But there was nothing about the way your dog reacted to
8 the microwave oven to suggest --

9 A. No, nothing gave me concerns at that time.

10 Q. We've heard evidence from a number of people who were on
11 the scene at the time, both police officers and
12 passers-by, who describe going on board the bus to
13 assist some passengers on board while the passengers
14 were still getting off. I assume from what you've
15 already said that they had already got off the bus by
16 the time you went on?

17 A. Yes. The bus could almost be split into two halves: the
18 front section where people managed to walk off or be
19 helped off; and the back section obviously where the
20 main seat of the explosion was, where the majority of
21 the danger took place, but the people at the front, or
22 the less damaged part of the bus, had already got off.

23 Q. While you were on board the bus with the primary purpose
24 of checking out the oven, is it right that you became
25 aware, first of all, that there were some people still

1 alive but trapped in the wreckage, as you say, towards
2 the back of the bus?

3 A. It was more, as I got off the bus, I'd seen a gentleman,
4 who I now know as Mr Beck, as I walked past, and then,
5 as I came past, I could see him sitting up and lolling
6 forward and he was obviously in a huge amount of pain,
7 and he was asking for help.

8 Q. You were aware of him, then --

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. -- and you subsequently became aware, perhaps, of
11 others?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. You were also aware, were you, that there were some
14 casualties who did not appear still to be alive on the
15 bus?

16 A. That's correct, yes.

17 Q. I'm going to ask you first about the casualties who were
18 still alive and how you helped them and then I'll ask
19 you questions about those who weren't.

20 A. Certainly, yes.

21 Q. You've mentioned that it was actually when you were
22 getting off the bus, after having inspected the
23 microwave oven, that you became aware of Mr Beck?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Where was Mr Crawford at this time? Was he with you at

1 all, or was he off doing other searches in the area?

2 A. He was still searching round the periphery. He would
3 have been -- I seem to remember there was bins over to
4 the right, and he was over at that side. I was sort of
5 on the side where the sort of entry into the bus was, if
6 you like. I couldn't actually tell you where he was at
7 that particular moment.

8 Q. But not with you, at any event?

9 A. No, no.

10 Q. You decided that you would help Mr Beck?

11 A. Yes, I just tied my dog to a lamp post, and I didn't
12 even bother putting him away, and just made the decision
13 to go forward and help him.

14 Q. Where did you go in order to help Mr Beck?

15 A. The sort of -- the natural -- the back of the bus
16 couldn't really be accessed very easily, and to get into
17 the bus, there was the -- did you say the lady was
18 Sri Lankan?

19 Q. I'm sorry?

20 A. Did you say the lady was Sri Lankan who was hanging out
21 the bus?

22 Q. Yes.

23 A. The Sri Lankan lady, sort of hanging over the side, and
24 there was a wheel, by the wheel arch. I sort of climbed
25 on to the wheel and sort of had to climb sort of to the

1 left of her to get in to Mr Beck.

2 Q. So there was no question -- we've heard this from other
3 witnesses -- of accessing that rear area of the bus from
4 inside the front area?

5 A. No, no. Effectively, it had sort of been sealed off by
6 the upper deck.

7 Q. So you climbed up on to the wreckage?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Was it at this time that two London Fire Brigade
10 officers came and assisted you?

11 A. It wasn't until I really got in, and Mr Beck, who had
12 initially brought my attention, and there was a lady to
13 his left as well, you know, I think she was unconscious,
14 and then, over to the right of him, I could see Mr Ly
15 and I realised there was people still in the bus and
16 I could see other people in there as well.

17 The lady -- Mr Beck was making noise, the lady
18 wasn't, and training is: if they're making noise,
19 they're alive; if they're not, they're the ones you've
20 got to go to. I remember the lady wasn't making
21 a noise, I think she was unconscious and I realised at
22 that point I wasn't going to be able to do this alone
23 and I looked round for help and I saw the two firemen,
24 and I shouted over to them, you know, I think I said
25 something like, "Look, I'm losing her here. You've got

1 to get on and help me", and they were trying to climb on
2 and it was really slippery because they wear those big
3 boots and they've got gloves. I was saying, "Look,
4 I can't guarantee that this is clear, but I need your
5 help". They didn't hesitate at all, they got straight
6 on.

7 Q. We've heard from both Mr Hume and Mr Ford?

8 A. They were really commendable, they didn't hesitate one
9 little bit, they got straight on.

10 Q. You've referred to a female casualty --

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. -- who was still alive, and this was the first person
13 who was brought off the bus.

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. You don't mention her in either the notes that you made
16 on 7 July or the statement that you gave a couple of
17 days later.

18 A. No. It was -- I think it was because she was lifted
19 straight out. It didn't require a huge amount.

20 I think -- I can't remember if she was on a stretcher or
21 a bit of debris or something, but she was lifted out,
22 and it was sort of just very quickly, and she was --
23 people were waiting outside the bus now, and I assumed
24 they were doctors and people far better trained than
25 myself to assist these people, and she was sort of

1 removed really quickly.

2 Q. You have a clear memory, anyway, of her being the first
3 person that the three of you moved off?

4 A. Yes, she was definitely the first one out, because she
5 was to my left and then Mr Beck was sort of seated right
6 in the middle.

7 Q. Mr Beck, other witnesses have described him -- although,
8 in fact, he's given evidence and we know him to be
9 a white man -- as having a sort of darker skin and you
10 describe him in your statement as being "swarthy".

11 A. Yes, I think I put "swarthy" or "Asian", you know, it
12 could be -- I mean, it could be he was very sort of
13 discoloured from the explosion.

14 Q. Quite.

15 A. It was just my recollection of him on the day.

16 Q. There's no doubt, in any event, about who it is you're
17 describing?

18 A. No.

19 Q. He had a very serious leg injury?

20 A. It was when we looked over at him, you know, I could see
21 the way he was sitting, and I was shouting at him
22 because he seemed to be drifting in and out, I kept
23 shouting at him, and we were trying to lift him up, but,
24 you know, the poor fellow, he was screaming, it was
25 awful.

1 I seem to remember the firemen sort of got left and
2 right of him and I was in front, and tried to get my
3 hands underneath his backside to lift him, you know,
4 causing the least amount of discomfort to him, and
5 eventually, I think I grabbed his belt. He was wearing
6 a suit, a dark suit, and we lifted him, and there was
7 people waiting outside the bus now to help, and when we
8 lifted him, you could see one of his legs, you know, was
9 terribly damaged.

10 Q. Yes. You lifted him, and is it right that the people
11 down below were holding a makeshift stretcher of some
12 sort, a door or a table?

13 A. Yes, I think it was a trestle table or something that
14 had come out of the medical building.

15 Q. Mr Beck was placed on to that?

16 A. We lifted him onto that, yes.

17 Q. In your notebook, you describe tending to Mr Beck before
18 the third casualty, who we now know to be Mr Ly, was
19 removed. Does that mean that you got off the bus at
20 that point or did you stay on the bus?

21 A. No, no, I was still on the bus, but because of Mr Ly,
22 you'd have had to have climbed over Mr Beck to get to
23 Mr Ly, and that just wouldn't have been right, you know,
24 we sort of could only deal with one at a time because of
25 the amount of wreckage -- I mean, we were having to rip

1 wreckage away and, again, you know, the firemen were
2 very good at that, they had the big heavy gloves on and
3 they were ripping away, I think it was like a lot of
4 glass fibre and metal that was strewn about, and we had
5 to sort of remove Mr Beck before we could get to Mr Ly
6 because, otherwise, you would have had to have climbed
7 over him and that wouldn't have been right.

8 Q. No. The third casualty who was removed, though, that
9 was Mr Ly, as we now know.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. We've heard from Mr Hume and Mr Ford how they managed,
12 in fact, to move the metalwork that was pinning him in
13 place with their hands. At one stage, they thought they
14 would need cutting equipment, but they managed to do
15 without in the end.

16 A. That's correct. There was a gentleman -- I remember him
17 outside the bus -- and he was sort of tending to Mr Ly,
18 I don't know if he had his head, but he was definitely,
19 you know, into the bus. To get him out, he was quite --
20 I sort of -- I remember, because I had no gloves on and
21 I cut -- all the backs of my hands were cut to ribbons
22 on the glass. The firemen, they could sort of get the
23 glass fibre and they were ripping it away and they
24 pulled it out and, again, I was sort of quite close to
25 Mr Ly's face and I was -- because he was gurgling, and

1 I was shouting at him, you know, "Stay with me, stay
2 with me", and managed to get hands underneath him, and
3 I was trying to lift him up and, again, the firemen,
4 they lifted him, and that's how he was removed, because
5 he was still seated, you know, in the actual seat which
6 I presume he was in when the explosion happened.

7 Q. In Mr Ly's case also, we've heard that some sort of
8 makeshift stretcher was provided --

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. -- and he was lifted down onto it.

11 A. Again, I think once people had realised that anyone who
12 could be helped was being removed from the bus, they
13 were sort of waiting, and I presume doctors and far more
14 eminent people than myself were waiting to do what they
15 could for them outside the bus.

16 Q. We know that Mr Ly was the last living casualty to be
17 removed from the bus.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. You three were still on board the bus at that point?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. We've heard from the firemen that, at that stage, the
22 three of you performed an exercise, insofar as you
23 could, of checking whether the casualties who remained
24 on the bus were, in fact, still alive or dead?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. One of the casualties that you checked was
2 Shyanuja Parathasangary, the Sri Lankan lady whom we've
3 already mentioned. Tell us what you were, in fact, able
4 to do for her?

5 A. There was -- without sort of going into sort of graphic
6 detail, the lady had very bad facial injuries, you know,
7 she'd been badly hurt, you know. There was a triangular
8 bandage, I don't know whether somebody had already put
9 it over her face or whether it was just there from --
10 I just remember lifting what was already a slightly
11 bloodied triangular bandage and putting it over her face
12 trying to give the poor lady some dignity back.

13 I remember, as I went -- because there was
14 a gentleman hanging down from the upper deck as well,
15 and I couldn't do more than sort of put my hand on her
16 chest, and there was no movement at all, there was no
17 vital signs.

18 Q. This is Shyanuja Parathasangary?

19 A. Yes, she had no vital signs at all, so just really just
20 tried to cover her face and then look at what else was
21 there.

22 Q. The gentleman you describe hanging down, was that
23 a black gentleman?

24 A. It was, yes.

25 Q. We know that a man called Anthony Fatayi-Williams was on

1 the bus at the time, who was black, from Nigeria in
2 fact. He was wearing a dark pinstriped suit.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Does that meet the description of the person that you
5 saw?

6 A. It does, yes.

7 Q. In fact, the evidence we have is that he was on the
8 lower deck at the time of the explosion and you have
9 described him as sort of hanging down.

10 A. Yes, he was sort of pinned against what would have been
11 the floor of the upper deck or the roof of the lower
12 deck and he was sort of pinned against that.

13 Q. Is it right that, in that rear section of the bus, the
14 force of the explosion had been such that, in effect,
15 the lower deck and the upper deck had collapsed into
16 one?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. So you wouldn't have been able to say whether this man
19 had been on the upper deck or the lower deck --

20 A. No.

21 Q. -- before the explosion?

22 A. No, I just remember the position he was in and
23 I remember, again, he had terrible injuries and, again,
24 sort of -- I think one of the firemen had already had to
25 sort of move him to one side and, you know, I just

1 remember again putting a hand on his chest and there was
2 nothing, because one of the firemen then climbed on to
3 the upper deck and I followed him, and it was quite
4 difficult, you had to sort of grab on to the bits of
5 metal to pull yourself up, and we both got on to the
6 upper deck, and he went forward and I went three or four
7 rows forward and then he sort of turned and said, "No,
8 there's no one else up here", and we both got back down
9 again.

10 Q. You say that you checked for signs of life on the black
11 gentleman, the man we believe to be
12 Anthony Fatayi-Williams?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. You were satisfied, as far as you could be, that he was
15 not alive?

16 A. He was terribly injured, there was no sign of life at
17 all.

18 Q. In both of your statements, you describe seeing a third
19 casualty whom you subsequently believed to be dead whom
20 you describe as a white male near the back of the bus.

