

Coroner's Inquests into the London Bombings of 7 July 2005
Hearing transcripts - 16 February 2011 - Afternoon session

1 (2.10 pm)

2 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Keith?

3 MR KEITH: My Lady, we have Mr Hargreaves on the line from
4 a video suite in the Midlands. Good afternoon,
5 Mr Hargreaves.

6 THE WITNESS: Good afternoon.

7 MR KEITH: Could I invite you, please, to take the oath for
8 the purposes of these proceedings?

9 MR MARK ANDREW HARGREAVES (sworn)

10 (Evidence given by videolink)

11 Questions by MR KEITH

12 MR KEITH: Could you give the court your full name, please?

13 A. Mark Andrew Hargreaves.

14 Q. Mr Hargreaves, your statement to the police records that
15 in 2001, and perhaps more recently, certainly then, you
16 specialised in the teaching of outdoor activities:
17 climbing, caving and outdoor pursuits?

18 A. Yes, that is correct.

19 Q. In the course of your job, in the summer of 2001, did
20 you come across a man called Tafazal Mohammed?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Did you know him by any other name, a shorter name or
23 abbreviated name?

24 A. He was known as Taf.

25 Q. What did he ask you to do?

1 A. He asked me to become involved in a local youth
2 organisation where I could help them to engage local
3 young people of varying cultures to work together and
4 keep them out of trouble.

5 Q. Did you know where he lived or which part of the country
6 he was associated with?

7 A. I was led to believe that he lived in Dewsbury.

8 Q. As a result of meeting him, did you take part in the
9 looking after of a group of young males who wanted to do
10 more outdoor pursuits and to do the sorts of activities
11 in which you specialise?

12 A. Immediately I took him on face value as somebody who
13 cared about the community and I was happy to become
14 involved, and I did work with a couple of groups of
15 young men later that year and, after that, I didn't do
16 much work with them until the following summer.

17 Q. Can you recall more precisely when it was you first
18 looked after a group of these males?

19 A. It would have been November/December of 2001 when I had
20 two groups climbing at Leeds climbing wall.

21 Q. After the first couple of occasions when you looked
22 after the groups, were you introduced to another man who
23 called himself "Abdullah"?

24 A. I'd already met Abdullah during those first sessions.
25 He came along with them on the second one.

1 Q. Did you speak to him?

2 A. I did indeed, yes.

3 Q. Later, did you get to know him rather better than you
4 had on your first meeting?

5 A. Almost immediately of meeting him, he was introduced to
6 me as somebody who I would be working closely with, so
7 I got to know him quite well.

8 Q. Did you know him by any other name?

9 A. Martin McDaid.

10 Q. Did you ever see that name being used on any kind of
11 document that satisfied you that that was his other
12 name?

13 A. Not in an official capacity, no. I've seen his name
14 maybe on a receipt or possibly on a payslip.

15 Q. Initially, what appearance did he have? What was his
16 behaviour like? How did he come across to you?

17 A. Middle-aged, shaven hair, beard in an Islamic style,
18 a healthy looking man, aggressive, very outspoken and an
19 aggressive proselytiser. He was very, very keen to
20 convert people to the faith of Islam.

21 Q. Was that something that was immediately apparent to you
22 or something that you gathered later?

23 A. Almost immediately, you could see he had a fervour about
24 him, a religious fervour. That became more apparent as
25 I got to know him.

1 Q. Did you get to know him better because there came a time
2 when you began to work more closely with him at an
3 address in the Leeds area?

4 A. Yes, that is true, but I wasn't actually working with
5 him on a one-to-one basis. I was put with another young
6 man, another person at that time.

7 Q. When was it that you began to do this further work
8 alongside him?

9 A. That will be -- that would be in 2002, sort of earlier
10 on in the year to summertime, at which point I decided
11 to leave.

12 Q. How did this work come about?

13 A. I was approached by Taf Mohammed in the first instance
14 and, at that point, I joined in when they were at the
15 Trentham Row establishment, and my post, at that point,
16 I'd been led to believe I would be helping to establish
17 a drop-in centre for young people. I spent
18 a considerable amount of time writing bids, funding
19 bids, trying to gain extra funding for the organisation,
20 and at that point I was kind of dissatisfied and didn't
21 go back for a while.

22 But then I was contacted by Taf saying they'd moved
23 premises and they wanted me to do the original job of
24 setting up a drop-in centre and that's when I started
25 working with them again, and that would be summer.

1 Q. Just pausing you there, what was the name of the
2 organisation?

3 A. Leeds Community School.

4 Q. When you initially had contact with it, where was it?
5 You've just mentioned Trentham Row, was that where it
6 was based?

7 A. That was the first place where they were based when
8 I met them.

9 Q. Where did it move to?

10 A. They moved to number 1 Tempest Road in the Beeston area
11 of Leeds.

12 Q. Did you come across, once it had moved, an organisation
13 called the Iqra bookshop?

14 A. The Iqra bookshop was opposite Trentham Row when it was
15 based down that end of Beeston, so, yes, I was aware of
16 its existence.

17 Q. Can you help us, please, with what the dissatisfaction
18 was that led you to break off contact? You mention you
19 were dissatisfied with them and then they came back to
20 you again subsequently.

21 A. Could you repeat the question, please?

22 Q. Yes. You made reference to the fact that you ceased
23 contact with them or stopped working because you were
24 dissatisfied with something. What was that? What
25 caused you concern, if anything?

1 A. Initially, it was that I wasn't doing the job they asked
2 me to do, which was working with young people, which is
3 why I was there in the first place and, secondarily,
4 because they were aggressively proselytising, telling me
5 that I should convert to the faith essentially, and
6 there were other issues with literature they were
7 showing me and music and recordings, what would you say,
8 rants, I guess, and they were exposing me to that as
9 well.

10 Q. Were they exposing other people, could you see, to the
11 same sort of proselytising activity, to the same sorts
12 of material?

13 A. When I was there, I didn't witness that myself. It
14 could well have been. That's just a matter of opinion
15 on my part.

16 Q. In your statement to the police, you describe how, when
17 you did start to work with them at Tempest Road, you
18 worked in a room in the rear of the building and you saw
19 hateful, deeply offensive pictures and videos, and these
20 were shown to you by the person you knew to be called
21 Martin McDaid. Is that right?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Did you see where this material was coming from or where
24 it was going?

25 A. As far as where it came was concerned, I have no idea,

1 but there were a number of times when they told me they
2 were travelling of a weekend to other cities to
3 distribute this material to other Iqra bookshops indeed.

4 Q. When you say they told you, who were they?

5 A. That would be Martin McDaid and Max Gillespie, who was
6 also known as "Abdulraqman".

7 Q. Did you gain any understanding of where precisely the
8 material was being distributed, which parts of the
9 country, for example?

10 A. Two that I recall clearly. One was Glasgow and the
11 other one was Birmingham.

12 Q. How often were you made privy to this material? Was it
13 just occasionally that you saw it?

14 A. Initially, it was shown to me as a means of gauging my
15 sort of thoughts on this stuff, but a lot of it was
16 about Israel and anti-Semitic, showing you horrific
17 images of young people being murdered or bodies,
18 carcasses, and it was designed to inflame and aggravate,
19 and they were showing me this and saying, you know, "Do
20 you think this is a bad thing?", "Of course I do",
21 I agreed, but then the premise was that I should go
22 further with that and become involved with their belief
23 systems.

24 Once -- after a while, they stopped showing me this
25 stuff and I also left as well for that reason.

1 Q. You indicated that you were not susceptible to it, you
2 found it offensive, you weren't interested in it and
3 they stopped showing it to you.

4 Was it your impression that there were other people
5 to whom the material was being shown who were more
6 susceptible to it?

7 A. I didn't witness that at all personally, but I do
8 believe they were using the groups of young men to
9 radicalise them, to expose them to this material, yes.

10 Q. What led you to that conclusion?

11 A. The kinds of activities they were asking me to do with
12 them and the fact that they were meeting regularly in
13 this establishment, and the original purpose of gaining
14 the building, as explained to me by Taf Mohammed, was to
15 establish a youth centre, which never happened, and the
16 groups of young men in there, training in martial arts,
17 they were the only people who ever had access to the
18 building, and the only time they wanted me to meet these
19 people or work with them was to take them on some form
20 of outdoor activity.

21 Q. Did you get the impression that there was a structure to
22 this arrangement, that they were identifying relatively
23 young people, providing them with activities such as the
24 outdoor activities, but at the same time making them
25 privy to this sort of hateful and inflammatory material?

1 A. At the time, it didn't occur to me that that might be
2 happening. On reflection, I would agree with you and
3 say that that was probably the case, yes.

4 Q. Did you come across a man called Sidique?

5 A. Mohammed Sidique Khan?

6 Q. Mohammed Sidique Khan?

7 A. I did, yes, I worked with him quite closely.

8 Q. During the period that you were working for the Leeds
9 Community School?

10 A. Yes, I knew him as a person that I would be doing some
11 youth work with, I was introduced to him in that
12 context.

13 Q. How often did you see him? How closely did you work
14 together?

15 A. I would see him, on average, two or three times a week.
16 I wouldn't work with him that often, but I'd see him
17 regularly.

18 Q. Was that because he was coming in and out of the address
19 in Tempest Road?

20 A. Both those addresses, he was a regular visitor, yes.

21 Q. So the first place where the Leeds Community School was
22 based, which was Trentham Row, and then also
23 Tempest Road?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Do you know whether he had any connection to the Iqra

1 bookshop at all?

2 A. Only in that he was involved in bringing material over
3 from the shop to put into the establishment which they
4 would then move later. So he was also involved in
5 distributing material --

6 Q. Was he involved --

7 A. -- with the other guys.

8 Q. -- in distributing the same sort of extremist and
9 inflammatory material of which you've spoken?

10 A. Yes, yes, definitely.

11 Q. You describe him in these memorable words in your
12 statement:

13 "My lasting memory of him was that he has been
14 brainwashed into the Islamic faith. He was totally over
15 the top."

16 What did you mean by the phrase, "He was totally
17 over the top"?

18 A. Every opportunity to bring Islam into a conversation
19 would be manipulated, anything at all. We were sat in
20 a cave, for instance, it was very cold and dark, and he
21 used that as an opportunity to explain to me how the
22 light of Islam could come into my life, and it was
23 constant, it was just a constant barrage of these kinds
24 of things. After a while, it became quite tiring.

25 Q. There is a difference, of course, Mr Hargreaves, between

1 encouraging the benefits of one's own faith to other
2 people --
3 A. Yes.
4 Q. -- and persuading them of one's own views, and
5 expressing religious views in such an extremist and
6 inflammatory way that it can cause real offence.
7 Did he seem to indicate anything of the latter type?
8 A. At that time, he was the most reasonable of all those
9 people that I worked with in that establishment.
10 Q. Why do you say "at that time"?
11 A. Well, obviously, he's gone on to do the horrible things
12 that he did.
13 Q. Was there any indication of a change in his outlook or
14 his views whilst you knew him?
15 A. Only in that he was -- he really embraced his faith, he
16 had planned to go on a Haj as well, with McDaid, and the
17 other guy, Gillespie, and they disappeared for a number
18 of days at one point.
19 Q. Now, you told us earlier that you came to leave. Did
20 you come to leave because of what you'd seen and what
21 you understood to be going on there?
22 Do you wish me to repeat the question,
23 Mr Hargreaves? It may be that you lost the link there
24 for a moment.
25 A. Thank you, if you would.