21 A. Yes, the two firemen --

22 Q. Just pause for a minute. I wonder if we could have on
23 the screen [INQ10285-7], please?

24 This is a plan, Constable, of the -- it's actually
25 a plan of the lower deck of the bus but, as we've

1 described, the rear of the bus after the explosion was
2 terribly damaged.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Can I ask you this: in your police statement -- that is
5 the statement you gave a day or two after 7 July -- you
6 describe seeing a lifeless body of a white male hanging
7 on the offside of the bus.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. From the other evidence we've heard, we believe that
10 that would be a reference to a man called
11 Philip Russell. You see him there.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. In the statement you've made more recently, you describe
14 a white male sitting at the rear of the bus --

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. -- in fact, whose pulse you managed to check. Would
17 that be Philip Russell or was that someone else, looking
18 at this plan?

19 A. I remember he was a gentleman older than myself, maybe
20 in his 50s, and he was sort of trapped at the back and
21 you couldn't really get to him properly. I think he had
22 facial hair, and I just remember pushing my hand through
23 and trying to feel for his chest, because he was badly
24 trapped in there and, again, there was nothing.

25 Q. Was he facing towards the front of the bus or towards

1 the rear of the bus?

2 A. He would have been facing towards the front.

3 Q. The description you've given, both of the way in which
4 he was facing and the facial hair and the age seems to
5 indicate that it's much more likely to have been
6 William Wise than Philip Russell.

7 A. Right.

8 Q. Looking at the plan, could it have been William Wise, in
9 terms of the position of where his body was?

10 A. Yes, yes, it could have been.

11 Q. You managed, you describe in your statement, to get at
12 least close enough to him to check whether he was still
13 alive.

14 A. I was doing quite a bit of shouting as well, just trying
15 to get any kind of -- you know, whether -- you know,
16 I mean, what do I know about sort of medical stuff? --
17 and, you know, just trying to get some kind of -- you
18 know, if somebody's got a sign of life, if I can get
19 a hand to them, at least if you know something is going
20 on, you can call more people out. But there was
21 nothing.

22 Q. Finally, in terms of people on the bus, in the statement
23 you gave to the police a day or two after 7 July, you
24 describe seeing another casualty, a female casualty,
25 with extremely serious head injuries. Is that something

1 you remember?

2 A. Is that -- whereabouts was that?

3 Q. You describe her as being on the near -- inside the bus
4 on the offside. From the description that you gave, it
5 seems likely that that was a lady called Neetu Jain.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Again, would the position of Neetu Jain on this plan
8 accord with your memory?

9 A. Yes, it would, yes.

10 Q. There was no question of her still being alive?

11 A. No, no. Again, terribly injured.

12 Q. How long, Constable, did you stay on the bus after
13 Sam Ly had been removed making the checks that you've
14 described?

15 A. The two firemen got off the bus and I just stayed on
16 a few minutes longer. I remember because I looked out
17 of the bus and I could see that another of our vans had
18 turned up, dog vans with a couple of colleagues, and it
19 was really when I'd satisfied myself there was nothing
20 else could be done that I got off.

21 Q. As you describe, when you did get off, did you meet up
22 with an explosives officer who had, by that stage,
23 arrived?

24 A. Yes, the ATO had turned up and I just basically briefed
25 him that the scene -- you know, the -- there was nobody

1 else casualty-wise that we could help, and that there
2 was still a concern. It's in hindsight we only found
3 out it was a peroxide explosive that was used, which, in
4 fairness, our dogs don't detect anyway. They do now, it
5 was just something we'd never seen before, and so -- but
6 the experts, the ammunition technical officer, I mean,
7 he would be versed in all types of explosives, so it's
8 really for him to go up there and decide whether it's
9 safe or not.

10 Q. We know that, in fact, that officer conducted
11 a controlled explosion --

12 A. That's correct.

13 Q. -- some time after. We know the time was at about 10.40
14 that morning.

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Were you still at the scene when that happened?

17 A. I was, yes.

18 Q. After you got off the bus, you describe in one of your
19 statements seeing a body in what you describe as
20 a basement.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Was that a sort of light-well that was open to vision
23 from the pavement?

24 A. Yes. As you walked round the scene, it was one of the
25 sort of low -- I think it was, again, the medical

1 building, one of the quite low basements and, again,
2 although I couldn't get down to the body where it was,
3 you could see clearly the body was very, very, very
4 badly damaged, there was no sign of life at all.

5 Q. That we believe to be a man called Jamie Gordon.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Finally, Constable, in the statement that you prepared,
8 you expressed some concern about the speed of the
9 emergency response. The evidence that we've heard is
10 that the injured in the street were treated very quickly
11 by doctors and, as you've said, they were already being
12 treated when you arrived, and that, because of concerns
13 about the secondary explosion, possible secondary
14 explosion, there was then a process of moving them into
15 the BMA courtyard.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. You didn't take part in that, but do you recall it
18 happening?

19 A. Yes. I wouldn't say it's concerns. It's just, you
20 know, everyone at something as traumatic as that acts
21 differently and has their own concerns, and it's just --
22 it's purely my opinion, but, you know, if somebody can
23 be helped, they need to be helped, and immediately, and
24 when I went past where you could see into the bus, it
25 wouldn't have mattered what anyone says, you know, what

1 concerns there are of a secondary device, you know, it's
2 not -- we're not paid to be wrapped in cotton wool, you
3 have to get in there and help people.

4 Q. You did get in and help Mr Beck and the others. The
5 firemen --

6 A. Oh, they were marvellous.

7 Q. The evidence that the firemen gave was that they were
8 concerned to move the people in the streets behind the
9 bus, who might, of course, be caught up in a secondary
10 explosion, before going on board the bus.

11 A. I said to them "I can't guarantee your safety", you
12 know, but they didn't hesitate at all, you know, they
13 got straight in and helped.

14 MR ANDREW O'CONNOR: Thank you very much, Constable. Those
15 are all the questions I have for you.

16 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Ms Gallagher?

17 Questions by MS GALLAGHER

18 MS GALLAGHER: Mr Hesketh, I represent two bereaved families
19 at Tavistock Square. The family of Miriam Hyman who
20 died on the pavement and the family of

21 Anthony Fatayi-Williams, who you've been asked about.

22 I just have three brief areas I want to ask you
23 questions about.

24 First of all, could we have INQ10345 [not for publication], the hotel
25 photo, back on screen? You've told us today,

1 Mr Hesketh, that you specifically remember seeing the
2 torso on the pavement on the left and you have a clear
3 memory because it, understandably, was such a disturbing
4 thing to see.

5 As we can see in this photo, at that point, the
6 point when this photograph was taken, it's covered in
7 a blue tarpaulin. This may seem to be stating the
8 obvious, but when you arrived, the torso wasn't covered,
9 you saw an uncovered torso?

10 A. That's correct, yes.

11 Q. So the suggestion that you arrive a few minutes after
12 this photograph was taken wouldn't accord with your
13 memory; you think you must have arrived earlier, before
14 it's covered?

15 A. I definitely remember seeing the torso, yes.

16 Q. Just one more matter on that, Mr Hesketh. In
17 paragraph 13 of your recent witness statement, when you
18 describe getting off the bus, after you've done the work
19 with the dog, after you've assisted casualties and
20 checked for signs of life and you've been there for
21 quite some time with those firemen, you describe seeing
22 the body in the basement, which we've just referred to,
23 but you describe in that paragraph, paragraph 13, seeing
24 the torso and, from reading your statement, it appears
25 you seem to remember seeing it when you disembarked the

1 bus. Is that right?

2 A. Yes, that's certainly my recollection. I don't think
3 I've got any confusion on that. I just remember the
4 torso on the pavement because it was -- I think my
5 attention was particularly drawn to it because somebody
6 mentioned they thought it might have been the actual
7 bomber, you know, and because of the nature of the
8 injuries.

9 Q. Thank you. Mr Hesketh, about Anthony Fatayi-Williams,
10 the black male, whom we believe you've described, I just
11 have one further question on that.

12 It's clear from both of your statements -- your
13 statement from 2005 and your more recent statement --
14 that it was apparent to you that he was dead and that
15 certainly fits with the evidence that we've heard. In
16 your first statement, you describe seeing no visible
17 signs of life, and it's in your second statement and
18 today that you describe checking him for signs of life.

19 A. I put my hand on his chest. I think one of the firemen
20 had already had to sort of move him slightly, you know,
21 as dignified as we could be with the remains, to get on
22 to the upper deck.

23 It was when we sort of got back down we knew there
24 was nobody else up there, you know. I remember the dark
25 suit and I put my hand on his chest and there was

1 nothing.

2 Q. So Mr Hesketh, when you describe checking him for signs
3 of life that's what you're referring to?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Placing your hand on his chest to check his breathing?

6 A. As I say, I was doing quite a lot of shouting and, you
7 know, he had terrible injuries. I put my hand on his
8 chest and there was nothing.

9 Q. There's just one final matter, Mr Hesketh. You've just
10 been asked by Counsel to the Inquest about your
11 statement, your more recent statement expressing concern
12 about the speed of the emergency response and medical
13 assistance. You also, in your recent statement, express
14 some concern about your police colleagues.

15 My Lady, the reference is paragraph 5.

16 You describe how, when you came alongside the bus in
17 the first instance, there was a woman and a man both
18 screaming for help on the lower deck and you say this:

19 "By this time, there were other police officers
20 present but there was no one at all on the bus assisting
21 the injured. Police officers were putting up cordon
22 tape and I remember swearing at an inspector or sergeant
23 for not doing anything to help people on the bus."

24 Is that your recollection?

25 A. I remember arriving and there was other officers there.

1 I couldn't tell you. We wear a different uniform to
2 British Transport and Metropolitan officers, who would
3 have been at the scene, uniformed officers. I remember
4 where the seat of the explosion was and seeing
5 particularly Mr Beck there sort of being -- just
6 realising he needed immediate help and, where people
7 were starting to put cordon tape out, I wouldn't be an
8 undisciplined person, but swearing and pushing past to
9 get in and help.

10 Q. So it was an expression of your frustration at the time?

11 A. I wouldn't say frustration, more determination to get in
12 there and help people.

13 Q. That fits in with your paragraph 15 of your recent
14 statement where you express the belief that, had you and
15 the firemen not acted as quickly as you did, your firm
16 belief is that Mark Beck may have died?

17 A. You know, I'm -- he had terrible injuries and, you know,
18 we're always taught about this golden hour, and the
19 nature of the injuries of these poor people was such
20 that it -- you needed to get in there instantly, and,
21 you know, it's just what had to be done. And protocols
22 and secondary devices and everything else you're taught
23 about and you learn about, they needed to be helped
24 immediately and I like to think we did what we could.

25 MS GALLAGHER: Thank you very much, Mr Hesketh. I've

1 nothing further.

2 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Hesketh, do I take it that you
3 might have broken the odd protocol, given your capacity
4 as an explosion detection dog handler?

5 A. Yes, ma'am, we would be employed to search incident
6 control points and to make sure there's a safe route and
7 people can operate safely. But I think in -- you know,
8 I've been a police officer a long time and I think every
9 so often you turn up at a scene and there's an
10 overriding -- I mean, I seem to remember when I joined
11 in the 1980s, they said our priority was to save life,
12 and I think that's really what took precedent.

13 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you. Mr Saunders?

14 Questions by MR SAUNDERS

15 MR SAUNDERS: Mr Hesketh, I'm going to ask you some
16 questions. You've already described the young lady, the
17 Sri Lankan lady.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Shyanu's parents, Mr and Mrs Parathasangary, are here
20 today. It's quite clear that you obviously arrived very
21 soon after the explosion.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. You've described to her Ladyship how you'd come up the
24 Euston Road and turned left into Upper Woburn Place.

25 You're straight out and, as it were, approaching the

1 obvious incident, which is the bus?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. You've described seeing Shyanu, as it were, because she
4 has her right arm outside the bus on the nearside
5 pavement side of the bus.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. I think it's very clear to the family that there were
8 absolutely no signs of life when you get there
9 immediately.

10 A. No.

11 Q. I'm not going to ask you and I'm very grateful for you
12 not going into the details of the injuries, but that was
13 part of what you took on board, as it were, as you
14 approached her?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Then there are just a few matters the family would like
17 some help with. You've described getting on to the bus
18 just behind her, because of, obviously, the difficulty
19 with that upper deck being down --

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. -- and clearly helping the lady and Mr Beck to get them
22 off the bus.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Her Ladyship has heard evidence that, with Shyanu, there
25 was a period at which her eyes were open. Can you

1 remember whether you saw her with eyes open or whether
2 you can't remember?

3 A. I'm mindful that the family are here. I can remember
4 she had quite bad injuries to the side of her face and,
5 yes, I believe her eyes were open. I could see her
6 teeth, and her eyes were open, yes.

7 Q. Thank you. I think you've then described the efforts
8 that you made in two respects, the one to check for the
9 pulse, and do I assume it's the same, you were checking
10 on the chest, as it were?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Obviously, no signs at all?

13 A. As I said, I was -- you know, I was doing a lot of
14 shouting after the first time, and there was no signs of
15 life. There was also people outside the bus and
16 I remember Mr Ly, there was a gentleman with Mr Ly, and
17 I know there was people who would have been in the
18 vicinity, and, you know, I don't think anyone could see
19 any sign of life.

20 Q. We've seen on a number of photographs, Mr Hesketh,
21 there's a man that we've called the gentleman in the
22 smart trenchcoat or raincoat that's beside Mr Ly, and as
23 you've described him, so have others, trying to assist
24 in holding either his head or trying to comfort him.
25 I think it's after that, then, that you placed this

1 bandage over Shyanu's face, as it were.

2 A. There was -- I remember a WPC -- and I couldn't tell you
3 whether she was a community support officer or -- but
4 I remember her approaching the bus and she was quite
5 clearly very disturbed by what she'd seen, and
6 I remember looking out the bus and then, you know, this
7 poor lady was there and it just wasn't right that she
8 was sort of still, you know -- the poor lady had passed
9 away and she was still visible, and there was
10 a triangular bandage and I don't know whether somebody
11 had already tried to use it or it had fallen off her,
12 but I lifted it and just put it back over her.

13 Q. Can I, following on from what her Ladyship has just
14 asked you, simply on behalf of the family thank you for
15 the care you took, first of all, in checking for any
16 pulse that may have been there, but also for the care
17 you took in covering her face and of, as it were,
18 affording her as much dignity as possible.

19 A. Thank you.

20 Q. It is often so with people with the experience that
21 you've got, but from this family's point of view, that
22 is a very important feature and they wish me to publicly
23 thank you for everything you did for their daughter, and
24 for coming along and giving evidence, Mr Hesketh.

25 A. Thank you.

1 MR SAUNDERS: Thank you, my Lady.

2 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you, Mr Saunders. Mr Hill?

3 Questions by MR HILL

4 MR HILL: Just two matters, Officer. The first one is
5 this -- and I think everybody appreciates the
6 difficulties of precision over timing -- whatever time
7 you arrived at Tavistock Square, it did not appear that
8 there were any passengers left on the top deck of the
9 bus, did it?

10 A. No.

11 Q. That's a phrase that I'm quoting word for word from
12 paragraph 3 of your recent statement. So it follows
13 that you are not able to help my Lady, for example, as
14 to whether there were police officers before you who
15 entered the bus and who assisted passengers on the top
16 deck to make their way down the stairs and get off the
17 bus?

18 A. No, because you could access from the front doors and
19 still get up to the upper deck, I guess. In fact, I'm
20 not altogether sure you could still get up -- in fact,
21 I don't think you could get up to the upper deck without
22 going through the seat of the explosion. I don't think
23 you could.

24 Q. Right.

25 A. So I don't know if anyone would have -- I'm just trying

1 think where the staircase is on the bus. It could be
2 that people had gone up to the upper deck before me, it
3 could well be.

4 Q. Let me see if I can help you. It's a two-decker bus.
5 There were plainly a large number of people on the top
6 deck at the time of the explosion. To repeat your own
7 account, by the time you got there, there wasn't anyone,
8 on your observation, still at the top deck?

9 A. No.

10 Q. So they must have made their way out somehow?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. My Lady will remember the evidence of PC Walker on
13 18 January and PC Mitchell on 19 January.

14 As far as you're concerned, you don't know those
15 officers, but they may have been on that bus assisting
16 before you?

17 A. They may have been on the upper deck, they could well
18 have been.

19 Q. Now, secondly and finally, in relation to the secondary
20 device, clearly you were an officer with specialist
21 training, but there are two features about it, aren't
22 there? The first, which you just mentioned a minute or
23 two ago, is that, being the first device detonated in
24 this country having a base charge of hydrogen peroxide,
25 it was, for that very reason, beyond the training of

1 your explosive detection dog or any explosive detection
2 dog to find traces of hydrogen peroxide explosives?
3 A. Yes, peroxide explosive, TATP or HMTD, which are the two
4 we know about, it had never been part of our training,
5 we had sort of trained traditionally on the home-made
6 explosives, ammonium nitrate sugars or plastic
7 explosives, TNT, nitroglycerines, but the main types
8 with the dogs, at that stage -- it's different now -- at
9 that stage, were not capable of finding peroxide
10 explosive.
11 Q. So it would follow from that that, whatever your dog did
12 or did not demonstrate to you, you used the phrase
13 "I can't guarantee that it is clear", when talking to
14 the LFB officers a minute or two later?
15 A. No, it's -- it's quite important that the dog, the
16 search dog, is an indicator, and in any high risk or low
17 risk search that we do, the dog is purely looked at as
18 an indication tool.
19 Somebody can put out 100 grammes of Semtex on
20 a training exercise and the dog will find it. However,
21 we never take that for granted and we would be followed
22 up by a counter-terrorist search team. So on the day,
23 for me to have said to those LFB officers, "It's
24 completely safe, get in here and help me", wouldn't have
25 been right. I can only say, you know, "At the moment

1 I can't guarantee your safety".

2 Q. All right. So it follows, does it, that it was
3 a difficult judgment, but there and then, you did
4 everything that you felt you could do?

5 A. I did -- yes, I don't think I could have done any more,
6 I did everything I could.

7 MR HILL: Thank you.

8 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Hesketh, it looks as if those are
9 all the questions that we have for you. You were doing
10 a dangerous job in July 2005. By the sounds of it,
11 you're still doing a dangerous job trying to prevent the
12 kind of tragedy with which, sadly, we are concerned.
13 You commended the bravery of the firefighters with whom
14 you worked. May I commend your bravery and the fact
15 that you took so much to heart that your number 1
16 priority was to save lives? Thank you.

17 A. Thank you, my Lady.

18 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Yes, Mr O'Connor?

19 MR ANDREW O'CONNOR: My Lady, I wonder if I suggest we might
20 have a short break now before Mr Keith embarks on
21 Mr Sparks' evidence?

22 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Certainly.

23 MR SAUNDERS: Can I just mention my Lady, that I know myself
24 and, I think, Ms Gallagher are not going to remain. No
25 discourtesy is intended to anyone, but we have matters

1 we're looking at in terms of Thursday, so we want to --

2 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Certainly. Ms Gallagher, could you
3 make sure that, before you go, you've either spoken to
4 Mr Suter or -- I don't think Mr Smith is still here, but
5 there was a matter I wanted -- I don't know if you've
6 actually --

7 MS GALLAGHER: Yes, I'm alert to it and, indeed, you'll have
8 seen that the individual is in court, so I'm hoping to
9 take instructions over the break. I may then be able to
10 address you briefly to clarify matters and then myself
11 and Mr Saunders will leave, with your leave, my Lady.

12 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you very much.

13 MS GALLAGHER: Thank you.

14 (11.24 am)

15 (A short break)

16 (11.40 am)

17 MR KEITH: As my Lady knows, there have been references to
18 these proceedings in the course of this morning's press
19 and I know that my learned friend Ms Gallagher wishes to
20 say something about that.

21 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Ms Gallagher?

22 MS GALLAGHER: Thank you, my Lady. In particular, the
23 article in question is in The Guardian about the
24 Al-Qaeda "supergrass", as he's referred to in the
25 newspaper article. There are just two matters I need to

1 address you on, my Lady.

2 The first is to confirm that, despite any suggestion
3 to the contrary in that article, I have no instructions
4 from any of my client families, and I don't believe any
5 of the other bereaved families have instructed their
6 solicitors, to seek an adjournment of these proceedings.
7 Mr Graham Foulkes, who's quoted in the article and who's
8 in court today, as with other families, remains
9 extremely anxious that the issue of preventability be
10 addressed. It's of huge importance to the families,
11 we're very conscious that is scheduled to start on
12 Monday and there are absolutely no instructions to make
13 an application to derail that timetable.

14 It's important to clarify it in public, my Lady,
15 because we recognise that there shouldn't be mixed
16 messages given where the impression is that one message
17 has been given in one forum and another message has been
18 given in the formal atmosphere of the court, but also,
19 none of the bereaved families want, after this very
20 thorough process, there to be accusations of whitewash
21 or that issues weren't fully explored.

22 So the first and most important thing is to confirm
23 that I've no instructions from Mr Foulkes or anyone else
24 to seek an adjournment and we're fully expecting
25 preventability to go ahead next week.

1 The second issue which I need to raise just relates
2 to the precise quote, and just some clarification in
3 respect of that.

4 The quote itself, my Lady, from Mr Foulkes, is on
5 page 6 of The Guardian and it probably would be sensible
6 for me to read it in full and then place it in context.

7 The quote which we assume may have caused some
8 concern, is this -- it's after Mr Foulkes refers to his
9 belief that the Foreign Secretary should meet the
10 families and that he has a duty to intervene. He then
11 says:

12 "You can never describe how losing your son in such
13 circumstances feels. To know that it was at least
14 potentially preventable, if the Americans had been more
15 cooperative with sharing this information, really is
16 very sickening. We should consider suspending the
17 inquest because the scope is too narrow to deal with
18 this alarming new information."

19 So very understandably upset, Mr Foulkes gave that
20 quote having seen some documents which caused him some
21 alarm, which are referred to in the article but not
22 described in full. He's asked me to make clear that his
23 concern is not that scope is too narrow and, indeed, the
24 scope ruling fully encompasses the issue of
25 preventability and it's going to be explored next week,

1 but what he does want to ensure is that the inquest has
2 all relevant information and is in a position to fully
3 explore this issue, including the potentially new
4 information referred to in the article and the material
5 that he's seen.

6 Mr Foulkes is, of course, aware that there are PII
7 materials which we haven't seen. It may be that this
8 wasn't a new issue to the Inquest team and to you,
9 my Lady. It may be that this is covered in bundle A and
10 bundle B, which the legal teams and the families haven't
11 seen. But Mr Foulkes' concern is this: he wishes to
12 ensure that the Security Services give a clear statement
13 to the inquest: (a) that they're not aware of any basis
14 for the suggestion that Babar had been an informant for
15 the authorities for any country prior to his detention
16 in New York City in April 2004; and (b) that they've
17 provided to the Inquest team and the coroner all
18 information which they have in respect of Babar and
19 US/UK communications in respect of him, and Mr Foulkes'
20 comment to the press --

21 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: As relevant to these proceedings.

22 MS GALLAGHER: Precisely.

23 Mr Foulkes' comment to the press was intended to
24 suggest that, if the Inquest team didn't have those
25 assurances, then suspension might be required, and it's

1 an understandable and defensible comment which he made
2 at the time in those circumstances.
3 He's asked me to reiterate to you, my Lady, that he
4 has absolute confidence and respect for you and for the
5 Inquest team, and for the disclosure process. We
6 haven't seen anything to indicate that the disclosure
7 process has been undermined, but I have been asked to
8 raise those two issues in order to ensure that
9 preventability is fully explored next week as the
10 families want and, indeed, my Lady, as you want.
11 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Indeed.
12 MS GALLAGHER: I hope that assists.
13 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you very much.
14 MR KEITH: My Lady knows that one of the provisional issues
15 identified in my Lady's ruling of last year was
16 number 12, the lives of the four men prior to 7 July --
17 the ruling that my Lady gave last year identified at
18 point 12 a particular issue headed "The Backgrounds of
19 Khan, Tanweer, Hussain and Lindsay" as follows: the
20 lives of the four men prior to 7 July 2005, upbringing,
21 education, radicalisation, association, overseas travel,
22 expression of extremist beliefs, et cetera.
23 My Lady directed, following the service upon the
24 interested persons in these proceedings of background
25 reports detailing the background of each of the four

1 men, that that material be given in these proceedings by
2 way of evidence through a senior police officer and thus
3 as hearsay evidence.