1 Q. You told us earlier that you came to leave. Did you
2 leave because of what you had seen and because of what
3 you understood to be going on there?

4 A. I left for my own mental health, for the sake of my own
5 mental health, because I found it impossible to work
6 with these people and the images as well, the kind of
7 literature they were showing me, I disagreed with it,
8 and I just didn't want to be there, basically, yes.

9 Q. Did you tell anybody that you had seen this sort of
10 material and that you understood it to be being
11 distributed round the country through a network of other
12 outlets?

13 A. I mentioned it to a number of people, but nobody of --
14 who could do anything about it. Only when I was kind of
15 sharing my findings and what I'd observed.

16 Q. What sort of people did you tell?

17 Mr Hargreaves, can you hear me?

18 A. I can now.

19 Q. Whom did you tell? You mentioned you told some people,
20 some sorts of people. Who were they, in general terms?

21 A. Well, I left that organisation because I was offered
22 a job with another youth organisation and they were
23 asking me why I'd left, so I explained the situation
24 there.

25 I also spoke to my current wife, who I'd just met at

1 the time. She was helping me to deal with the process
2 of -- because it was quite -- there was quite a lot of
3 stress involved.

4 Q. In summary, you describe in your statement how it was
5 obvious to you that this individual, McDaid, was
6 whipping up hatred. Is that a view that you adhere to
7 now, you're still of that view, that that was what was
8 being done?

9 A. Yes, definitely.

10 MR KEITH: Mr Hargreaves, thank you very much for attending
11 to give evidence. Those are all the questions that
12 I have for you, but there may be some more for you from
13 others.

14 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Patterson?

15 Questions by MR PATTERSON

16 MR PATTERSON: Mr Hargreaves, just a few more questions,
17 please, if I may. First of all, the sessions at the
18 Leeds climbing wall that you told us about, I think you
19 said that it was at the second of those that this man,
20 Martin McDaid, or Abdullah, showed up with the
21 youngsters.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. In your statement to the police you said that these were
24 groups of youngsters aged about approximately 14 years
25 of age.

1 A. One of the groups was, yes, definitely.

2 Q. Then, when you moved on to the premises where you were
3 making these applications for money, you said that the
4 purpose was to establish a youth centre. Is that right?

5 A. Indeed, yes.

6 Q. From whom were you applying for money?

7 A. There's a national pot of various organisations,
8 charitable organisations, I think Esmee Fairbairn,
9 Rowntree Foundation, those kinds of things.

10 Q. And --

11 A. Charitable organisations.

12 Q. You said that McDaid was also involved when you were
13 present for, I think, some six weeks working at that
14 office on Trentham Row.

15 A. Yes, he was, that's when I was introduced to him.

16 Q. You've explained the sort of literature that he was in
17 possession of and you've given us a --

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. -- flavour of it. In your statement to the police, you
20 describe some of the material as material which, and
21 I quote:
22 "... stated that it was okay to blow people up
23 because Allah said so."

24 A. It did say that on one of these things, yes.

25 Q. You used the words that you regarded that, when he was

1 speaking to you, that "he was trying to brainwash me".

2 Is that how you regarded it at the time?

3 A. Absolutely, yes. He was very aggressive. His arguments
4 were on the lines of, having understood the questions or
5 the things that he's asking me, there's no reason why
6 I shouldn't logically continue and follow him and the
7 belief system that he was explaining to me.

8 I was trying to engage them in a discussion to
9 explain to me what they were about, so we could learn
10 from them, but it wasn't like that at all, it was very
11 one-way.

12 Q. All of this apparently under the aegis of the Leeds
13 Community School?

14 A. Indeed, yes.

15 Q. You've mentioned the distribution of this kind of
16 literature. I think you said to the police in your
17 statement that McDaid would take this literature from
18 there to the Iqra bookshop, which was just opposite?

19 A. Mm-hmm.

20 Q. You said today that Mohammed Sidique Khan would bring
21 similar material back from Iqra to the office for onward
22 distribution in that direction.

23 A. There was a regular transference of material between the
24 two places.

25 Q. I think you learned, did you not, that Khan was, in

1 fact, a teacher or a learning mentor?

2 A. That's right, and highly respected as well, I believe.

3 And that's what I was led to believe.

4 Q. I think you said at one stage that he asked you, at one
5 stage, if you would do some work with his school
6 children?

7 A. That's right, yes.

8 Q. Although, perhaps --

9 A. I --

10 Q. -- thankfully, that never actually came to pass, and you
11 never did have any contact with the children he was
12 working with?

13 A. No, no.

14 Q. To the police in your statement you referred to some
15 particular training that you were asked to organise
16 which involved, on one occasion, a caving trip up in the
17 Yorkshire Dales some time in 2002. Is that right?

18 A. Yes, that's right.

19 Q. When you were asked to do this, it was described as
20 training that was needed for the youths, it was
21 described as a hardiness training that was required?

22 A. That's right, that's right. McDaid wanted me to
23 organise some sort of events, some training that would
24 push them to the limits.

25 Q. In the statement, you say that you were asked to provide

1 endurance training that would toughen them up.

2 A. That's right, yes, mountaineering stuff, camping.

3 Again, hardness training is what -- those were his

4 words. I believe he was ex-military, so he had a very

5 definite view of what he wanted me to provide.

6 Q. I think the community school had use of a minibus. Is

7 that right?

8 A. I was never -- I never made use of that, I never saw it

9 either. I understand they did have.

10 Q. Yes. Finally this, please, Mr Hargreaves: when you were

11 briefly at the Tempest Road office I think in your

12 statement to the police you said that you saw the gym

13 area there where a lot of the martial arts training took

14 place, and you described to the police that you saw

15 fighting mats, punchbags and the like.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Is that right?

18 A. Yes, that is right, yes.

19 Q. So all these various things that you saw and heard were

20 what quickly led to you deciding that you wanted to get

21 right out of all of this and you resigned --

22 A. Yes, definitely.

23 Q. -- and had no more to do with it?

24 A. That's right.

25 MR PATTERSON: Thank you very much indeed.

1 A. It was a very clean-cut thing, I walked out and left it.
2 MR PATTERSON: Thank you for your assistance, Mr Hargreaves.
3 A. Thank you.
4 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Hargreaves, I'm Lady Justice
5 Hallett, the judge conducting these inquests. It's
6 obviously very sad that your best of intentions to help
7 the youth of all communities and cultures should have
8 come to this. Thank you for being prepared to speak
9 out.
10 A. Thank you.
11 MR KEITH: Thank you, Mr Hargreaves. My Lady, may I invite
12 you to call Martin Gilbertson?
13 MR MARTIN CHARLES MATTHEW GILBERTSON (affirmed)
14 Questions by MR KEITH
15 MR KEITH: Good afternoon. Could you give the court your
16 full name, please?
17 A. Martin Charles Matthew Gilbertson.
18 Q. Mr Gilbertson, I'm going to ask you some questions, if I
19 may, as Counsel to these Inquests on behalf of the
20 coroner Lady Justice Hallett.
21 We've got quite a lot of material to get through and
22 quite a lot of issues to address, so could
23 I respectfully ask you to pay the greatest of attention
24 to the questions that I ask and seek to answer them?
25 I'm aware that there are a lot of areas that you want to

1 talk about but it's of great importance that we try to
2 concentrate on the points that matter.

3 In 2000, you, according to your witness statements
4 to the police, married your wife, Emma, and the
5 following year you moved back to Leeds where you had
6 previously lived.

7 A. That's correct.

8 Q. When you moved back to Leeds, where did you live?

9 A. Beeston, we moved to Beeston.

10 Q. The Beeston area of Leeds. At that time, how would you
11 have described yourself, in terms of the job that you
12 did?

13 A. I was unemployed at the time, having been a carer for
14 many years. But I was looking for work as a computer
15 technician.

16 Q. Mr Gibson, could I ask you to keep your voice up a bit
17 more? The microphone in front of you won't amplify your
18 voice, it only relays it to the annex to this court. So
19 you can't rely upon it to allow us to hear you better.
20 Did you have a fair degree of experience in computer
21 technology?

22 A. I would say, yes, that I knew computers quite well.
23 I could build them and maintain them.

24 Q. I don't think you had any official qualifications?

25 A. No official qualifications, no.

1 Q. But you had spent many years in looking at computers and
2 dealing with them?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. In September of that year, did you come across an
5 organisation called Technology Bits and Pieces in
6 Dewsbury Road in Beeston?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Did you start working there after a fashion?

9 A. Yes, I started doing work there.

10 Q. When did you start working there?

11 A. In the summer of that year -- was it 2001? -- I think,
12 2001.

13 Q. Was Technology Bits and Pieces in essence a computer
14 shop?

15 A. It was a Learn Direct centre which also built and sold
16 computers.

17 Q. A subsequent interview that you gave reveals that you
18 were working there at the time of the terrorist attacks
19 in the United States of America, 9/11.

20 A. That's correct.

21 Q. What was the atmosphere like in that shop, Technology
22 Bits and Pieces, when it became apparent what had
23 occurred in the United States?

24 A. They were happy, they were basically cheering it and
25 laughing that such a gross attack could be perpetrated

1 on America.

2 Q. Were you shocked or surprised by that?

3 A. I was shocked and surprised, but not as surprised as

4 I could have been, to be honest.

5 Q. Why was that?

6 A. I'd had many discussions in there about Islam and, as an

7 atheist, I don't believe in God, so that was causing me

8 some personal problems with them.

9 Q. Was there anything about their general approach that
10 indicated, at that stage, a level of extremism?

11 A. Not too much, no. It was just the fact that I was an
12 atheist, it was rubbing them the wrong way to a point.

13 Q. The following day, were you in the computer shop,
14 12 September?

15 A. Yes, I was there to repair a computer for them.

16 Q. Was the atmosphere similarly jovial the following day?

17 A. Yes, they were having a party.

18 Q. In the course of that party, did you meet a number of
19 people whom you subsequently discovered were called
20 Martin McDauid, Naveed Fiaz and Tafazal Mohammed?

21 A. It was either at that party or shortly afterwards. It
22 was through the shop that I met those three people, and
23 there was quite a few people coming in and out of the
24 shop during the party which I -- after I finished my
25 work, I left as soon as I could.

1 Q. Do you know whether they live locally?

2 A. Yes, they all live locally. Sorry, no, McDaid is the
3 only one I don't know whether he lived locally or not,
4 the other two did.

5 Q. Did you come to understand that all of them were closely
6 linked into the local community?

7 A. Yes, when they started asking me about computer work for
8 them.

9 Q. Was that because later in the year, in December, you
10 were approached by one of them, Naveed Fiaz, and asked
11 to show him how to use computer technology?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Was that again in that shop, Technology Bits and Pieces?