4 Hearsay evidence is permitted, of course, by the
5 relevant coronial rules and, in those circumstances, the
6 Metropolitan Police, acting as your coroner's officers,
7 have made available Acting Detective Inspector
8 Peter Sparks to give evidence of hearsay as to the fruit
9 of the enquiries and the investigations that the
10 Metropolitan Police carried out into the four men during
11 Operation Theseus, the investigation into the events of
12 7 July.

13 So may I, without foreword, invite you to call him?

14 MR SAUNDERS: May you excuse us before Mr Sparks is called?

15 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Of course.

16 MR SAUNDERS: Thank you, my Lady.

17 ACTING DETECTIVE INSPECTOR PETER SPARKS (sworn)

18 Questions by MR KEITH

19 A. Good morning, my Lady.

20 MR KEITH: Good morning, officer. Could you give the court
21 your full name, please?

22 A. It's Peter Sparks.

23 Q. Mr Sparks, this is an important area of evidence. Read
24 nothing into the fact that the court has emptied prior
25 to you coming into the witness-box.

1 You have spent a great deal of time, have you not,
2 in reminding yourself, on behalf of the Operation Ramus
3 team, the team of Metropolitan Police officers who have
4 assisted my Lady in the compilation of material for
5 these proceedings, in all the investigative material and
6 the evidence that was assembled by the investigating
7 team?

8 A. That's correct, yes.

9 Q. Put together by the Metropolitan Police for the purposes
10 of the investigation into the 7 July bombs?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. During the course of the investigation after 7 July,
13 were many thousands of statements taken from potentially
14 relevant witnesses and many thousands of exhibits
15 assembled?

16 A. That's right, just over 30,000 statements and 50,000-odd
17 exhibits.

18 Q. Could I invite you to keep your voice up?

19 A. Over 30,000 statements and 50,000 exhibits, yes.

20 Q. Within the limits of these proceedings, and in
21 accordance with the rulings on relevancy and disclosure
22 that my Lady gave, have those materials been gone
23 through again, scoured again, in order to extract
24 material relevant to the issues in these inquests?

25 A. Yes, my Lady, yes.

1 Q. Your fellow officers prepared four background reports
2 in June of last year, did they not?

3 A. They did, yes.

4 Q. Those reports drew upon the underlying statements and
5 exhibits to which you've referred?

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. Have you been through those background reports as well
8 to remind yourself of what the material demonstrated?

9 A. Yes, I have.

10 Q. All right. Could we start, then, please, with
11 Mohammed Sidique Khan, whose background report is at
12 INQ9171, and turn to the first page of that report?
13 After the summary, the first page entitled "Family
14 Background and Early Life", it's actually at page 6 of
15 the INQ document.

16 Dealing, firstly, with his family circumstances, is
17 this the position: that his father came to the
18 United Kingdom in 1962, but I think was married in
19 Pakistan in 1967, and then both his parents returned to
20 the United Kingdom where they settled?

21 A. That's correct, yes.

22 Q. He, himself, was born on 20 October 1974, which is set
23 out at paragraph 3.1 of this background report. Is that
24 right?

25 A. Yes, that's correct.

1 Q. Where was his family residency initially?

2 A. Initially, they lived in Blackman Road in Leeds up until
3 1984 when they moved to Stratford Street.

4 Q. Having moved -- and I think around that time, then, Khan
5 himself would have been about 10 -- did Khan attend the
6 Matthew Murray High School?

7 A. He did, yes.

8 Q. I may have misheard you. I think you said
9 Stratford Street?

10 A. Stratford Street.

11 Q. Stratford Street, yes. Were witness statements taken
12 from a variety of people who attended
13 Matthew Murray High School during the course of the
14 investigation, and you've seen those statements as well?

15 A. Yes, yes, I have, my Lady.

16 Q. Does the material give any idea or any understanding of
17 the religious outlook of Mohammed Sidique Khan's family?

18 A. They were obviously brought up in a Muslim -- in the
19 Muslim faith. I think their family encouraged him to
20 take prayers and suchlike, but they weren't forced into
21 it. Mohammed Sidique Khan tended to be more religious
22 than the others, according to his family, and he took to
23 the religion more than the rest of the family.

24 Q. The family followed the Sunni creed. Is that correct?

25 A. That's correct, yes.

1 Q. I think they attended prayers, certainly together as
2 a family, at the mosque in Hardy Street?

3 A. That's correct, yes.

4 Q. We'll hear more of the mosque in Hardy Street in due
5 course. After school, paragraph 3.6, was he employed by
6 the benefit agency?

7 A. That's correct, yes.

8 Q. What job did he do?

9 A. He worked in administration in the benefit agency.

10 Q. Then, after that?

11 A. He had a number of roles within administration. Then he
12 subsequently became a learning mentor at Hillside
13 Primary School. That was in 2001.

14 Q. Before then, he had, we can see from your paragraph 3.8,
15 been employed by Leeds Council as a youth worker. Is
16 that right?

17 A. Yes, it was his experience as a youth worker that led
18 him to go and work in the school.

19 Q. His role as a youth worker also led him, did it not, to
20 become associated with the youth work that was carried
21 out initially in the basement at the Hardy Street
22 mosque; is that right?

23 A. That's correct, yes.

24 Q. Do you know, from the material that you've looked at, in
25 what way he was instrumental in setting up the

1 organisation in the basement of the Hardy Street mosque?

2 A. He was basically one of the leaders in organising trips
3 for the local children, activities out in the country
4 and stuff like that, and him, amongst others as well,
5 was basically a mentor, really, for the youngsters
6 coming into the mosque, and he was very much looked up
7 to by the local children.

8 Q. Was he concerned in obtaining a grant or did he help in
9 the obtaining of a grant, to allow the youth centre in
10 the basement of the mosque to function?

11 A. He did, yes, including a gymnasium, yes.

12 Q. Was that gym, as it subsequently became, in the basement
13 of Hardy Street, also frequented by any of the men who
14 became his co-conspirators and murderers on 7 July?

15 A. Yes, indeed. Both Shehzad Tanweer and Hasib Hussain
16 went on to use Hardy Street mosque and the gym in
17 particular.

18 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Can I just check that people at the
19 back can hear? Just about? I thought so. I was
20 watching them following the screen and that usually
21 means, Mr Sparks, that people are having difficulty
22 hearing. So, to save them having to follow the screen
23 quite so intently, if you could speak up. Thank you.

24 MR KEITH: Was Shehzad Tanweer known by any other name --

25 A. Yes, his dad --

1 Q. -- in those early years?

2 A. His dad, from a very young age, named him as Kaka.

3 Q. Or Kaki, I think?

4 A. Yes, Kaki, Kaka, yes. That was from quite a young age
5 and he was known locally as Kaki.

6 Q. Paragraph 3.12 of the background report, details how
7 Khan's interest in religion began to grow, particularly
8 after 1997.

9 Were there any indications in the witness statements
10 as to his increased interest in a particular sect, the
11 Wahabi sect, which is considered extremist by most Sunni
12 and Shia Muslims.

13 A. That's correct. Mohammed Khan, who was his brother,
14 they spoke quite at length about which sort of schools
15 of Islam that they should be following, and
16 Mohammed Sidique Khan -- his brother thought he was sort
17 of testing the waters, because he spoke about a group
18 called Al-Muhajiroun, who's a very well-known extremist
19 group, and his brother tried to dissuade him from going
20 along this line, and that's the way he thought he was
21 going, his brother, but he tried to dissuade him from
22 going along that line of the extremist.

23 Q. For those of us who aren't familiar with the details of
24 the Al-Muhajiroun group, it was an extremist
25 organisation that was assessed, was it not, to have been

1 led by a notable extremist called Omar Bakri. Is that
2 correct?

3 A. That's correct, yes.

4 Q. And came to public prominence for distributing hateful
5 and inflammatory literature in the early 2000s?

6 A. That's correct, yes, my Lady.

7 Q. Was it connected in fact with the extremist preacher
8 Abu Hamza, in terms of the funding that it provided to
9 him?

10 A. Yes, my Lady, yes.

11 Q. Did it subsequently become a proscribed organisation
12 under the Terrorism Act 2000?

13 A. Yes, it did.

14 Q. Did his brother, or any other of his friends at that
15 time, express concern that there were groups such as the
16 Al-Muhajiroun who were attempting to attract young
17 Muslim youths into their number?

18 A. Not particularly, you know, through the Hardy Street
19 mosque. In fact, a lot of the people who he worked with
20 in Hardy Street mosque said that he was a very, very
21 nice young man and all the young youths looked up to
22 him, not because he was extremist, but because he was
23 just a nice man and very well-respected.

24 Q. Did there come a time when Khan and Tanweer started
25 attending a different mosque in Stratford Street --

1 A. That's correct.

2 Q. -- and then another mosque after that called the
3 Madina mosque?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. So there appears to be some indication of the moving
6 away, in their doctrinal outlook, from their respective
7 families?

8 A. That's correct.

9 Q. In general terms, did it seem, from the evidence that
10 you've seen, that Khan began to take a global view of
11 religion more seriously, that he appeared to be more
12 concerned with the apparent plight of Muslims worldwide
13 and with what were then regarded as fraught political
14 and religious issues worldwide?

15 A. Yes, I think it was sort of towards 2001, that sort of
16 time, where it was noted that he'd sort of changed his
17 outlook, he was more -- becoming more religious, was the
18 way it was described generally.

19 Q. Paragraph 3.14, in 2000, did he join Leeds Metropolitan
20 University?

21 A. He did, yes.

22 Q. Do you know what he studied there?

23 A. I do, but I haven't got it to hand, I'm afraid.

24 Q. Did he obtain a degree, a BA degree in business
25 management?

1 A. It was business management, yes.

2 Q. I think around the same time, he began working as an
3 administrator at the Leeds Benefits Service as well?

4 A. That's correct, yes.

5 Q. Around that time -- and this will become relevant for
6 preventability -- was he living at 99 Stratford Street?

7 A. Yes, he was.

8 Q. Have you seen in the documentation assembled by your
9 colleagues a reference to that address in July 2000,
10 when a car that he was driving was stopped and it was
11 shown that he had no valid licence?

12 A. Yes, sir, that's correct.

13 Q. Then he began employment as a learning mentor at
14 Hillside Primary School in Beeston on 8 March 2001. Is
15 that right?

16 A. That's correct, yes.

17 Q. Looking at paragraphs 4.1 onwards of the background
18 report, what was the general view of the children and
19 staff of Khan at the Hillside Primary School?

20 A. I mean, the staff -- initially, they basically said he
21 was very impressive, it was what the -- he was
22 well-thought of and liked by the children, parents and
23 the staff. If I remember rightly, there were some
24 single-parent families and he was almost like a father
25 figure to them, that's the way it was described.

1 Q. Was the headmistress asked by the police as to whether
2 or not he'd given any indication of any extremist views?

3 A. She was, and she had no inkling at all or had witnessed
4 nothing to suggest that.

5 Q. Reference was made, was there not, to one particular
6 incident when he invited a speaker into the school --

7 A. That's correct.

8 Q. -- whose views I think were described as being fairly
9 strong?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. But there was nothing that engaged a genuine concern on
12 the part of the staff?

13 A. Not at all. I think the lady said that the -- they were
14 doing some religious studies, they wanted to talk about
15 the Koran, so Mr Khan invited -- or suggested that he
16 had a colleague who could come in and talk about that,
17 and he did, and that's when the staff said he was fairly
18 strong in his views, the colleague, rather than Khan.