14 A. That was in Technology Bits and Bats, yes.

15 Q. What sort of computer program was he particularly
16 interested in having you show him?

17 A. Flash, it's macromedia flash, a way of creating short
18 animations for web- or disk-based ...

19 Q. Was this a one-off meeting where you showed him how to
20 use flash technology, the flash programme, or was this
21 something that you carried on doing throughout the
22 autumn?

23 A. It was over a period of time, but he was -- he wasn't
24 able to actually master the programme so I said I would
25 actually do some work for him if he wanted it.

1 Q. The following year, according to your main witness
2 statement, you then became aware of a bookshop called
3 the Iqra bookshop.

4 A. Yes, that was actually before it was fully opened.

5 Q. I'm going to ask you about that. When you first went
6 there, where was it?

7 A. It was 49A Bude Road.

8 Q. Did you understand that it had, however, been in
9 operation for some time?

10 A. There was very little books in there when I went there
11 and it wasn't open that often. It wasn't until
12 afterwards, when they started putting more books and
13 they renovated downstairs and upstairs, that it became
14 a proper bookshop.

15 Q. We'll come on to in a moment when that was and what the
16 extent of the renovations were, but in rough outline,
17 can you recall when that change occurred?

18 A. That was 2002/2003.

19 Q. So when you first went there, it was a more basic
20 operation?

21 A. It was -- basically, it was a rundown building.

22 Q. You made it your business subsequently to carry out some
23 basic checks on what the Iqra bookshop was doing by way
24 of whether it was registered as a charity, we
25 understand, and as to what its accounting position was?

1 A. No, that wasn't until much later on, but at that time,
2 I knew they were --
3 Q. I said subsequently.
4 A. Subsequently.
5 Q. Did you ever find out when it had started in any shape
6 or form?
7 A. Only from the records given to the Charities Commission.
8 The earliest records I can find was 1999.
9 Q. What was that record, do you recall?
10 A. It was, I think, the only time they submitted accounts.
11 Q. I think you may be referring to a document which
12 contained a declaration by trustees, which is the first
13 documentation certainly that's been made available to
14 us, which is dated January 2003.
15 A. No.
16 Q. Are you saying you saw an earlier document?
17 A. On the web, I went on the web and put in the trustee
18 number and there was references to it being Iqra -- or
19 am I confusing it with Leeds Community School? I do
20 apologise.
21 Q. I think you may be confusing it with Leeds Community
22 School because the registration for Iqra in fact took
23 place on 14 February 2003.
24 A. I do apologise, I'm mistaken about that. But I helped
25 paint the sign that said "Iqra" on the front in late

1 2003.

2 Q. When you first saw it in 2002, were you aware of
3 anything concerning its accounting structure --

4 A. No.

5 Q. -- or where money came from or how it funded itself?

6 A. No.

7 Q. A document found by the police in the computer operated
8 by Mohammed Sidique Khan at the primary school where he
9 was a mentor shows that he was preparing accounts
10 from February 2002 onwards and minutes from meetings of
11 the Iqra bookshop from April 2002.

12 Were you ever aware of those documents or of the
13 fact that there was an accounting structure and that the
14 minutes were taking place before your arrival?

15 A. No, I had no idea of that at all.

16 Q. Was there another association of a similar name called
17 the Iqra Youth Centre and Gym?

18 A. Yes, that was opened up in late 2003.

19 Q. Was that elsewhere in Woodview Road?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. So we needn't look at that at all, that was a separate
22 organisation?

23 A. It was linked to Iqra.

24 Q. But you didn't work there?

25 A. No.

1 Q. The Iqra bookshop itself was a residential building, was
2 it not?
3 A. Yes.
4 Q. When you first went there, how much was the building
5 occupied?
6 A. It wasn't occupied. Nobody was living there.
7 Q. When it was first occupied, which part of it was
8 occupied?
9 A. They used all the floors.
10 Q. They used all the floors?
11 A. All the floors. I did attend a meal there, in the
12 middle floor, in late 2002.
13 Q. According to your witness statement to the police, you
14 said that, when you went there, in June 2002, although
15 it was a three-floor residential building, bar the Iqra
16 bookstore itself, which was on the front of the ground
17 floor, all the other rooms were empty and being
18 renovated?
19 A. Yes, they were.
20 Q. So the answer to the question, then, is, is it not, most
21 of the building was not being occupied when you arrived?
22 A. But they were still using the rooms.
23 Q. For what?
24 A. The -- one of the middle rooms was still being used for
25 prayers.

1 Q. Ah, right. You, I think, prepared, at some stage in the
2 course of these proceedings, or in the past few years,
3 a plan of the Iqra bookshop. Could we have [INQ11020-2] ,
4 please?
5 Do you recognise that?
6 A. Yes.
7 Q. Did you prepare it?
8 A. Yes, I did.
9 Q. The diagram on the left, or the plan on the left, is the
10 ground floor, is it not?
11 A. That's correct, yes.
12 Q. The plan on the right is the second floor?
13 A. Yes.
14 Q. There's a reference we can see --
15 A. Sorry, no -- yes, the second floor, you mean the top
16 floor? There was three -- there were three floors.
17 Q. Ground, first, second?
18 A. I do apologise, yes.
19 Q. It says "second floor" on the map itself.
20 There is a reference on both plans to the Leeds
21 Community School. Could you just help us, please, about
22 your understanding of what that was? Was that
23 a charity?
24 A. Yes, that was a charity.
25 Q. Was it connected in any way, as far as you understood,

1 to the men that you knew, Tafazal Mohammed, Fiaz and
2 McDaid?
3 A. They ran that as well as running the Iqra bookshop.
4 Q. How do you know?
5 A. I built the website for Hamara YAP and McDaid, Tafiq and
6 Naveed were listed on there as working for them, but
7 Tafiq was also a trustee of Leeds Community School.
8 Q. Just taking one step back, why did working for them or
9 working for an organisation called Hamara YAP, which
10 I think is the Youth Access Project that --
11 A. It was a combination --
12 Q. -- leads you to reach a view about the Leeds Community
13 School?
14 A. No, I knew them before they formed Hamara YAP, which was
15 a combination of the Hamara Centre with the Leeds
16 Community School. When they were there as the Leeds
17 Community School, the computers were built for them to
18 use for that.
19 Q. All right. On this diagram, we can see that on the
20 ground floor there were apparently four computers
21 towards the rear. Do you know or do you recall when
22 those computers were installed?
23 A. I actually helped them build them. There was a --
24 I think in my statement, the 12th or 13th of that year,
25 I ran a course where I showed Mohammed -- sorry,

1 Martin McDaid and a couple of others how to build the
2 computers, and they were the computers that we built.

3 Q. The 12th and 13th of which year?

4 A. That year, I think, 2003, I think.

5 Q. According to your statement, you first became associated
6 with Iqra in June 2002, so do we take it, then, that it
7 wasn't until the following year that the computers were
8 installed?

9 A. Yes, it was. The -- in June 2003, when we built the
10 computers.

11 Q. For what purpose were they installed?

12 A. For use of the community school, as far as I was aware.

13 Q. Were you there every day around that time?

14 A. Not every day, no. I would pop in, when requested, to
15 check the computers, remove viruses or any other work
16 they requested.

17 Q. How often did you go there at that time, Mr Gilbertson?

18 A. Once a week, sometimes more.

19 Q. Were you familiar with the people who went in and out of
20 the Iqra bookshop, in particular the persons who used
21 the computers?

22 A. Not really, no. I mainly dealt with Taf, Naveed and
23 McDaid.

24 Q. Do you know what the arrangements were for access to and
25 use of those computers?

1 A. I can only talk about my own experiences. When I used
2 to go in via the shop, I would have to ask for Taf or
3 one of the others before I could go into the back, until
4 the person in the shop got used to me coming in that
5 I could walk through to the back.

6 Q. Between June 2002 and the following year, June 2003 when
7 the computers were installed, did you have sight of any
8 of the material that was going through the Iqra bookshop
9 if any?

10 A. Yes, late 2002, probably early 2003, they renovated the
11 cellar to make it more water-proof to store booklets.
12 It was just general Islamic propaganda, really.

13 Q. Who was doing that? Who was putting it into the cellar?

14 A. It was with Taf, Naveed and McDaid again, who I was
15 working with. There were other people there at the time
16 that was helping with.

17 Q. Who were they?

18 A. I can't remember their names, because I --

19 Q. Were they people whom you regularly associated with?

20 A. They were regulars there, but I didn't get to know
21 people's names because I was mainly dealing with the
22 computers and Taf.

23 Q. Mr Gilbertson, you've provided very detailed witness
24 statements to the police --

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. -- indeed on a number of occasions, and given an account
2 of yourself to the press and, we know, from materials
3 that you've provided, written a short account by way of
4 a book on your relations with the Iqra bookshop.

5 Are you telling her Ladyship that you don't now
6 recall the names of the people who frequented the
7 bookshop?

8 A. I can't remember them now. I'm quite nervous at the
9 moment, actually.

10 Q. Why is that?

11 A. I'm just nervous.

12 Q. You're aware that you're under oath, of course --

13 A. I do, I am aware.

14 Q. -- and are obligated to tell the truth?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. In your statement, you describe how, when you first
17 began preparing flash programmes for Naveed, Taf and
18 McDaid, you prepared something called the hidden agenda.

19 A. That's correct, yes.

20 Q. What was that?

21 A. It was a series of articles on what was being done to
22 mainly children. There was quite a few articles on what
23 was being done to Muslims throughout the Middle East,
24 India.

25 Q. Tell us how you came to see this material? Why was it

1 given to you?

2 A. It was because they needed it put on to a disk so it
3 could be easily accessed.

4 Q. So was it a question of them providing you with files
5 which were in 2-D format and which you then turned into
6 3-D flash programmes?

7 A. One of the -- one of them I did was a video which was
8 converted to AVI, then put on to disk. The other one
9 was a load of documents, mainly taken from the internet,
10 emails and stuff, which were just compiled together and
11 all did I was create the flash to link them all
12 together.

13 Q. Where did you do this, if the Iqra bookshop wasn't being
14 renovated the following year?

15 A. I was doing it on my own computer. I was doing it on my
16 own computer --

17 Q. Where?

18 A. -- in my own house.

19 Q. Why weren't you doing it at the Technology Bits and
20 Pieces premises?

21 A. I think by the time I got round to doing that, I'd left
22 them. I was no longer working for them.

23 Q. In your statement to the police, you said:

24 "I would meet Naveed at Technology Bits and Pieces

25 at various stages of the process in order to allow him

1 time to review the product", the "product" being the
2 flash programme that you presented to him?
3 A. I'm sorry, there was quite a few of the disks I did.
4 The first one I did was -- I showed him there, and when
5 I left, I did continue doing it at my own house.
6 Q. How many flash disks did you prepare?
7 A. In all, about twelve.
8 Q. Over what sort of time?
9 A. A year, a year and a half.
10 Q. Is that something that you told the police in your
11 statement, Mr Gilbertson?
12 A. I think I did, yes.
13 Q. Just pausing for a moment to look at the material that
14 was being provided to you, you've mentioned children.
15 A. Yes.
16 Q. Was this material relating to war zones around the world
17 in which children had been swept up and injured or
18 killed, distressing, unpleasant photographs and
19 documents of that type?
20 A. Yes.
21 Q. What else was there?
22 A. It's a long time since I've actually reviewed them
23 because I've tried to block a lot of it from my memory.
24 I still have them, but I haven't looked at them
25 recently.