19 Q. But it was not something that led to any official action
20 being taken?

21 A. No, no.

22 Q. But at paragraph 4.3 of the background report, with
23 reference to the evidence of a teacher at the school, in
24 the last three or four lines there is a reference to
25 a change in his behaviour. In essence, how did his

1 appearance appear to have changed? In what ways did he
2 change?

3 A. This was one of his fellow learning mentors and she
4 basically said it was from about 2001 that he used to
5 give her a lift home before, and he stopped giving her
6 a lift home, he wouldn't be happy in company with her on
7 his own. There were letters that used to come addressed
8 to both her and Mr Khan and, unbeknown to her, he would
9 have opened them and dealt with them prior to even
10 speaking to her about it, and it was like his attitude
11 towards her had changed drastically around 2001.

12 Q. At some point after that, was there an incident
13 subsequently reported to the police after 7/7 when
14 a pupil at the school told the police that, in the
15 course of the mentoring that Khan was carrying out at
16 the school, he, the pupil, became quite close to
17 Mohammed Sidique Khan and they began to discuss
18 religious matters and Khan would take him round to meet
19 his associates and his friends and endeavour to interest
20 him in the Muslim faith?

21 A. That's correct, yes.

22 Q. In the course of that association, Khan said something
23 that was obviously of some concern to the pupil --
24 because he recalled it years later -- about his views on
25 what people had apparently done in Pakistan.

1 A. Yes, yes.

2 Q. What was that, Officer?

3 A. Basically, the guy who -- he basically -- Khan had tried
4 to persuade him on numerous occasions to convert to
5 Islam, and there was one occasion where there were
6 a number of people around -- in fact, when the young lad
7 had been taken to a bookshop that Khan had used, and we
8 believe that to be the Iqra bookshop, and while they
9 were there, Khan expressed the view that people would
10 "pay", in inverted commas, pay for what they'd done to
11 Pakistan.

12 Q. Jumping forward to the end of his employment at the
13 Hillside school, he started becoming increasingly absent
14 from school towards the end of 2004?

15 A. That's correct, yes.

16 Q. I think he was absent from work from 13 September, on
17 the basis, initially, that his father had fallen ill?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Then, subsequently, that he, himself, was depressed?

20 A. Correct, yes.

21 Q. Was a series of sick notes submitted by him to the
22 school?

23 A. That's correct, they were, yes.

24 Q. Then, eventually, how did he come to leave?

25 A. The headmistress basically had a letter from Mr Khan

1 stating that, due to the fact that his father was ill,
2 he needed to return to Pakistan, he was going to go with
3 him and, therefore, he resigned from the employment, and
4 the deputy head confirmed this and also, later on, from
5 one of Mr Khan's computers, there was, in fact, on the
6 computer, a copy of a letter which was probably the same
7 letter that was spoken about, a resignation letter.

8 Q. The resignation letter?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Also on the computer found at the school were accounts
11 relating to the Iqra bookshop from about February 2002
12 onwards. Is that right?

13 A. That's correct, yes.

14 Q. Also minutes relating to the affairs of the Iqra
15 bookshop from about April 2002 onwards?

16 A. Correct, sir, yes.

17 Q. So it appeared that Mohammed Sidique Khan had been using
18 the computer at school to prepare official documentation
19 relating to the management of the Iqra bookshop?

20 A. Correct, sir, yes.

21 Q. All right. Coming back to the chronology in 2000/2001,
22 paragraph 4.5 of the background report, his passport
23 subsequently examined by the police showed that he'd
24 travelled to Pakistan in July. Is that right?

25 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

1 Q. How long did he stay there for?

2 A. He stayed until 4 September, the same year.

3 Q. During the course of the subsequent criminal proceedings

4 into the events of 7 July, the Waheed Ali trial, the

5 Theseus trial, was evidence given to the effect that

6 Khan had indeed travelled to Pakistan in 2001 and that

7 he'd done so with another man, Waheed Ali, and that

8 Waheed Ali had himself received terrorist training when

9 he was there?

10 A. I'm not sure if that was the 2001 trip. There was also

11 one in 2003 as well.

12 Q. There was, indeed, another trip in 2003. Will you take

13 it from me for the moment --

14 A. Yes, sir, I will.

15 Q. I'll be corrected if I'm wrong in that regard.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Then moving forward to October 2001, he married

18 Hasina Patel?

19 A. He did, sir.

20 Q. Where did that marriage take place, do you know?

21 A. Yes, I do. It was at the Pakistani Kashmiri Welfare

22 Association in Batley and it was on 22 October 2001.

23 Q. Then moving forward to 2002/2003, police took

24 a statement, after 7 July 2005, from a young man who was

25 brought up likewise in the locality and who was familiar

1 with the Hardy Street gym and the Iqra bookshop.
2 Did he recount, Mr Sparks, as to how there appeared
3 to have been some sort of rift in the management of the
4 Hardy Street mosque gym in 2002 and a group of
5 individuals decided to open the bookshop, the Iqra
6 bookshop?

7 A. That's correct, yes.

8 Q. In general terms, what was the Iqra bookshop, what were
9 its functions?

10 A. I don't know a great deal about it, because I've never
11 visited it, but from my understanding, it was somewhere
12 you where you could go and purchase books all relating
13 to Islam. I believe there were some computers in there
14 that people could go online and do some computer work,
15 and generally, it was a meeting house where people could
16 go, talk about Islam, and generally have, you know,
17 meetings about that, general -- a meeting place is the
18 best way I can describe it, as well as being a bookshop.

19 Q. All right, thank you very much. We're going to explore
20 the Iqra bookshop, with my Lady's permission, for
21 a moment or two, because it forms a prominent position
22 in the issue of preventability next week.

23 Could we perhaps look at the map that we have in our
24 core bundle, [INQ10105-5]?

25 We can see there on the right-hand side of the map

1 the Iqra bookshop and the address was 49A Bude Road, was
2 it not, in Beeston?

3 A. That's correct, yes.

4 Q. 99 Stratford Street, where Khan was living at that time,
5 we can see just adjacent to it, the Al-Madina mosque
6 which was the mosque to which you made reference
7 earlier --

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. -- to which he moved, is also in the near locality and
10 then we can also see there, can we not, the Hamara
11 Healthy Living Centre in Tempest Road?

12 A. That's correct, yes.

13 Q. Tempest Road will also gain prominence next week as
14 well.

15 The two redacted addresses are the addresses, are
16 they not, of two of the 7/7 conspirators, but the names
17 have been -- the addresses have been redacted because
18 members of the families still live there?

19 A. That's correct, yes.

20 Q. There were concerns expressed in the witness statements
21 assembled by the police after 7/7 that the bookshop had
22 become overly focused on the Wahabi sect to which you
23 made reference earlier.

24 A. Yes, sir.

25 Q. Did it seem to the police afterwards that Khan's beliefs

1 were known at all in the neighbourhood in which he lived
2 in Beeston or not? Were there any references to people
3 gaining any understanding that his beliefs were becoming
4 more extremist?

5 A. Not on the strength of it. The -- there was obviously
6 a close-knit community within Beeston generally, but
7 also definitely within, you know, his group of friends
8 and stuff like that. I mean, there was all sorts of
9 rumours going about it being radicalising from there,
10 but the police found no evidence of that.

11 Q. At paragraph 4.10, your colleagues point to the fact
12 that there were regular payments made by Khan to Iqra.
13 What dates do they span, do you know, those payments?

14 A. Sorry, sir, I haven't got that information.

15 Q. You haven't got that information there?

16 A. Sorry.

17 Q. Will you take it from me it was between July 2002
18 and February 2003?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Did police also find, after 7/7, a document which showed
21 that there had been a meeting, a special general
22 meeting, at the Iqra bookshop in January of 2003?

23 A. Yes, sir.

24 Q. Is that the meeting of 19 January to which your
25 colleagues make reference?

1 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

2 Q. Could we have that, please, on the screen, or rather the
3 document prepared from the meetings, INQ9370 [INQ9370-2]?

4 We can see it's a charity declaration by those who

5 purport to become the trustees of that particular

6 charity, and we can see halfway down the page,

7 Detective Inspector, Iqra and the number of charity

8 trustees, six?

9 A. That's correct, yes.

10 Q. Then over the page [INQ9370-3], please, the trustees who proposed to

11 join the organisation are there listed, or rather the

12 first three of them are listed. The first one,

13 Naveed Khan. Naveed Khan was neither arrested nor

14 charged in relation to the investigation into 7/7, was

15 he?

16 A. I think Naveed Khan is probably the same person as

17 Naveed Fiaz, and he was arrested initially, but

18 released.

19 Q. But not charged?

20 A. That's correct.

21 Q. Thank you. Then we have a reference to a man called

22 Tafazal Mohammed --

23 A. Yes, that's correct.

24 Q. -- whose name will be further explored next week.

25 But he had certainly come to the attention, in 2003,

1 of West Yorkshire Police who had been investigating an
2 associate around that time.
3 A. I can't comment on West Yorkshire Police.
4 Q. You can't comment on that?
5 A. No.
6 Q. Further down the page, we have there Sidique Khan. That
7 is Mohammed Sidique Khan, is it not?
8 A. That's correct, yes.
9 Q. Then, over the page [INQ9370-4], Sadeer Saleem?
10 A. Yes.
11 Q. Did Sadeer Saleem stand trial subsequently in Theseus --
12 A. He did, sir, yes.
13 Q. -- for the allegation that he had conspired with Khan,
14 Tanweer, Hussain and Lindsay?
15 A. That's correct, sir, yes.
16 Q. But was acquitted of that allegation?
17 A. He was acquitted, yes.
18 Q. Shipon Ullah, the next one, also known as Waheed Ali,
19 did he also stand trial in Theseus but was acquitted?
20 A. Yes, sir, that's correct.
21 Q. Was his address Tempest Road in Leeds?
22 A. Yes.
23 Q. Then over the page, please, on page 7 [INQ9370-7], we can see there
24 names and addresses of trustees. Five or six of them
25 we've already addressed. The additional trustees

1 included Khalid Khaliq, did he also live in
2 Tempest Road?

3 A. Yes, at one time, sir, yes.

4 Q. We can also see there Shehzad Tanweer?

5 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

6 Q. All right. The address of 49A Bude Road, which we see
7 at the top of the page there, was the address given, was
8 it not, by Khan when registering a phone?

9 A. Yes, sir, it was.

10 Q. Because the Intelligence and Security Committee report
11 into these matters showed or stated, rather, that
12 Mohammed Sidique Khan had registered a phone to the
13 address of 49A Bude Road and that particular phone had
14 made a call to or, rather, received a call from, a man
15 called Mohammed Qayum Khan in July 2003?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. So there was a further link to the Iqra bookshop?

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. Were you aware, or are you aware now, rather, that
20 West Yorkshire Police carried out enquiries into the
21 Iqra bookshop in December 2003?

22 A. I am aware that the West Yorkshire Police have carried
23 out some enquiries, yes, sir.

24 Q. Perhaps we could simply look at the gist relating to
25 that, which is at West Yorkshire Police, [WYP11-2].

1 Paragraph 13 and 14. 14 in particular, at the bottom of
2 the page:

3 "The West Yorkshire Police conducted further
4 enquiries into the Iqra bookshop in December 2003."

5 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Just before we move on, Mr Keith,
6 I wonder if anybody has at their fingertips the
7 offences, if any, of which some of those trustees were
8 convicted.

9 Waheed Ali was convicted of?

10 MR KEITH: Of conspiring to attend a terrorist training
11 camp.

12 A. Correct, yes.

13 Q. Arising out of the fact that -- I think the evidence
14 showed that he was on the way to attend one when he was
15 arrested?

16 A. When he was arrested, sir, that's correct.

17 Q. In 2007, but I think there was a second conviction as
18 well for one of the co-accused. It was the same matter
19 and it was Shakil --

20 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: So Sadeer Saleem --

21 MR KEITH: -- and Mohammed Shakil were both convicted of --

22 A. No, Sadeer Saleem was acquitted of everything. Shakil
23 and Shipon Ullah or Waheed Ali were convicted of the
24 travelling to Pakistan to commit terrorist training.

25 MR KEITH: Yes, and Khalid Khaliq was charged with three

1 accounts of offences under section 58 of the Terrorism
2 Act 2000 relating to possession of material which
3 infringed that provision and was convicted of one of
4 those charges relating to a CD containing Al-Qaeda
5 training material.

6 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you very much. Thank you,
7 Mr Suter.

8 MR KEITH: After the events on 7 July 2005, was a search
9 warrant executed at the Iqra bookshop by the
10 West Yorkshire Police?

11 A. Yes, it was.

12 Q. In summary, was a large quantity of written publications
13 and computer equipment seized?

14 A. Yes, it was, yes.

15 Q. But nothing in the documents and the material that was
16 seized led to any charges arising out of that search?

17 A. That's correct.

18 Q. But later Khalid Khaliq, who had been associated with
19 the Iqra bookshop, was again searched or, rather, his
20 premises was searched, and further material then came to
21 light which led to the charge of which he was convicted,
22 of possessing terrorist-related material?

23 A. That's correct, yes.

24 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Sorry to ask again, just so I get the
25 dates, the declaration you showed me, as far as the

1 charity submissions, was January 2003?

2 MR KEITH: 19 January 2003.

3 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Do we know when it was formally
4 recognised as a charity, roughly? Within 2003, do you
5 think?

6 MR KEITH: It was started at the end of 2002. We don't have
7 the document that shows when it was first formally
8 applied for because that was an application for it to
9 join -- or for further trustees to be joined. But there
10 is a further report, which is not yet in the public
11 domain, from a body which investigated, but I don't
12 think -- oh, it does have -- I'm very grateful to
13 Mr Suter.

14 It was registered on 14 February 2003 pursuant to
15 a document prior to that date which was the document of
16 19 January which amended its list of trustees.
17 So when it actually first commenced is not entirely
18 clear.

19 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: But registered as
20 a charity February 2003?

21 MR KEITH: Formally registered on 14 February.

22 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you.

23 MR KEITH: But it's rather curious because the document
24 refers to existing trustees, so I don't know for what
25 purpose they originally joined.

1 The account in the background report then continues.

2 Paragraph 4.12, please, Mr Sparks.

3 Around this time -- that's to say at the beginning
4 of 2003 -- was Khan absent from school in order to
5 perform Haj in Saudi Arabia?

6 A. He was, yes, that's correct.

7 Q. That absence correlates with stamps in his passport?

8 A. Correct, yes.

9 Q. Paragraph 4.14, is there reference there to a camping
10 trip which was carried out in April 2003 --

11 A. That's correct, yes.

12 Q. -- the arrangements for which were also found on
13 documents typed up on files on his computer at the
14 primary school?

15 A. Yes, sir, yes.

16 Q. Then, at paragraph 4.15, the background report turns to
17 the question of his travel to Pakistan with
18 Mohammed Shakil between July and August 2003?

19 A. That's correct, yes, sir.

20 Q. I don't think I need trouble you with the actual details
21 of the bookings, but in general terms, was this the
22 travel to Pakistan of which Mohammed Shakil spoke in the
23 course of the trial, the Theseus trial, in 2008?

24 A. Yes, sir, that's correct.

25 Q. He made an admission to the effect that he had travelled

1 to Pakistan with Khan for the purposes of attending
2 a terrorist training camp?

3 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

4 Q. Was it that trip which gave rise to the use by Khan and
5 Shakil of the two pseudonyms "Ibrahim" and "Zubair"?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. Was that the trip during which they met Omar Khyam, also
8 known as Ausman, who was later convicted of involvement
9 in the Crevice plot?

10 A. That's correct, yes.

11 Q. Do you, at paragraph 4.17, also refer to a man called
12 Mohammed Babar?

13 A. Yes, sir, that's correct.

14 Q. Mohammed Babar, in essence -- we'll hear more about this
15 next week and so --

16 MR HILL: I'm extremely sorry to interrupt, I've been
17 hovering on the edge of my seat -- you know how
18 protective I am of every officer, my Lady, in the team.
19 We, as a team, can I just take the opportunity of
20 saying, had a level of understanding as to the topics
21 that DI Sparks, a very experienced member of the Ramus
22 team as he is, was to cover and, more importantly, we
23 had an understanding of certain topics, important to
24 your proceedings, which are not to be covered by this
25 officer, but are to be covered by the detective chief

1 superintendent, Mr McKenna, who's yet to come. I was
2 hovering and wondering whether to get to my feet when we
3 went into so much detail over the Iqra bookshop. I can
4 assure that you there's a section in the report being
5 prepared for Mr McKenna which deals with that.

6 Babar is another topic, the second that we've come
7 to, that is expressly to be dealt with by the Chief
8 Superintendent, and although Mr Sparks, given his
9 detailed knowledge and dedication to the team is doing
10 valiantly, I'm very concerned that not all the questions
11 that he's being asked are those for which he was
12 specifically prepared.

13 He can speak for himself, but it seems to us, at
14 this side of the court, that we would be much happier if
15 it is possible to hold him to the topics which Mr Keith
16 very carefully and precisely set out for this officer's
17 attention and which he's prepared and which are the body
18 of the material in front of him?

19 I'm sorry if that sounds critical, but we had
20 understood there was a division of responsibility and
21 I don't want to ensure that we have a repeat of very
22 pertinent questions that my Lady asks where this
23 officer's not necessarily the right person to give
24 chapter and verse.

25 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: As I understood it, we were going

1 through -- are they reports prepared by Detective
2 Sergeant Challenger which has these issues dealt with?
3 MR KEITH: Yes, my Lady. Can I assist my learned friend?
4 He may, with the greatest of respect to him, have risen
5 prematurely.
6 The issue of Babar is trailed in the background
7 report. Indeed, as my Lady has just inferentially
8 observed, it's at paragraph 4.17. The reference to
9 Babar is, I think, contained in the list of issues for
10 Mr Sparks, but only in outline.
11 What I'm endeavouring to do is to set out a very
12 broad chronology so that one can see the overall
13 structure. One could spend many hours -- I rather fear
14 that we will -- debating the merits of the evidence that
15 was subsequently provided by Mr Babar next week, and
16 I have no intention of asking Mr Sparks about Babar in
17 any more detail than that which I have already asked
18 him, which is: was that the trip during which they met
19 a man who subsequently revealed himself to be
20 Mohammed Junaid Babar?
21 A. Yes, that's correct.
22 Q. That is something in the background report and
23 something, Mr Sparks, that you are aware of and able
24 deal with?
25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Any issues as to the precise nature of what Mr Babar
2 told the American authorities subsequently, is very much
3 a matter, I agree, for Witness G and for Mr McKenna at
4 the close of these proceedings.

5 Paragraph 4.18, the following paragraph after the
6 paragraph that makes reference to Mr Babar, refers to
7 a contact between Mohammed Sidique Khan and
8 Zurich Insurance informing them of a change of vehicle
9 on his motor insurance?

10 A. That's correct, yes.

11 Q. What was the car to which that contact related?

12 A. I'll just find that, sorry, sir.

13 Q. It's at paragraph 4.18 of the MSK background report.

14 A. Right, it was a Honda Civic, registration R480 CCA.

15 Q. The relevancy of that change, Mr Sparks, was this, was
16 it not, that subsequently the following year,
17 in February, and in particular on 2 February and
18 28 February, was that Honda Civic seen by surveillance
19 officers during the course of surveillance being
20 conducted in Crawley?

21 A. I'm sorry, that definitely is something that another
22 officer has prepared, so I can't answer that.

23 Q. All right, but it's certainly in the background report
24 and you've seen references to it there at
25 paragraphs 4.19 and 4.21?

1 A. That's correct, yes.

2 Q. Again, I'm only concerned just to set out the broad
3 chronology.

4 A. Okay.

5 Q. I won't, Mr Sparks, ask you about what the surveillance
6 officers saw exactly. At paragraph 4.23, there is
7 a reference there to a further car, a green
8 Vauxhall Corsa.

9 A. That's right, yes.

10 Q. What registration number did that have?

11 A. That's YB52 LUF.

12 Q. Did it appear from subsequent enquiries carried out by
13 the Metropolitan Police, after March 2004, that that was
14 a car provided by a car recovery firm called
15 Just Car Clinic?

16 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

17 Q. Did it seem that he had been provided with that car
18 whilst his own car, the Honda Civic, was being repaired?

19 A. That's correct, yes.

20 Q. At paragraph 4.22, there is a reference to an
21 application for an HSBC loan in the sum of £10,000.

22 A. Yes, sir.

23 Q. Do enquiries show whether or not that loan was approved?

24 A. It was, and the funds were drawn as well on
25 26 March 2004.

1 Q. Thank you very much. Then further down that page,
2 page 12 of the background report, paragraph 4.26, there
3 is a reference there to a change in his family
4 circumstances.

5 A. Yes, sir.

6 Q. Did his wife give birth to a daughter?

7 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

8 Q. The following paragraph refers to an event in July 2004,
9 and, in particular, the fact that Mr and Mrs Hussain,
10 the parents of Hasib Hussain, went abroad at that time,
11 in the summer of 2004?

12 A. They did, yes.

13 Q. Did a number of statements taken by the
14 Metropolitan Police show that, during that time, there
15 were a number of visits to the Hussain household by, in
16 particular, Mohammed Sidique Khan and Shehzad Tanweer?

17 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

18 Q. Was that noted by a member of the Hussain family, in
19 particular, Hasib Hussain's brother?

20 A. Yes, it was by his brother, yes.

21 Q. Was any information provided as to how many times they
22 gathered at the Hussain household, or the manner in
23 which they gathered?

24 A. They used to -- if I remember rightly, I mean I could
25 read the statement to you, but I do remember that they

1 used to pray well into the night and, in fact, the early
2 hours of the morning. That's what the brother
3 remembered; that they were praying for long hours into
4 the early hours of the morning.

5 Q. Thank you. Then over the page, paragraph 4.28, is there
6 a reference there to the manner in which Hussain, Khan
7 and Tanweer started attending karate classes at the
8 Hamara Centre in Beeston?

9 A. That's correct, yes, sir.

10 Q. Were the police able to ascertain as to when those
11 classes had started or when they ended?

12 A. They are in the record, sir, but I'm afraid I haven't
13 got them to hand.

14 Q. All right, the report shows that they stopped
15 in October 2004 and then resumed -- the classes stopped
16 in October 2004 and, when they resumed in November, the
17 three men had stopped attending?

18 A. That's correct, yes.

19 Q. Thank you very much. The report then turns to travel to
20 Pakistan, again only in outline, in November 2004.

21 A. That's correct, yes.

22 Q. Paragraph 5.3 refers to purchases made prior to Khan's
23 departure?

24 A. That's correct, yes.

25 Q. What did enquiries show, Mr Sparks?

1 A. It was in October of the same year that Khan's bank card
2 made purchases in a shop, the Blacks Camping Shop in
3 Leeds, and it was rucksack, thermal undergarments,
4 walking boots and other camping-type associated
5 equipment.

6 Q. Paragraph 5.4 refers to a home video?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. Did that home video, which was prepared by
9 Mohammed Sidique Khan, have a date on it or was it
10 possible to ascertain the date at any rate upon which
11 the video was filmed?

12 A. Yes, that's correct, sir. There were two videos in
13 fact, one of them was dated 26 October 2004, and we can
14 say from what was on the TV in the background that the
15 other video was on 15 November 2004.

16 Q. So he'd used his video camera or home video to make
17 a sequence of recordings --

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. -- which spanned at least those two dates?

20 A. That's correct.

21 Q. The second one, as you say, was ascertained to be that
22 particular date, I think it was 16 November, from
23 something in the background?

24 A. That's correct, it's from what was on the news on the TV
25 in the background.

1 Q. No, in fact, I'm mistaken, the 15th, not the 16th. I'm
2 mistaken, not you.

3 The early part of that recording, the recording that
4 related to 26 October, featured a number of people, did
5 it not?