1 Q. Well, it can't have been that long, Mr Gilbertson,
2 because the first document or programme that you
3 provided for them was called "Hidden Agenda".

4 A. The "Hidden Agenda" was the video.

5 Q. You passed that programme to police officers who spoke
6 to you --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- subsequently in July 2005 --

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. -- and they've been made available to my Lady and myself
11 and the lawyers in these proceedings now.

12 A. I haven't viewed that for quite a time.

13 Q. You haven't.

14 A. But I remember the video started off with the -- about
15 America and JFK, and moves on to the end with some
16 Jihadist material at the end.

17 Q. May I ask, why did you permit yourself to become engaged
18 in the production of these flash programmes, if the raw
19 material that you were given was so utterly offensive?

20 A. It was -- it's -- it was done to highlight the war.
21 I was part of the coalition against the war. I didn't
22 want us to go to war in Iraq. I believe --

23 Q. What was the connection, did you see it, between
24 distressing pictures of children and the British
25 Government's stance on Iraq?

1 A. Because it happened again in Iraq, the children had been
2 bombed. All over the world, children suffer during the
3 wars. And at the time, I was actually anti-war,
4 I was -- I thought it was actually being done for the
5 coalition against the war.

6 Q. So to an extent, did you go along with their views, such
7 as they were, and as you came to understand them at that
8 time?

9 A. When I was doing the video, I didn't need to watch the
10 video all the way through, as I was just converting it
11 from one format to another, and then putting it together
12 with a link. It wasn't until I actually sat down and
13 watched the video all the way through that I realised
14 there was some distressing stuff in there. But as
15 a stance against the war, it was no different to many of
16 the other stuff being shown.

17 Q. Subsequently, when you came to be working at Iqra, did
18 they approach you again and, similarly, ask you to
19 prepare a disk for distribution?

20 A. Yes, there was another disk.

21 Q. What sort of material was on that?

22 A. That was the disk that had all the documents from
23 attacks in India. It's very hard to describe, but there
24 was quite a few documents on there about the wars:
25 Kashmir, massacres in India, massacres in the Middle

1 East. I did edit one of the documents myself because
2 I found that the use of the word comparing Israel to
3 Nazis, I said, "Look, I'll help you do this, but I don't
4 see how you can compare that", so it was actually
5 converted -- I actually removed, I think, two lines in
6 one of the documents before I published it.

7 Q. It seems from what you subsequently did that you kept
8 copies --

9 A. Yes, I did keep copies.

10 Q. -- or some copies, of some of the material that you
11 prepared --

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. -- because you provided them to the police, and the
14 police have made them available to us in these
15 proceedings?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. There was a great deal of material, was there not, of
18 a distressing kind, of anti-Semitic nature?

19 A. Yes, that's one of the things that I raised with them,
20 but --

21 Q. Anti-Americanism?

22 A. Anti-American, yes.

23 Q. But not a great deal, it must be said, Mr Gilbertson,
24 concerning Al-Qaeda or Jihadist activity?

25 A. Not on that one, no.

1 Q. So when did that material come to your attention, if at
2 all?

3 A. The only Jihadist material that I can remember was on
4 the "Hidden Agenda" at the end of the film, because
5 while I was actually doing the film, I didn't need to
6 watch it all the way through because I was just
7 converting it from one format to another.

8 Q. This was the first edition you did whilst you were at
9 Technology Bits and Pieces?

10 A. From Technology Bits and Pieces back to my own place,
11 because it took quite some time do it because I had to
12 create the flash in my spare time.

13 Q. When you were carrying out this work at Iqra, did you
14 have unrestricted access to the computers on the ground
15 floor, the computers we've seen on that plan?

16 A. Yes, while I was there, I had unrestricted -- because
17 they needed me to repair them.

18 Q. In your statement to the police, you said that the
19 position appeared, however, to have been that that area
20 was only permitted for Iqra staff and upon invitation
21 only, and only Taf, Naveed and McDaid could give
22 permission. They controlled the premises and were the
23 only people to have possession to the keys.

24 A. As far as I'm aware, they were the only ones with the
25 keys.

1 Q. But you were allowed access?

2 A. I was allowed access when I asked for Taf. As I said,
3 I asked for Taf, and they would let me through to the
4 back. I would have actually -- I'd actually have to ask
5 who was in the shop for Taf or Martin and tell them
6 I was coming to do the computers. I could not walk into
7 the shop and round to the back.

8 Q. How long did this process of preparing this further
9 material last?

10 A. A few months. I can't remember the exact time now.

11 Q. On the second floor, going back to that plan, we can see
12 a reference to "Video editing room. PC not connected to
13 the internet".

14 A. Yes, that is correct.

15 Q. What was the video editing room for and when was it
16 commenced?

17 A. It was about the same time I did the other ones, and
18 that was built upstairs.

19 Q. So in the middle of 2003?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. What was the purpose of that room, do you understand it?

22 A. They were going to create their own videos.

23 Q. For what?

24 A. As far as I was aware at the time, I was told to help
25 spread Islam.

1 Q. Your statement to the police appears to suggest that
2 access to that room was also restricted and there were
3 quite stringent safeguards in place as to who could
4 access the room and, in particular, the hard drive on
5 the computer there.

6 A. McDaid was very paranoid.

7 Q. In what way?

8 A. About people accessing his information, that's why he
9 didn't want it on the internet.

10 Q. Did you ever gain an understanding of what was in that
11 computer and on the hard drive, which, of course, you,
12 yourself, at times had access to?

13 A. That was -- because that one wasn't connected to the
14 internet, it never got a virus on it, so the only time
15 I actually had a need to go to that was when I was
16 showing McDaid how to use the software he wanted to use.

17 Q. So are you in a position, in fact, to assist us with
18 what was on the hard drive for that computer?

19 A. I don't know what was on the hard drive for that
20 computer.

21 Q. Throughout this time, did you gain any appreciation of
22 what the views of these men were? Were their views and
23 their opinions discursive and open or perhaps fixed or
24 rigid?

25 A. Because I wasn't in there every day, unlike some people,

1 I was -- but it was over a long period of time --
2 sometimes I'd go in there and I'd just do the work and
3 go home, but other times, I'd go in there and McDaid
4 would try to convert me to Islam, something would happen
5 and there would be a discussion about some political
6 issue where they'd rant and rave about the west.

7 Q. In what sense?

8 A. In the sense that the west was always anti-Islam.

9 Q. Is that the full extent of what you heard,
10 Mr Gilbertson?

11 A. Not necessarily. In some cases I've had discussions
12 where they got quite aggressive towards me because
13 I wouldn't convert to Islam or I wouldn't agree with
14 their ideas.

15 Q. Your account to the press and to the police appears to
16 suggest that their views went to the extent of the
17 expressions of beliefs such as "All of the west is
18 evil" --

19 A. That is --

20 Q. -- and that they were positively advocating an Islamic
21 state in the United Kingdom?

22 A. They wanted an Islamic state. There was a time when
23 I had a serious argument where I said I would defend
24 their right to follow Islam, but I would defend my right
25 not to be forced into it, and they said something to the

1 lines that, when it becomes an Islamic state, you will
2 have to. They wanted an Islamic state in the country.

3 Q. You see, Mr Gilbertson, there is, of course, a world of
4 difference between a single polemic argument about
5 whether or not you should be converted to Islam and
6 about the merits of an Islamic state in the west, and
7 the descriptions, which you have on various occasions
8 provided, of this being a hotbed of wild extremism which
9 was dedicated to the radicalisation of youths through
10 the practices of Iqra, the materials it produced and
11 outdoor activities with which it was associated.

12 Which is it?

13 A. The problem with the Iqra bookshop is, because I wasn't
14 there all the time, I started to get worried about the
15 place because, when I was working there, if any of the
16 women would come in, I was asked -- no, I was ordered to
17 leave the place before any of the women would go there.
18 They wanted to convert me to Islam, but they also, a lot
19 of the stuff that was in there, in the latter part of
20 it, was very extremist, anti-feminist, anti-gay,
21 anti-western. They had very strong views on a variety
22 of topics, but this is over a period of time, it's not
23 every day that it was happening.

24 They were all -- McDaid, Tafiq, Naveed, they were
25 all pro-Palestinian terrorists. They thought that the

1 idea of suicide bombs were absolutely fine and it was
2 one of the only ways they had to fight against Israel
3 and the west.

4 Q. Was there express reference to a support for suicide
5 bombing, Mr Gilbertson?

6 A. Yes, they did.

7 Q. Repeated reference or was this an occasional event?

8 A. Repeated over a long period of time. It wasn't every
9 day, but when we discussed it, we once actually
10 discussed about the validity of it and they were
11 wholeheartedly in support of the suicide bombers as
12 a method of warfare.

13 Q. So if this was a view being expressed to you over some
14 time, why did you remain?

15 A. Because, on a general day, it was just work, I was doing
16 work for the community, and they -- but there were other
17 people there, sometimes I'd have some pleasant
18 conversations, like with Tanweer, I once had
19 a conversation with him when I thought I had cancer, and
20 he was very nice to me and it's caused me a lot of
21 problems when I remember Tanweer like that and the
22 Tanweer that blew up the bomb.

23 Q. You describe in your statement how, in early 2003 -- but
24 it must have been later, if what you say about the
25 bookshop being developed in the summer of 2003 -- you

1 came across equipment which could be used for the
2 purposes of mass producing disks?
3 A. They did buy --
4 Q. What equipment was that?
5 A. They bought a multi-CD burner.
6 Q. When was that?
7 A. In my statement -- I can't remember at the moment, I'd
8 have to look at my statement for that.
9 Q. Did you ever become privy to any explanation as to why
10 they'd bought this equipment or the purpose to which it
11 would be put?
12 A. It was to -- some of the disks they wanted to take with
13 them on the anti-war march, to distribute the disks.
14 Q. That in itself is not illegal, of course, Mr Gilbertson?
15 A. No, it's not, no.
16 Q. Did you suspect that there was any other aspect of this
17 material which was of a more extremist and possibly
18 illegal kind or not?
19 A. I was asked to do other ones which I didn't do because
20 I decided to leave. But with -- at the time, being
21 anti-war, some of the stuff they were using could be
22 viewed as anti-war, but then, when they say "This is
23 what the west is doing to the people. This is how they
24 treat our brothers and sisters. We must do something
25 about it", they can be viewed in a different light.

1 Q. But again, I must press you on this, the strong
2 impression given from your public accounts and from your
3 police statement is that the material being prepared in
4 this way was extremist material that was likely to
5 inflame opinion and generate hatred and division,
6 whereas, from what you've just described, it may, in
7 fact, have been material for use in persuading people of
8 the merits of peace, of persuading the British
9 Government not to go to war, and so on?