6 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

7 Q. Who were they?

8 A. Shehzad Tanweer, Hasib Hussain and Shipon Ullah, who we
9 otherwise know as Waheed Ali.

10 Q. Who was the man who stood trial subsequently?

11 A. That's correct, yes.

12 Q. What was the significance of their appearance on that
13 video? Why had they appeared on the video, did it seem
14 to the police?

15 A. It was -- Khan appeared to be, in the context of the
16 video, introducing them to his daughter as their uncles,
17 and it was basically an introduction for the daughter to
18 what Khan referred to as her "uncles".

19 Q. The latter part of the video, on the second date,
20 16 November, was significant in another way.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. In what way was that significant?

23 A. Well, that -- the gist of that was he seemed to be
24 saying goodbye to his daughter, apparently forever.

25 Q. You'll be aware that parts of those video extracts will

1 be played in these proceedings tomorrow.

2 A. That's correct, yes.

3 Q. The story continues in this way, because following his
4 departure to Pakistan in November of 2004, he was
5 plainly in contact, was he not, with his wife,
6 Hasina Patel?

7 A. He was, sir.

8 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: I'm sorry, can we just go back on the
9 final agreement of the date of the second video?

10 MR KEITH: 16 November, my Lady, and then he left on the
11 18th. The 15th, sorry, not the 16th.

12 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: I thought you'd reverted to the 16th.

13 MR KEITH: I made the same mistake again, sorry.

14 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Definitely the 15th?

15 A. Yes, my Lady.

16 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: That's all right. I thought we had
17 reverted.

18 MR KEITH: There is some mitigation. The video, I now
19 recall, hence the error, spans, in fact, from the 15th
20 to the 16th?

21 A. That's correct.

22 Q. But the particular reference to "goodbye" is before
23 midnight, hence the 15th.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. He leaves on 18 November for Pakistan, and after, as

1 I say, his departure, he remains in contact with his
2 wife, Hasina Patel. After the events of 7 July, did her
3 diary, or a diary belonging to her, come to light?

4 A. Yes, it did, my Lady, yes.

5 Q. At paragraph 5.7, is there reference to the suggestions
6 in her diary that there had been some sort of change in
7 his plan, because it seemed that, unbeknownst to her, he
8 was now intending to come back to the United Kingdom?

9 A. That's correct, my Lady. On 25 November, she says
10 "S rang, good news", and then, on the 26th, "S rang,
11 good news, back by February" and it appeared that she
12 originally wasn't expecting to see him, but now he was
13 coming back again.

14 Q. Can you help us with this, Officer: was it possible for
15 the police, in the course of the investigation -- and if
16 you don't know the answer, please do say so -- to
17 ascertain where they went in Pakistan, or where they
18 went after their departure from the United Kingdom, at
19 that time? Were any statements taken from anybody in
20 Pakistan detailing their whereabouts or whom they had
21 visited?

22 A. Yes, we've got -- I mean, it's more Tanweer's family in
23 Pakistan, his --

24 Q. Were there two maternal uncles of Tanweer spoken to?

25 A. That's correct, yes. Obviously, we got the facts from

1 the passport, going in and out and stuff like that.

2 But -- I'll just go to the necessary bit. There were
3 two uncles, Taher Pervez and Hajji Mohammed were the two
4 uncles concerned.

5 If we just deal with Mohammed quickly, because he
6 only actually saw them for the last couple of days
7 before he took them back to the airport to come back to
8 the UK. That was in February.

9 Q. Is that paragraph 7.6 of the Tanweer report?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. So they were spoken to, but even taking their accounts
12 as being absolutely accurate --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- they weren't in a position to be able to account for
15 all the time that the two men must have been in
16 Pakistan?

17 A. No, Mr Pervez talks about them being -- or Tanweer being
18 at his house for a week or so, going off to a Madrassa
19 for a week, coming back for a week with Khan, and then
20 going off to the Madrassa again.

21 Q. They returned from Pakistan on 8 February, did they not,
22 2005?

23 A. That's correct, yes.

24 Q. Their activity on their return -- or, rather, Khan's
25 activity, in particular, on their return -- is set out

1 at paragraph 6.1 onwards in the background report,
2 page 16. During April 2005, were there repeated cash
3 withdrawals from a particular account that he had with
4 HBOS?

5 A. That's correct, yes.

6 Q. Were they quite large amounts or not, paragraph 6.2 of
7 the report?

8 A. Sorry, I haven't got that page, it's not in here,
9 apologies for that.

10 Q. It's in my Lady's report at page 16, but there were
11 a number of -- or quite a large number of cash
12 withdrawals from that account?

13 A. That is correct, yes.

14 Q. Help us, please, with the significance of those
15 withdrawals. They commenced at the beginning
16 of April 2005?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Was there a witness, Sara Aziz, who was a resident of
19 Lees Holm, who began to describe, after 7/7 of course,
20 how there were a group of men attending regularly the
21 home address of Mohammed Sidique Khan and Hasina Patel
22 in Lees Holm?

23 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

24 Q. Are you aware of the date on which hydrogen peroxide
25 purchases began to be commenced?

1 A. Yes, I've got the schedule here, sir. May I refer to
2 that?
3 Q. Was that around -- yes, please do.
4 A. The one you had up here a couple of weeks ago?
5 Q. Absolutely, yes.
6 A. My date I've got is 22 February from
7 Huddersfield Hydroponics.
8 Q. The schedule shows, does it not -- we heard something of
9 the schedule from Detective Constable Reynolds -- that
10 there were quite a number of purchases --
11 A. That's right, yes.
12 Q. -- made during the course of March in particular --
13 A. Yes.
14 Q. -- and into April?
15 A. That's correct, yes.
16 Q. Thank you very much. Turning back to the narrative, at
17 the beginning of April the men expressed an interest in
18 the premises at 111 Chapeltown Road?
19 A. That's correct, yes.
20 Q. Because there was a man called Mr Wajid Hussain, who was
21 approached by Khan, who asked him whether or not he
22 would be prepared to rent out his accommodation?
23 A. Yes, that's correct.
24 Q. Does the report from paragraph 3 onwards set out what
25 Hussain's recollection was of the activities of the men

1 at that address?

2 A. Yes, he talks about -- I think he actually -- there was
3 a guy who came with Khan, and I think he called him
4 Imran Mirza, but in fact, that turned out to be
5 Hasib Hussain. He later identified him from, obviously,
6 pictures. And he does recall them, plus Tanweer, being
7 at the rear of the -- of a vehicle which -- it was
8 Tanweer's Mercedes, actually.

9 Q. Was that the red Mercedes?

10 A. That's correct, yes, and he saw them, on a number of
11 occasions, unloading items from the Mercedes and taking
12 them into Chapeltown.

13 Q. Was his recollection, or is his recollection, of
14 111 Chapeltown Road consistent with the CCTV material,
15 such as it exists for that time, which showed also the
16 repeated attendance of males at that address and sight
17 of a number of cars, including the red Mercedes?

18 A. That's correct. I think over the period of time that
19 they were using that address the only one who wasn't
20 there as much as the others was Lindsay. Everyone else
21 was there pretty much between April and July. But
22 Lindsay was only there on three different occasions, but
23 you might come to that later.

24 Q. All right, the occupation of the premises ended
25 before July, did it not?

1 A. Yes, that's correct.

2 Q. We can see from paragraph 6.10 that Hussain recounted to
3 the police how he returned to the United Kingdom from
4 a trip to Pakistan and, at some point after his return,
5 he became aware of an electrical problem and went to
6 Chapeltown Road, but found nobody there, and the key had
7 been locked or placed inside the lock of the door?

8 A. I think basically he tried to get in initially, and it
9 was like the door was barred, and when he came back the
10 next time, it was -- I think the locks had actually been
11 changed, according to what he said in his statement.

12 Q. Did, subsequently, Hussain give notice that they were
13 intending -- or he was intending to move out of
14 Chapeltown Road?

15 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

16 Q. Is that date given at paragraph 6.11?

17 A. Yes.

18 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Sorry, who gave notice?

19 MR KEITH: Hussain gave notice. Do you then turn in the
20 background report, paragraph 6.13, to the occupation of
21 18 Alexandra Grove?

22 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

23 Q. In essence, what date did Alexandra Grove begin to be
24 used?

25 A. I think it was basically the guy who rented the place

1 from Leeds Council was Samir Alani and he went off to
2 Iraq and left it for his -- I think it was his cousin to
3 look after, Mahmoud Alani, and then a guy called Magdy
4 was actually looking after the flat, Magdy El-Nasher,
5 and he went off to Egypt. So it was around June time
6 that Alexandra Grove was actually starting to be used
7 from.

8 Q. The man who communicated with Magdy was a man who used
9 the name Jamal?

10 A. That's correct, yes.

11 Q. They didn't meet in person, in fact, but they
12 communicated over the phone?

13 A. That's correct, yes.

14 Q. Jamal was subsequently established to have been
15 Jermaine Lindsay?

16 A. That's correct, yes.

17 Q. That was a name that he used at college?

18 A. He did, yes.

19 Q. There was a statement taken from the teacher to that
20 effect?

21 A. That's correct, yes.

22 Q. Paragraph 6.18 refers to the reconnaissance trip to
23 London on 28 June?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. It is, of course, that trip, is it not, Officer, that

1 was the subject of CCTV analysis and as to which
2 evidence was given at the commencement of these
3 proceedings?

4 A. That's correct, yes.

5 Q. Paragraph 6.19 deals with the Nissan Micra, DE05 RJX?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Was that the date on which Shehzad Tanweer hired that
8 car?

9 A. He hired it on 4 July. There was a little bit of
10 confusion from the people he hired it from, because he'd
11 paid for four days but on the hire agreement it only
12 showed three days, so it was hired from 4 July for
13 either three or four days which would have been either
14 7 or 8 July.

15 Q. It's not in the background report, but was there also
16 evidence that around that time, between 4 and 5 July,
17 Khan had his Honda Accord car serviced?

18 A. He did, yes.

19 Q. Rather curiously, he made arrangements for the car to be
20 serviced earlier that week, asked, I think, a friend to
21 pick it up, who would pay cash, not very much, I think,
22 for the service?

23 A. That's correct.

24 Q. But was plainly still concerned with making arrangements
25 for his car to be serviced and returned to him?

1 A. Indeed, yes. I think it was 5 July that they spoke and
2 Khan sent one of his friends to go and pick up the car
3 on 5 July.

4 Q. Much of the following two pages in the report has
5 already been the subject of evidence in these
6 proceedings, and so I needn't trouble you with those
7 paragraphs. Could we move, please, to paragraph 6.31
8 because this will set the background for material that
9 will be shown tomorrow?

10 After 7/7, did an exhibit come to light: namely,
11 a plastic bag which contained home video tapes, books,
12 audio cassettes and a box?

13 A. It did indeed, yes.

14 Q. Inside that plastic bag, were there a number of
15 documents, including a handwritten note and a will?

16 A. That's correct, yes.

17 Q. I think they were actually recovered from inside the
18 metal box?

19 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

20 Q. The handwritten note, to which reference was made
21 earlier in these proceedings --

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. -- appeared to be a goodbye note of some sort from Khan
24 to his family?

25 A. That's right, sir, yes.

1 Q. Finally in relation to Khan, may I turn to his
2 antecedents, which you address or, rather, your
3 colleagues address, at the commencement of the report at
4 paragraph 3.2.

5 He was arrested on 21 April 1986 and later charged
6 with receiving stolen goods.

7 A. He eventually received a caution from that, was my
8 understanding, sir.

9 Q. Do you recall, Officer, that last year it came to light
10 that fingerprints had been taken at that time --

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. -- by West Yorkshire Police and it was thought that they
13 had been destroyed, but my Lady was informed last year
14 that the fingerprints had not, in fact, been destroyed?

15 A. That's correct.

16 Q. They were still in their possession?

17 A. That's correct, yes.

18 Q. My Lady, you will recall that West Yorkshire Police
19 wrote to the Inquest Secretariat on 22 April last year
20 explaining how it was that those fingerprints came to
21 light.