10 A. Originally, that's what I thought the material would be
11 used. But when one of them turned round and said, "This
12 is what they're really doing to us, you'll see they're
13 murdering us left, right and centre" --

14 Q. Who was that?

15 A. That was McDaid -- no, I think it was Naveed, when he
16 passed the disk over to somebody.

17 Q. You were there, were you?

18 A. I was there.

19 Q. Who was passing it over to you? I'm sorry,
20 Mr Gilbertson, who was he passing it to?

21 A. A young lad, one of the young lads there.

22 Q. Were there lots of young lads there?

23 A. There were many young lads who came into that building.

24 Q. But you remained involved, nevertheless. I think you
25 introduced your son to them, did you not?

1 A. This was during the middle of the summer.

2 Q. You asked him to carry out a computer hacking course in
3 the Iqra bookshop, you told us?

4 A. No, not a computer hacking course, a security course for
5 them so that they don't -- because McDaid was quite
6 paranoid about the computers, and at that time, the
7 Government was recommending all small charities and all
8 small businesses to secure their computers.

9 Q. He provided a statement to the police?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. He bears your name as well, and in his statement to the
12 police, which contains a declaration of truth, he says:
13 "At around July 2003, my father telephoned me and
14 asked me if I could conduct a computer course based upon
15 computer hacking."

16 A. I know my son called "hack", but it was, as far as I was
17 aware, to stop hackers.

18 Q. There was no course, was there?

19 A. No, he didn't do it, he decided not to do it.

20 Q. He attended an interview for a matter of hours with one
21 of them, discussed the benefits of securing computer
22 networks and the possibility of encryption of mail, and
23 left?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. So it wouldn't be right to say that there was a course

1 being carried on there?

2 A. No, they wanted him to run a course, but he showed them
3 how to secure the network, basically, but he didn't run
4 a course for them.

5 Q. You have also reported in your witness statement how
6 internet material was available in the Iqra bookshop
7 relating to the execution of Ken Bigley, the aid worker
8 in Iraq.

9 A. It wasn't available. They wanted me to show them how to
10 find it, and I refused.

11 Q. So you never saw it?

12 A. No, in my statement I said I never saw it and I didn't
13 show them that material.

14 Q. As far as you are aware, it was never available and not
15 shown in the Iqra bookshop?

16 A. As far as I'm aware, yes.

17 Q. Now, you have told a variety of people that you reported
18 your concerns to the police about what you had seen in
19 the Iqra bookshop.

20 Can I ask you the question, please, first, if I may,
21 Mr Gilbertson, why did you approach the police when you
22 said you did, which was in 2003, having been privy to
23 this material for some time?

24 A. It was following -- it was the way everything was
25 developing within the store, I was worried that they

1 were raising money, they wanted to raise money for
2 attacks on British troops, just general concern about
3 what they were doing there, and I thought that --

4 Q. There doesn't appear, in what you've said, to be an
5 indication of activity that might be described as
6 illegal or likely to lead to criminal acts that should
7 be brought to the attention of the police.

8 A. But I was still concerned about what was happening
9 there, that they seemed to be getting more radical and
10 radicaler.

11 Q. Who were "they"?

12 A. Mainly McDaid and Tafiq and Naveed, because it's very
13 hard to try to explain it, it was -- at the time, I was
14 worried about it because, following 9/11, they seemed to
15 go more anti-western.

16 Q. But that had been some time before --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- some two years?

19 A. That was two years, but over the period.

20 Q. Had you, over that period, met or come across in any
21 significant way Mohammed Sidique Khan and
22 Shehzad Tanweer?

23 A. I had met Shehzad Tanweer in the shop.

24 Q. Because he is the one who expressed concern over you
25 being diagnosed with cancer?

1 A. Well, I thought I had cancer at the time.

2 Q. All right. You thought you had, but you didn't, and he

3 also thought you had but was wrong as well?

4 A. He expressed concern for me, which --

5 Q. What about Mohammed Sidique Khan?

6 A. I came across him at the gym at Woodville Road when two

7 of my sons were threatened by the local youths.

8 Q. Did he come to your assistance?

9 A. No, I visited the gym to ask why they were threatening

10 my kids and, when they realised I worked at the shop,

11 doing the computers, they apologised.

12 Q. That doesn't appear to have much connection to Tanweer.

13 Did he visit the Iqra bookshop?

14 A. Tanweer visited the Iqra bookshop. I was thinking about

15 Khan. I met Khan at the -- Khan was at the

16 Woodville Road gym.

17 Q. How often did they visit you?

18 A. They didn't visit me.

19 Q. The premises where you were working?

20 A. While I was there, I saw them a few times, just coming

21 in, talking and going out again. They were just one of

22 many --

23 Q. Over a number of years?

24 A. Well, over a period of time.

25 Q. In any event, you've described elsewhere how you went to

1 Holbeck police station to report your concerns?
2 A. Yes, I did.
3 Q. When did you go?
4 A. I cannot remember the date. I was -- during that
5 summer, I was concerned and worried for myself as well.
6 Q. It's not every day that you visit a police station,
7 Mr Gilbertson.
8 A. It was in the summer. I can't remember the date.
9 Q. Why Holbeck?
10 A. It was the nearest one.
11 Q. To your address?
12 A. Yes.
13 Q. If you were worried about what was going on in Iqra, why
14 did you not go to the Force Headquarters, perhaps, of
15 West Yorkshire Police or contact the
16 Anti-terrorist Branch in London hotline?
17 A. One of the problems that I found when I was working in
18 the Technology Bits and Bats and other places is they
19 would talk about their contacts, and they claimed to
20 have a contact in the West Yorkshire Police force.
21 Q. Did you ever meet that contact?
22 A. I might have met him in the shop when they were -- when
23 I was working there, but I cannot -- I've never been --
24 Q. Did you knowingly meet that contact, Mr Gilbertson?
25 A. I didn't knowingly meet that contact, no.

1 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Sorry, isn't Holbeck, West Yorkshire?
2 A. It's West Yorkshire Police force, yes.
3 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: So the same force?
4 A. Yes.
5 MR KEITH: Do you recall anything about the time of day that
6 you went or whom you met in Holbeck police station?
7 A. It was midday, because it was a sunny day, it was quite
8 warm, and I was quite stressed out and worried.
9 Q. Did you leave anything there?
10 A. No, I was asked -- the police officer told me to post
11 it.
12 Q. He told you to post it?
13 A. Yes, he said "Oh, send it in".
14 Q. So what did you tell him? Did you say "I've been
15 working or become associated with a bookshop and I'm
16 concerned" --
17 A. I asked if I -- I said I wanted --
18 Q. -- if you'd allow me to finish -- that you were
19 concerned about the extremism which you had encountered,
20 did you give him a flavour of what those concerns had
21 been?
22 A. I said "I would like to speak to an officer about some
23 concerns I have about a bookshop", or something to that
24 effect, but he said "Oh, send the information in". So
25 I left.

1 Q. Did you send it in?
2 A. Yes, I posted it.
3 Q. When was that?
4 A. Not long after that, about a week later.
5 Q. You've told interviewers who have interviewed you, in
6 particular a Guardian interviewer, that it wasn't
7 until October 2003 that you decided to send the material
8 in.
9 A. I do apologise, it would have been September when
10 I visited the police station, then.
11 Q. Well, you have repeatedly suggested it was between June
12 and July that you visited the police station.
13 A. I do apologise.
14 Q. What material did you post?
15 A. The two disks and a list of names that I'd gleaned from
16 the computers from the emails when repairing them.
17 Q. What disks were they?
18 A. "Think Again" and "Hidden Agenda".
19 Q. The two disks of which you've spoken in these
20 proceedings?
21 A. Yes.
22 Q. So material that, as far as we can see, and as you've
23 described, was unpleasant, perhaps offensive, but not
24 indicating a level of criminal extremism as far as we
25 can tell?

1 A. That is correct, yes, what I was concerned about, and
2 they may have found it useful.

3 Q. Did you provide any explanation with the disks as to
4 what it was that you were sending and why you were
5 sending them?

6 A. I can't remember now, I'm sorry, but it was so long ago
7 now, and I've been trying to re-read my statement.

8 Q. It's a significant issue, Mr Gilbertson, you must be
9 aware, because although it's perhaps less important now
10 because my Lady and the parties in these proceedings are
11 now aware that McDaid was known to the Security Service
12 and West Yorkshire Police since at least 1998, and
13 suspected of being involved in extremist activities
14 since then, you have alleged repeatedly, outside these
15 proceedings, to the press and elsewhere, that you
16 attempted to bring your concerns about radical extremism
17 to the attention of the police.

18 A. All I said is that I sent those disks off and I spoke to
19 them and they've expanded on that. I -- it -- at that
20 time, I was very concerned and worried. It was a very
21 stressful time for me.

22 Q. Are you suggesting to my Lady that, because of the
23 stress, you're now unable to remember what it was you
24 sent -- or, rather, when you sent it?

25 A. No, I'm not saying that. I'm trying to get my head back

1 round it again now.

2 Q. Well, in the course of a Mirror article, an article to
3 the Daily Mirror, on 10 July 2005, so just immediately
4 after the events of 7 July, you made no mention of
5 having attempted to go to Holbeck police station in June
6 or July 2003 or of posting the CDs in October. Do you
7 recollect why that was?

8 A. I can't remember the article.

9 Q. Let's have it. It's INQ9970.

10 Could you take it off the screen, please, I'm sorry?

11 There should be a redacted version of this. No, we're
12 going to do this another way.

13 In the article, which was dated, as I've said,
14 10 July, the journalist to whom you spoke gave
15 a detailed description of an operation being operated
16 from the Iqra bookshop which contained hundreds of
17 shocking images of dying children and blast victims,
18 that the bomber Sidique Khan was a regular companion of
19 the men for several years, and they even visited your
20 home, and that the system had a high security encryption
21 system that Government agencies would find hard to
22 access, and also that the people with whom you had
23 associated at Iqra knew of Alexandra Grove, which we
24 know, of course, as the bomb factory, in advance of the
25 use of that premises on 7 July.

1 But a detailed account, a very significant account
2 of the Iqra bookshop, but no mention of you telling the
3 police.

4 A. When the bombs went off, I got seriously worried and
5 I tried to contact the Anti-terrorist Squad with
6 a number. When I rang through and it was answered, it
7 was an Asian voice, an Asian voice on the other end, and
8 I just freaked and I put the phone down.

9 Q. Have you ever mentioned that ever before, Mr Gilbertson?

10 A. I have --

11 Q. Ever?

12 A. I have mentioned that before, yes, but it's not been
13 used. The --

14 Q. Have you ever mentioned, in any way that can be
15 verified, that you called the Anti-terrorist hotline and
16 spoke to an Asian gentleman, at which point you freaked
17 out?

18 A. Yes, I'm sure I mentioned that to some of the press.
19 I'm sure about that.

20 Q. Have you ever told anybody in a way that we can verify?

21 A. I'm trying to think. I don't know.

22 Q. The police spoke to you after that Mirror article came
23 out. In fact, they spoke to you over the course of two
24 days, 19 and 20 July 2005. Do you recall two officers,
25 DC Griggs and DC McIntyre?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Did you tell them that you had attempted to contact
3 West Yorkshire Police about --

4 A. Yes, but they said they were not interested in that.

5 Q. Well, I should put to you, in all fairness, that both
6 men have given statements containing declarations of
7 truth saying you never mentioned it.

8 A. I'm sure I did. At the time, I was very -- it's -- it
9 was a very hard time at that time, I didn't know what
10 was happening, I'd worked at those places, my
11 fingerprints were everywhere, I -- it's ...

12 Q. It's rather a quandary, isn't it?

13 A. Yes, I would agree with you there, but I did do those
14 disks because there were other people present who saw me
15 do that. Can I say --

16 Q. Please do.

17 A. -- that I just sent them in, hoping that the police
18 would look at the place. I regret the fact --

19 Q. If you'll allow me to interrupt. It's not what your
20 motive was, but whether you indeed sent the disks at
21 all, and that's what we're trying to address.

22 You will appreciate this is an important issue, if
23 a member of the public, such as yourself, attempted to
24 contact the police, but either was fobbed off or did so
25 but no steps were taken. So we're trying to get to the

1 bottom of whether you did contact the police.
2 In a Guardian article on 24 June 2006 -- so roughly
3 around the anniversary of the events of 7 July 2005 --
4 you did mention that you had spoken to
5 West Yorkshire Police or tried to contact
6 West Yorkshire Police. Could we have, that please,
7 [INQ9985-2] ?
8 We can see the headline there:
9 "IT expert: I worked with 7/7 bombers and warned
10 police."
11 A. That is the press way of doing it. I wasn't warning
12 them about a bombing. I was merely pointing out that
13 I had sent these disks into the police force.
14 Q. Are you saying that you didn't tell them, then, that you
15 had warned the police?
16 A. I -- I sent the disks in to the police, warning them
17 that I was concerned about the radicalisation of the
18 youth, what was going on there, but I most certainly
19 didn't think that they were going to bomb England, so
20 that's why I say that that heading there I found --
21 I didn't agree with it.
22 Q. You gave a second, more detailed interview that day to
23 the same journalist -- could we have [WYP15-4]? At the
24 bottom:
25 "In October 2003, I walked into the police station

1 in Holbeck and said 'I have something for the
2 Anti-terrorist Squad'."

3 You didn't know there was an Anti-terrorist Squad in
4 Holbeck station, did you?

5 A. No, I didn't, but I was looking for the -- I would have
6 assumed that the Anti-terrorist Squad would be the ones
7 who would look at it.

8 Q. "The officer told me to 'send it in' to
9 West Yorkshire Police headquarters."

10 You didn't tell us earlier that it was the
11 West Yorkshire Police headquarters to which the officer
12 had advised you to send the material?

13 A. Well, I do apologise, I can't remember everything.

14 Q. You do say there you added a list of names --

15 A. Yes, there was a list of names.

16 Q. -- to a covering letter.

17 A. I did say earlier on those names were gleaned from
18 emails.

19 Q. From the computers?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Did you give your own name there?

22 A. No, because I was worried that they had somebody in the
23 police force who might read it, and I did put a number
24 on. Oh, and my name was on the list, sorry.

25 Q. Your name was on the list?

1 A. Yes, because my name was -- the reason is there was
2 a whole list of phone numbers and names in Iqra on the
3 wall, and I added my name as well.

4 Q. So you did add your name to the list?

5 A. Yes, to the list.

6 Q. Did you add your phone number?

7 A. I gave the phone number, yes.

8 Q. Why do you say in your statement to the police that you
9 were trying to remain anonymous?

10 A. They needed some way, if they wanted to contact me, but
11 the phone number was one that nobody at Iqra knew, it
12 was my new phone, which I didn't give to anybody there.

13 Q. In computer material that you supplied to the press and
14 they passed to the police, and they passed to my Lady
15 and ourselves, was found a document called "7 July 2005:
16 Why did it happen?", which I think -- I made reference
17 to it earlier -- was an attempt by you to summarise your
18 views on the events of 7 July --

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. -- and your role at Iqra and what had happened. Could
21 we just have a quick look at that document, please?

22 INQ11039-1.

23 Then, turning to page 6 [INQ11039-6], we can see there "Why did
24 it happen? M Gilbertson". In the middle of that page,
25 you say:

1 "During 2003, information was sent to
2 Security Services pertaining to a group of Islamic
3 fundamentalists working out of Beeston."
4 You wrote this, of course, it's in your computer or,
5 rather, in computers to which you had access and you
6 provided it to the press:

7 "A number of people sent to West Yorkshire Police
8 lists of people that included two of the bombers."
9 Who sent information to the Security Services and
10 who are the number of people who sent lists of people to
11 West Yorkshire Police?

12 A. That is my -- that is an error myself. I was --
13 because, while I was writing the book, I didn't know
14 whether it was going to be published or not, this is an
15 unpublished manuscript.

16 Q. Well, forgive me for being bold, Mr Gilbertson. Perhaps
17 it's wise to tell the truth whether or not the book is
18 being published or not.

19 A. The book's not being published, no.

20 Q. The question remains: why did you put something in there
21 which you knew to be inaccurate because you thought it
22 might not be published?

23 A. Well, I'd heard a rumour on the net that other people
24 had contacted the police force, that's why that was
25 there. But the book hasn't been published, and it would

1 have been -- I would probably have taken that out before
2 it came to it, anyway. I would have actually written in
3 I was -- I haven't looked at the book since 2009,
4 I haven't written any more to it. I put it aside and
5 left it.

6 Q. These are your words, Mr Gilbertson:

7 "Information was sent to the Security Services and
8 a number of people sent to West Yorkshire Police",
9 I mean, either they did or they didn't, but you have
10 asserted that they did. Who were they?

11 A. I sent a list of people.

12 Q. This was a reference to you?

13 A. Yes, it's a reference to me, but I did hear, I haven't
14 confirmed it, that other people had contacted
15 West Yorkshire Police force.

16 Q. Who?

17 A. That's probably -- I don't know.

18 Q. Who told you?

19 A. It was on the internet.

20 Q. Where?

21 A. On one of the -- that website, the 7 July coalition
22 website.

23 Q. I don't think we're familiar with that website,

24 Mr Gilbertson.

25 A. Not the coalition, the one that claimed the Government

1 set it up.

2 Q. I suspect that's, then, a rather suspect source of
3 information.

4 The witness statement that you gave to the police
5 deals with a couple of other matters which I'll deal
6 with shortly, if I may.

7 The statement, that again you gave under oath or
8 under a declaration of truth, reported your views that
9 the martyrdom videos prepared by Khan and Tanweer were
10 filmed at the Iqra bookshop?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Do you know that for a fact? Were you present when they
13 were filmed?

14 A. No, but that's my -- looking at them, there are some
15 aspects of them that don't ring true for Middle East
16 martyrdom videos.

17 Q. I don't want to ask you about your experience of
18 Middle East martyrdom videos.

19 Is there anything about the videos that we have, the
20 MSK and the Tanweer videos, that indicates any
21 connection to the Iqra bookshop?

22 A. When I gave my interview to the police, I said it was my
23 feeling that they were videoed there because they had
24 the video suite there and it looked like it was filmed
25 in cramped quarters.

1 Q. It was filmed in ...?

2 A. Cramped quarters.

3 Q. So you don't know whether, indeed, they were filmed at
4 the Iqra bookshop and there's nothing to suggest that
5 there was a connection, other than the fact there was
6 a video editing suite at the Iqra bookshop?

7 A. That is correct.

8 Q. You also told two Metropolitan Police officers -- Grigg
9 and McIntyre, the officers you spoke to in July 2005 --
10 that the police may have missed other bombs due to
11 detonate on 7 July.

12 On what grounds did you make that assertion?

13 A. I'm sorry, other bombs at -- I don't have the statement
14 I made with them.

15 Q. They report in their witness statements that, when they
16 spoke to you in the Radisson Hotel in Leeds
17 in July 2005, amongst the information you provided them
18 with was your view that the police may have missed other
19 bombs which had been due to detonate on 7 July.

20 A. That would have been speculation by myself.

21 Q. If you said that, it would have been quite untrue,
22 wouldn't it?

23 A. I believed at the time that there could possibly have
24 been other bombs.

25 Q. Did you have any basis for the belief --

1 A. No, I didn't.

2 Q. -- that there were other bombs?

3 A. I was speculating.

4 Q. Any basis at all?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Finally, in December of 2005, you took a lift from

7 a taxi driver, Sarwar Khan, whose evidence we heard this

8 morning, and you recognised him because you'd done

9 computer work for him.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Did you discuss with him your role at the Iqra bookshop

12 and whether or not you had attempted to contact the

13 police about it?

14 A. I spoke to him, he knew that I -- we spoke about the

15 Iqra bookshop and, from that meeting, he had actually

16 asked me to speak to John Battle about it.

17 Q. You knew he wasn't Mohammed Sidique Khan's brother,

18 didn't you?

19 A. He actually said to me --

20 Q. Mr Gilbertson, had you ever met Mohammed Sidique Khan's

21 brother or been given to believe that he had a brother

22 who was a taxi driver in Leeds?

23 A. No, I haven't, but when I spoke to Mr -- can I please

24 explain this? When I spoke to Mr Sarwar Khan, I asked

25 him, I said "Was Sidique your brother?", he said, "Yes",

1 but he meant Muslim brother, not brother.

2 I misunderstood him at that time.

3 Q. Did you make up the assertion that you gave to the
4 police that he then said to you, "How did you allow my
5 brother to be turned? You knew what was going on at the
6 Iqra bookshop"?

7 A. When he used the word "brother" he meant Muslim brother.

8 Q. It's another confusion, is it not?

9 A. It's a confusion that the Muslims do because I --
10 constantly, they were saying "brother", "my brother
11 this", "my brother that", when they were talking about
12 fellow Muslims.

13 MR KEITH: Thank you, Mr Gilbertson. I've no more questions
14 for you.

15 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: I think we'll take a break now.

16 Mr Gilbertson, when we return, you'll be asked some
17 further questions. Could I just ask this, please: that
18 you remember the amount of distress that speculation can
19 cause to the bereaved families?

20 A. I do understand, yes, yes.

21 (3.30 pm)

22 (A short break)

23 (3.40 pm)

24 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr O'Connor are you going next?

25 Mr Patterson?

1 MR PATTERSON: My Lady, I have no questions for this
2 witness.

3 MR PATRICK O'CONNOR: My Lady, thank you.

4 Questions by MR PATRICK O'CONNOR

5 MR PATRICK O'CONNOR: Mr Gilbertson, some very few questions
6 on behalf of some of the bereaved families.

7 You started your association with the Iqra bookshop
8 in about June 2002. Is that right?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. You started going there more regularly in
11 about December 2002. Is that right?

12 A. From then onwards, yes.

13 Q. You ended your association, I think, in about July 2004,
14 when you actually moved away from the area?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Now, is it right that, from all the activities that you
17 were asked to engage in there, you seemed to have been
18 very substantially trusted?

19 A. Within -- for the computers, yes.

20 Q. Yes. You seem also to have had, subject perhaps only to
21 McDaid's hard drive, pretty free access around the whole
22 building. Is that right?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. You were party to many conversations during which strong
25 political views were expressed?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. You, in fact, refused to do certain things that you were
3 asked to do, didn't you?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. You refused to enable a strong encryption for their
6 emails?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. You refused to obtain certain documents such as the
9 anarchist or CIA cookbook?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And, as you've already mentioned, anything to do with
12 the appalling execution of Mr Bigley?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. You engaged, did you, in some aggressive argumentation
15 with McDauid on political issues. Is that right?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. Indeed, when you were asked to return to work in the
18 bookshop, later on, after July 2004, by
19 Tafazal Mohammed, you refused to do so?