22 There was then a second matter, was there not, on
23 3 February 1993, paragraph 3.5, when Khan was arrested
24 and later cautioned for assault occasioning actual
25 bodily harm?

1 A. That's correct, he was actually arrested on 26 December,
2 but he was cautioned on 3 February.

3 Q. Thank you very much.

4 Are details in relation to that matter now fairly
5 limited, but one of the matters that West Yorkshire
6 Police informed my Lady of last year was that the
7 fingerprints relating to that matter still exist as
8 well?

9 A. That's correct, yes.

10 MR KEITH: My Lady, unless there are any other areas arising
11 out of the background report for Mohammed Sidique Khan
12 I'll then turn, if I may, to Shehzad Tanweer?

13 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you.

14 MR KEITH: The background report is INQ9172.
15 Commencing with the family history, was Tanweer born
16 on 15 December 1982?

17 A. That's correct, yes.

18 Q. Where was his family residence?

19 A. His family residence at birth was Tempest Road, but in
20 1985 they moved to Colwyn Road.

21 Q. The material available to the police shows that Tanweer
22 was brought up in the Muslim faith, his family adhered
23 to the Muslim faith, and he received a basic amount of
24 religious training at school and privately?

25 A. That's correct, yes.

1 Q. He went to Wortley High School, is that right?
2 A. That's correct, yes.
3 Q. Aged 11?
4 A. Yes.
5 Q. I think he had a considerable degree of sporting ability
6 and academic prowess?
7 A. He did, in fact, yes.
8 Q. Paragraph 4.3 more pertinently shows how he became
9 friends with Khan in 1999.
10 A. That's correct, yes.
11 Q. Is that because the two families lived quite close to
12 each other?
13 A. Very close. Stratford Street and Colwyn Road are very
14 close, yes.
15 Q. The report then shows how, according to a number of
16 witnesses, including members of his family, when he was
17 about 16 or 17, he appeared to become much less
18 interested in sport, more religious, and they described
19 how he started attending the mosque in Stratford Road
20 and the Hardy Street mosque gym more than he had
21 previously?
22 A. That's correct, yes.
23 Q. Did he also appear to gravitate towards showing an
24 interest in the Iqra bookshop?
25 A. That's correct, yes.

1 Q. Paragraph 4.7, there is a reference to him meeting
2 Witness A, of whom we'll hear more later, and then, at
3 paragraph 5.1, the report details how, aged 18, he
4 obtained a place at Leeds Metropolitan University to
5 study health-related exercise and fitness?

6 A. That's correct, yes.

7 Q. According to friends, was he doing relatively well at
8 that stage and still showing that he was a fairly good
9 worker, hard at work?

10 A. Absolutely. Initially, his scores were very -- you
11 know, his assessments in schools were very high and
12 I think the staff were, you know, very impressed with
13 what he was doing.

14 Q. Then did it appear that there were changes in his
15 outlook and in his manner after 9/11 throughout the
16 course of 2002?

17 A. That's right, yes. He -- although, whilst he was --
18 when he was at home, he used to wear the Muslim
19 clothing, when he went to university, he'd wear western
20 clothing with a Muslim hat, but he began to take
21 religion more seriously, attending the mosque more and
22 taking prayers five times a day.

23 Q. A friend of his -- a Mr Sharma -- recounts in his
24 statement how he appeared to change from being a highly
25 motivated student to someone who had other priorities?

1 A. Exactly, yes.

2 Q. Is that right?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. The witnesses also state, do they not, that in June of
5 2003 -- paragraph 5.7 -- he left university before
6 completing the course?

7 A. He did, yes.

8 Q. Did he then go home and carry on working for his father
9 in his business?

10 A. He did, yes, in his fish and chip shop and he also had
11 a kebab shop as well.

12 Q. Did he carry on working there at home, do you
13 understand, until late on in 2004?

14 A. That's right, yes.

15 Q. Paragraph 6.8, you'll see there, officer, a reference to
16 the witness statement of a cousin of Shehzad Tanweer who
17 became aware of Tanweer's plan, then plan, to go to
18 Pakistan in February 2004?

19 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

20 Q. Who did that witness, the cousin, understand that
21 Tanweer was going to travel to Pakistan with?

22 A. He describes a group of friends, including someone named
23 "Sid" or "Sidique".

24 Q. Did the witness gain any understanding what have the
25 purpose of that trip might be?

1 A. They wanted to go to a Madrassa, if I remember rightly,
2 I think it was to go to visit a Madrassa and spend time
3 at a Madrassa.

4 Q. Did that trip come to pass or not?

5 A. No, after -- well, the trip -- the time of the trip came
6 and went and, when he spoke to his friend afterwards,
7 Shehzad told him that the organiser of the trip's father
8 was ill and had suffered a stroke and that's why they
9 hadn't gone.

10 Q. That time, the beginning of 2004, was, of course, the
11 time at which both Khan and Tanweer fell within the
12 surveillance being carried out in the Crawley area. Is
13 that right?

14 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

15 Q. So that was February and March 2004?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. Around that time, my Lady will recall, of course,
18 references to the conversation on 23 March to financial
19 fraud.

20 Did it appear that Tanweer started making
21 applications for credit cards and the like?

22 A. That's correct, yes.

23 Q. Paragraph 6.9, for example, if you could help us with
24 that --

25 A. My document is missing certain pages so I haven't got

1 that to hand.

2 Q. All right, if you'll take it from me, then, 6.9 shows
3 how a finance manager of Yes Car Credit, a Mr Smith --

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. -- recounted how an application was made to
6 Yes Car Credit by a man giving the details of
7 Shehzad Tanweer in Colwyn Road?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. The application didn't, in fact, go through, because it
10 was cancelled, but were there a number of subsequent
11 applications thereafter, on 30 March, paragraph 6.10,
12 2 April, 6.11 to another company and, paragraph 6.15, to
13 a further attempt to obtain a loan or credit card from
14 Barclaycard?

15 A. That's correct, sir.

16 Q. Tanweer, too, of course, as we heard in relation to
17 Khan, travelled to Pakistan in November 2004. Is that
18 right?

19 A. That's correct, yes.

20 Q. Did he also buy equipment for the purposes, it seems, of
21 that trip, paragraph 6.18?

22 A. He did, yes.

23 Q. It seems that members of his family helped him with the
24 cost of that trip, is that right, paragraph 7.7?

25 A. Yes, his father gave him a thousand pounds which was to

1 pay in the main part for the flights, but whatever was
2 left was going to pay for his keep, his spending, while
3 he was out in Pakistan.

4 Q. The same evidence as you've given earlier in relation to
5 Khan applied equally to Tanweer in relation to the
6 appearance on the home video in October --

7 A. That's correct.

8 Q. -- 2004, and also, it was his maternal uncles who gave
9 evidence by way of statements trying to detail where
10 they went whilst they were there?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. Paragraph 8.1 records something about his appearance on
13 his return from Pakistan and how his religious
14 attendance appeared to have changed at that stage.

15 A. That's right, yes. His mum thought he was ill when he
16 came back as well, if I remember rightly, he'd lost
17 a lot of weight, and he told his mum that it was -- he
18 didn't like the Madrassas and that's why he'd come back
19 earlier.

20 Q. On his return, did it seem that he changed the location
21 of his prayers, in that he then started praying at
22 a different mosque in Dewsbury?

23 A. Yes, he did, he started -- his brother didn't notice any
24 change in him as such, but he said the only difference
25 from his point was that he had gone to the Dewsbury

1 mosque as opposed to the Hardy Street and the local one
2 that he used to use.

3 Q. Would that place him in a closer locational distance to
4 Khan?

5 A. That's correct, because he was living in Dewsbury, yes.

6 Q. Paragraph 8.5 records how he contacted Witness A again
7 in February 2005?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Then, in March, although it's not set out in detail in
10 the report, did his father buy the red Mercedes N327
11 which was used by Tanweer and seen on the CCTV at
12 Chapeltown Road?

13 A. That's correct. It was registered in his father's name,
14 but Shehzad was the sole user of that vehicle.

15 Q. He, of course, as with Khan, was seen by Sara Aziz at
16 Lees Holm in Dewsbury?

17 A. That's correct, sir.

18 Q. Some of the witnesses reported, did they not, changes in
19 his physical appearance?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. In paragraph 8.14, the cousin of whom you spoke earlier
22 reported in the same witness statement how, after April,
23 but perhaps it must have been nearer July of 2005, she
24 noticed changes in his hair?

25 A. That's correct, yes. I think they were describing it as

1 orange-brown streaks in his hair, and then there was
2 another relative who actually showed his hair on his
3 arms, and that had all changed to a sort of blond,
4 ginger-type colour.

5 Q. Did those witnesses report Tanweer giving any
6 explanation for the changes in his appearance?

7 A. He said that it was due to the chloride in the swimming
8 pool that he was attending. He'd also got bigger
9 muscular-wise as well and he said he had been training,
10 working out in the gym a lot more.

11 Q. Alexandra Grove was then occupied in June --

12 A. That's correct, yes.

13 Q. -- and, of course, the early part of July, and he was
14 engaged there. Then, paragraph 8.26, Tanweer of course
15 went with the others on the reconnaissance mission to
16 London?

17 A. That's correct, yes.

18 Q. Then, as we'll hear in due course, paragraph 8.27, he
19 remained in contact with Witness A?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Paragraph 8.28 refers to the visit to the B&Q --

22 A. Yes, sir.

23 Q. -- on -- I think it was 4 July, is that right, where
24 they make a number of purchases inside the shop?

25 A. That's correct, yes.

1 Q. Then paragraph 8.30, he's seen by a friend, Ajay Sharma?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And the friend, as you rightly observed a few moments
4 ago, noticed that his hair, Tanweer's hair, was longer
5 than it had been and was streaked with orange?

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. And Tanweer told him it had something to do with
8 sunlight?

9 A. Yes, he'd also started wearing glasses as well, which
10 was unusual, and he'd told his friend, Sharma, that he'd
11 started to get headaches and that's why he'd gone with
12 his sister to Specsavers, I think, to get some glasses.

13 Q. But other than that, there was nothing about his
14 appearance --

15 A. No.

16 Q. -- or anything that he said that indicated to his
17 friends or family what was about to occur?

18 A. No, not at all.

19 Q. His family were misinformed in a number of ways, were
20 they not, in the days leading up to 7 July?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Was there some account of how he told them that he was
23 going to Manchester?

24 A. That's correct, yes, he told his brother, his older
25 sister, and I think his mother as well, that he was

1 going to Manchester camping and, in fact, he had
2 a rucksack with him when he went out the door. I think
3 the sister noted that, after he'd said he was going to
4 Manchester, she came back and saw that his car was there
5 so she'd wondered how had he got to Manchester.

6 Q. He appeared to be vexed by the apparent loss of a mobile
7 phone?

8 A. That's correct, yes. On the evening of the 6th, he'd
9 been playing cricket across the park and his dad had
10 fairly recently bought him a new mobile phone and he'd
11 basically lost this phone and was trying to find it.

12 Q. As far as his family were concerned, there was nothing
13 to indicate that the plans, whatever they had been, for
14 that week, were to be altered in any way, because
15 I think his father had made some appointment for him to
16 attend a solicitors?

17 A. Correct, yes, there was a premises that the father had
18 put in his name a while before, and basically he'd made
19 an appointment for him to go and do the power of
20 attorney on 8 July to go and see the solicitor, so he
21 made the appointment for him to go and see the
22 solicitor, but obviously he never turned up on 8 July.

23 Q. Lastly, turning to his antecedents, which are addressed
24 at beginning of the report, I think on 23 April 1995, he
25 was arrested in connection with an offence of burglary?

1 A. That's correct, yes.

2 Q. But no further action was taken in relation to that
3 matter?

4 A. No further action, no.

5 Q. Then, on 4 April 2004, was he arrested for a public
6 order offence of a fairly minor kind and cautioned?

7 A. That's correct, sir, yes.

8 MR KEITH: Thank you very much, Officer. My Lady, is that
9 a convenient moment?

10 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: 2.05 pm, please.

11 (1.00 pm)

12 (The short adjournment)

13

14