20 A. That's correct.

21 Q. Now, is it right that many of the people to do with the
22 Iqra bookshop thought you were a Muslim?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. In fact, did you ever convert?

25 A. No.

1 Q. Did you ever go to a mosque?

2 A. I visited a mosque once while I was working at
3 Technology Bits and Bats, I visited a mosque.

4 Q. Was that just out of general interest or were you
5 pretending anything?

6 A. It was general interest because I was working for the
7 company, they always shut on Friday at 2.00.

8 Q. Did you ever engage in prayers?

9 A. No, no.

10 Q. Let me ask you this: do you think that if you had
11 expressed sympathy with all the political views that
12 you'd heard or, for instance, cooperated with all their
13 requests, that you would have been welcomed more closely
14 into their inner circle?

15 A. It's quite possible that that could have happened, but
16 it was part of the community and, in Beeston, they were
17 the only charities and I was asked to work for
18 a charity, and that's where it started out with, and it
19 wasn't -- it was over a long period of time, and when
20 they were -- they couldn't do computers, so I did them
21 for them.

22 Q. Just a second and final question along similar lines.
23 Do you think that if you'd, say, pretended to convert to
24 Islam and gone along regularly to a mosque, that you
25 would have been welcomed more closely into their inner

1 circle?

2 A. Yes, probably. They seemed to like converts.

3 Q. You heard, did you, of some police activity which
4 resulted in one of McDaid's computers being seized; is
5 that right?

6 A. That's right, McDaid asked me to repair it for him.
7 They had taken it apart and not put it back together
8 properly.

9 Q. Right. Did you understand this was a result of a police
10 stop in the street or a raid on some premises or what?

11 A. I was led to believe by him it was because of his
12 anti-war --

13 Q. No, I'm not asking you motives or reasons, I'm asking
14 physically what you understood to have happened?

15 A. From McDaid, I understood it was taken from his house.

16 Q. By the police?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Was McDaid the only person who referred to that, or did
19 you hear about that from others?

20 A. No, that was McDaid who told me himself.

21 Q. All right. Were you aware of any other forms of police
22 attention around the Iqra bookshop?

23 A. Not directly, no. I do know that, in December that
24 year, the lock had been broken. Because I wasn't there
25 all the time, I didn't know everything that was

1 happening there.

2 Q. It is unfair on everybody to speculate.

3 A. I don't know.

4 Q. A broken lock is a broken lock, isn't it? Right.

5 Finally, McDaid, apart from perhaps Scottish and

6 English, did he speak any other languages?

7 A. He spoke Arabic. He would recite from the Koran.

8 Q. He spoke Arabic to that extent. Did he speak Urdu?

9 A. I don't know, because all my conversations were always

10 in English with him.

11 Q. But in the time that you spent in association with him,

12 did you ever hear him speaking Urdu?

13 A. I don't know what Urdu sounds like, so I couldn't

14 possibly say "yes" to that question. I'm sorry, I don't

15 know what Urdu is.

16 Q. Fine, let me just ask you, then, did you hear him

17 speaking any other language that you recognised, apart

18 from Arabic --

19 A. Arabic is the only one that I've heard him --

20 Q. -- in association with the Koran, and English and

21 Scottish?

22 A. And English and Scottish, yes, that's all that --

23 MR PATRICK O'CONNOR: Thank you.

24 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Hill?

25 Questions by MR HILL

1 MR HILL: Mr Gilbertson, just one matter I want to ask you
2 about, and that is this: to confirm through you that you
3 did not, at any time prior to 7 July 2005, make contact
4 with the Metropolitan Police Service.

5 A. I never contacted the Metropolitan Police force.

6 Q. Thank you, and after 7 July 2005, it was not you who
7 contacted the Metropolitan Police; it was officers from
8 the Metropolitan Police who made contact with you,
9 specifically after the publication, on 19 July 2005, of
10 an article by a journalist in the Daily Mirror to whom
11 you had been speaking?

12 A. That is correct, yes.

13 Q. So we are not to take it from your evidence that there
14 ever came a time, even after 7 July, when you contacted
15 any anti-terrorist hotline provided by the police in
16 London, the Metropolitan Police?

17 A. I did ring the phone, but I did not speak to anybody.

18 Q. You did not, even after 7 July, make any effort to
19 contact the Metropolitan Police, did you?

20 A. Yes, I would say I did, I was in Keighley and I rang
21 that phone number, but I did not speak to anybody at the
22 other end. I chickened out. And then I came into
23 Leeds. I contacted the Daily Mirror and asked them to
24 contact the police for me, and I was scared.

25 Q. I'm going to read to you three or four lines from the

1 statement that you provided on 11 July 2006. This is
2 the 29-page statement. We have a reference, and I'm not
3 going to ask that it's brought up on screen for a very
4 good reason, but the reference for my Lady is
5 INQ9768-24.

6 This is your own statement, top of page 24 of 29, if
7 you have it, so that you can verify what I say:

8 "Since 7 July 2005 bombings in London, I have made
9 various attempts to contact the Anti-terrorist Squad in
10 order to give this information."

11 Are you following me? These are your words.

12 A. Sorry, 20?

13 Q. Page 24 of 29 if you're looking at the numbering top
14 right-hand corner. It's also INQ9768-24. Do you have
15 that?

16 A. I do apologise to you.

17 Q. Let me read on and then your apology, please:

18 "All of my attempts", repeat:

19 "All of my attempts were focused through
20 West Yorkshire Police, as I did not realise that the
21 Terrorist Squad were actually named the
22 Anti-terrorist Branch and were based within the
23 Metropolitan Police district, New Scotland Yard,
24 London."

25 Is that right or not?

1 A. Can I clarify that, please?

2 Q. Please.

3 A. The phone number I would have rang, then, would have
4 been the one given by the West Yorkshire Police. I do
5 apologise, you are correct.

6 At that time, it was very confusing and there was
7 very few information about contacting them. If I
8 inadvertently said the Anti-terrorist Branch, I do
9 apologise for that.

10 MR HILL: Thank you.

11 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Yes, Mr Beggs?

12 Questions by MR BEGGS

13 MR BEGGS: Mr Gilbertson, it comes to this, that from
14 7 July, and the 18th or 19th, you somehow couldn't
15 contact the West Yorkshire Police, but you did manage to
16 contact the Daily Mirror?

17 A. Yes, I did, yes.

18 Q. Is that because, Mr Gilbertson, the sad truth is that
19 you are an egocentric self-publicist, a fantasist,
20 exaggerator, speculator, irresponsible individual?

21 A. No, I would --

22 Q. Well, explain to her Lady how it is that you struggled
23 to pick the telephone up to the police on your doorstep,
24 being an internet expert yourself, and yet you were able
25 to contact the media?

1 A. I was confused at the time. I did come in to Leeds --
2 Q. Confused by what?
3 A. Because my fingerprints were all over the bookshop and
4 everywhere they raided.
5 Q. That might make you concerned, but it won't make you
6 confused. It might make you all the more intent on
7 ringing the West Yorkshire Police, as a responsible
8 citizen, quickly, but you didn't, did you? You rang
9 the Daily Mirror.
10 A. I tried, but I walked into Leeds police station, but
11 while I was there, there was a load of white youths
12 arguing and I just couldn't talk to the police and say
13 "Oh, I've got information", I was scared.
14 Q. So you walked into the police station?
15 A. And I walked back out again, and then I contacted
16 through the Daily Mirror.
17 Q. That's another thing that doesn't appear in your 28- or
18 29-page statement, isn't it?
19 A. I do apologise for that, but, no, I was scared at the
20 time.
21 Q. Just as the telephone call when you bottled out doesn't
22 appear in the 29-page statement, does it?
23 A. No, it doesn't.
24 Q. No, that's another lie, isn't it?
25 A. No, it's not a lie.

1 Q. You see, Mr Gilbertson, you've got to the stage now that
2 the true reason you told Mr Keith you're nervous sitting
3 there is all your lies have got on top of you, haven't
4 they?

5 A. I have not lied to the court.

6 Q. Really? Well, you see, you've made two new things up
7 today, haven't you, about walking into a police station?

8 A. No, I haven't made them up.

9 Q. Not in your book, is it, any mention about going into
10 the station?

11 A. There was so many things that happened back then that
12 I haven't mentioned because I haven't been asked about
13 them, and --

14 Q. Your book is about a 60-page treatise on this --

15 A. My book's not going to be published.

16 Q. No. That much seems clear.

17 A. I wrote it, I wrote the book, but I decided not to
18 publish it.

19 Q. Yes. Mr Gilbertson, when did you leave the Iqra
20 bookshop, because you were, you say in your statement,
21 disgusted with their views? What date did you say that
22 was?

23 A. I cannot remember the exact date. It was in 2004, we
24 left Beeston.

25 Q. Let me see if I can help you by reminding you that, at

1 page 20 of your lengthy second statement to the police,
2 dated 11 July of 2006, you suggest that date
3 is July 2004.

4 A. It would have been July 2004. If my wife was here, she
5 would actually be able to give you the exact date.

6 Q. Yes, that's the date you gave to the police in the
7 statement which contains the usual declaration as to its
8 truth, yes?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Then later, on the next page, page 21, you seem -- I'm
11 paraphrasing to save time -- to be saying that
12 between July 2004 and early 2005 you had no other
13 contact with anybody from Iqra or Beeston until a chance
14 meeting at the Leeds Metropolitan University.

15 A. That's correct.

16 Q. Yes?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. If you turn back a couple of pages, please, to page 18,
19 you suggest in the second paragraph of the version for
20 the court with the inquest number on it, you say:
21 "On another occasion whilst at Iqra, it was shortly
22 after the news broke regarding the execution of
23 Ken Bigley."

24 You go on to describe an incident at the bookshop,
25 don't you?

1 A. That's correct.

2 Q. Mr Bigley was murdered on 7 or perhaps 8 October 2004.

3 That's a matter of public record. Do you understand,

4 Mr Gilbertson?

5 A. Yes, I understand. It must have been later than July

6 that I left.

7 Q. Well, or is it perhaps the case that you simply have no

8 regard to accuracy whatsoever?

9 A. As far as I'm aware, all the statements I made were true

10 and accurate.

11 Q. That one can't be, can it, because we've just

12 established on your account you'd left Iqra and yet

13 you're able, you say, to relate an incident that you

14 couldn't have been present at. Do you see?

15 A. Yes, I agree, yes. There is that there.

16 Q. Do you agree with me that the truth, Mr Gilbertson, is

17 you have no real regard for accuracy and fact, do you?

18 A. I would disagree with that. I've made an error and --

19 Q. Let's see if another incident is an error or, again,

20 your self-publicity, because --

21 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Beggs, just one gentle reminder

22 that these aren't adversarial proceedings.

23 MR BEGGS: No, of course, certainly not. But it will be

24 understood, of course, that West Yorkshire Police

25 incurred tens of thousands of pounds of money chasing

1 down the false hares.

2 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: That's why I said it was a gentle
3 reminder.

4 MR BEGGS: I'm very grateful and I'll take the hint.

5 In the Daily Mirror, which you managed to see prior
6 to managing to find the right telephone number for the
7 police, you are reported as saying that the bomber,
8 Sidique Khan, with Fiaz, visited your home, because
9 you're the insider in this excited story, aren't you?

10 A. They added more to that there. Fiaz had picked me up
11 from my house to go and play football with him at one
12 point while I was working there.

13 Q. Pause a moment. First of all, you accept that that's
14 what the report suggests, that you, the insider, were
15 telling --

16 A. They called me "the insider", I just wanted to get the
17 gist to the police.

18 Q. I can understand why they used that term, because you
19 didn't want your name there, at that stage, but just
20 bear with me, if you will.

21 They had reported you telling them that the bomber,
22 the ringleader, as everyone knew by then, had been in
23 your house.

24 A. I never said he'd been in my house. I said that I'd
25 been picked up -- I had been picked up by Naveed Fiaz to

1 go and play football with them.

2 Q. Or is it this, Mr Gilbertson: that, by now, you were so
3 excited with the media attention that you added these
4 little lies to maximise your prospects of publicity?

5 A. No, I did not.

6 Q. Because he was never in your house, was he?

7 A. There was a possibility he was in my house.

8 Q. He was never in your house. Let's look at your
9 statement, then, that was taken at great length on
10 11 July and see what you said then about your contact
11 with Mohammed Sidique Khan outside of Iqra.

12 If you go to page 19 of that statement, please, and
13 the bottom paragraph, you offer an opinion about Mr Khan
14 and you say this in the concluding sentence:

15 "The only contact I had with Khan outside Iqra was
16 when he was at Hamara YAP."

17 A. Yes, that's correct, when he was there.

18 Q. So you explicitly exclude the proposition that he was
19 ever at your house, don't you?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Yes.

22 A. But I never said that to the Daily Mail.

23 Q. It's the Daily Mirror.

24 A. Sorry, the Daily Mirror.

25 Q. Although, en passant, it's true to say it wasn't just

1 the Mirror and the Guardian that you spoke, to was it?
2 You sought out the Times, the Yorkshire Post, Newsnight,
3 Channel 4 --
4 A. They contacted me, and I only spoke to Newsnight, the
5 local people, the local news and the Guardian with
6 Ed Vulliamy.
7 Q. Mr Gilbertson, is it, in fact, even true that you
8 started with Technical Bits and Bats, I think it's
9 called --
10 A. That's correct.
11 Q. -- just a day or two before 9/11? Is that even true?
12 A. I started there -- I was working there on a work deal
13 with -- from the Job Centre, a new deal.
14 Q. Yes. You were unemployed, weren't you, at the time?
15 A. Yes.
16 Q. I think you'd been unemployed for some considerable
17 time?
18 A. Yes.
19 Q. And you remained unemployed for some considerable time,
20 despite your computer skills?
21 A. Yes.
22 Q. But you were paid by TBB?
23 A. I was employed by them through the new deal --
24 Q. Yes.
25 A. -- from the Job Centre.

1 Q. Or are you also nervous because you realise, perhaps on
2 a low scale, but nonetheless you had been fiddling
3 benefits as well?

4 A. I started working there in a short scale unpaid, doing
5 it and then I actually got a job there through the
6 New Deal.

7 Q. You were on P45 -- you were on pay as you go and so
8 forth, were you?

9 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Beggs, Mr Keith is on his feet,
10 I think, really, can we go back to "Were you employed?",
11 which I think is rather more pertinent.

12 MR KEITH: My Lady, would it assist my learned friend if
13 I made one small observation, which is that none of the
14 parties, of course, may address my Lady on the facts at
15 the end of these proceedings, but perhaps I could
16 venture to suggest the view that, were they empowered to
17 do so, it would be a brave advocate who would have much
18 to say about the issue of contact with the
19 West Yorkshire Police.

20 MR BEGGS: That's helpful, but I'm afraid it's not quite
21 enough yet.

22 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Let's go back to when and whether
23 employed by TBB, please.

24 MR BEGGS: You say, do you, Mr Gilbertson, that you started
25 with TBB literally a day or two before 9/11,

1 11 September 2001?

2 A. It was well before that that I started working for them.

3 Q. You say "well before" ...

4 A. That I first met them and did work for them, but I was
5 officially working for them.

6 Q. This is another odd thing, you see, because in your very
7 lengthy statement what you actually say at page 2, at
8 the bottom paragraph, is:

9 "In September 2001, I was seeking employment nearby
10 to where I was living."

11 Then you alight upon TBB, that's Technology Bits and
12 Bats for short. So it's not well before 9/11, is it?

13 It's a matter of ten days at most. Do you see?

14 A. Yes, I officially started working with them just before.

15 Q. You see, I'm wondering whether even that's true, or have
16 you put 9/11 in to spice up your statement?

17 A. No. The -- I'm sure the Job Centre can validate that
18 I was working there under the New Deal.

19 Q. You see, Mr Gilbertson, your account seems to be this,
20 that despite the fact that what appears to be your first
21 employment for many years results within days in you
22 witnessing the vista of 15 or so men cheering and
23 celebrating 9/11 -- that's how you describe it; they
24 have a party lasting a day on 12 September to celebrate
25 what happened the previous day -- nonetheless, you

1 remain with that group of people, particularly McDaid,
2 Fiaz and Tafazal Mohammed, for, it would seem, the
3 better part of three years.

4 A. It was work.

5 Q. Well, is that the truth, or is that your refuge?
6 Because it doesn't make much sense, does it? Why would
7 you stay with people that are cheering the mass murder
8 of civilians?

9 A. I just, at that time, shut it out and just got on with
10 the work because I needed the money, I needed to work.

11 Q. I see. Can we just look quickly at what happened after
12 the bombings? We know you spoke to the Daily Mirror and
13 I want to just go back to, very quickly, the point about
14 the officers from the Metropolitan Police who spoke to
15 you on 19, 20 and perhaps 21 July 2005.

16 You see, both of them, both of those officers, have
17 put in statements saying that you mentioned nothing
18 about warning West Yorkshire or, indeed, any other
19 police force. Do you see?

20 A. Yes, I do, but they weren't -- all their questions were
21 about Khan and Tanweer, which I couldn't give them much
22 information about. I was trying to talk about Iqra and
23 Leeds Community School and working there.

24 Q. Not only have they put in statements to that effect, but
25 perhaps of greater importance is that they were making

1 standard police actions and messages at the time, on the
2 very day, and nowhere in those contemporaneous messages
3 or actions do they record you making any reference
4 either to warnings or, indeed, to any of the bombers.
5 So are they deliberately falsifying their
6 contemporaneous records?

7 A. When I spoke to them, they were more concerned about
8 whether I knew them personally, when I was trying to say
9 I worked --

10 Q. You see that's not true, because you have no record --

11 A. They were looking for people who knew them on a regular
12 basis, who could do that. I only knew them through the
13 bookshop and that was on a very limited scale.

14 Q. Why wasn't it that you told the Daily Mirror that which
15 would have been the story of the day, the great scoop
16 for them, why didn't you tell them that you had tried to
17 warn the police?

18 A. All I wanted to do was to get to talk to the police
19 officers. The Daily Mirror wanted some form of story,
20 so I gave them the disks and that was it. I did not --
21 I didn't want to be talking to them, I wanted to talk to
22 the police.

23 Q. This is accurate, isn't it, Mr Gilbertson -- if you'd
24 listen to the question carefully -- it isn't until
25 24 June 2006, virtually one year after the bombs, that

1 there is a public suggestion from you via the Guardian
2 newspaper that you had tried to warn the
3 West Yorkshire Police; that's right, isn't it?

4 A. That is correct, yes.

5 Q. But can we just see if we can fill in some interim
6 events to see whether we might have an explanation as to
7 why it took you a further year to make this dramatic
8 statement, because in the autumn of 2005, you found
9 yourself -- and I'll deal with this discreetly,
10 Mr Gilbertson, to spare your embarrassment -- but you
11 found yourself in some difficulty with the police,
12 didn't you?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. You were arrested, weren't you, not once but twice?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Without going into the detail, that was an allegation of
17 assault, wasn't it? That's all I want to put to you.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Secondly, we also know that between the Daily Mirror and
20 the Guardian it is clear that you were writing this
21 book, weren't you?

22 A. Yes, I was trying to -- I was writing a book, yes.

23 Q. That book, I suggest, must have been finished in the
24 form that we see it in the coroner's documents around
25 about late or early May or June of 2006.

1 A. Not the version you've got. That version was 2007.

2 Q. Well, the reason I suggest that -- and I don't want to
3 take the court's time, but it's a matter of record that
4 if you go to the latest quotes of any dates in that, you
5 find them to be May of 2006 --

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. -- which rather suggests that that's perhaps the date
8 that version was published. Do you see?

9 A. It's not been published. The book is not --

10 Q. By "published", I mean it in the loosest sense,
11 published at least to yourself?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. So you have the difficulty with the police with you
14 being arrested. You have you writing a book, and
15 then -- perhaps you won't remember this, but it's
16 a matter of clear public record -- just five days before
17 the Guardian's story, you were rebailed; in other words,
18 your bail was extended, yes?

19 A. That's correct.

20 Q. Is it a complete coincidence, therefore, that the
21 Guardian were then provided with this dramatic
22 allegation from you whilst you were facing criminal
23 charges?

24 A. It is, yes.

25 Q. Complete coincidence?

1 A. I was asked to talk to the Guardian by a lecturer at the
2 university, so I did, I spoke to him.

3 Q. It's now clear, isn't it, Mr Gilbertson, that you have
4 no idea which month, let alone date, it was that you
5 claimed to have gone to Holbeck police station because
6 we've now heard at least four different months?

7 A. I can't remember the exact date, because -- I did not
8 tell the press that I tried to stop the bombings.

9 That's what they said. I just said I had sent some
10 information about this group.

11 Q. Could you help the coroner with this, however: when you
12 went into the police station, if, as you claim, the
13 officer said "Post something in", why didn't you, given
14 that you were so concerned, just telephone
15 West Yorkshire Police and ask to speak to a senior
16 police officer?

17 A. I was worried because the group knew -- at that time,
18 I was mainly concerned about Technology Bits and Bats
19 and the people there and --

20 Q. You'd left there, hadn't you?

21 A. Yes, I had left.

22 Q. Several years ago.

23 A. Sorry?

24 Q. You'd left, by the summer of 2003, Bits and Bats and you
25 were now with Iqra.

1 A. Yes, but they were still connected together.

2 Q. I see.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. But you were seen, just coincidentally, by the police,
5 on 10 August 2003, in relation to a burglary next to
6 your house, weren't you?

7 A. In my house.

8 Q. I think your neighbour's, in fact. Do you remember
9 being seen by the police on 10 August 2003?

10 A. I cannot remember that.

11 Q. You see, what I want to suggest to you is: (a) you were;
12 and (b) despite a police officer being there in front of
13 you, you didn't choose to tell them about your concerns,
14 did you?

15 A. I can't remember the police officer being there.

16 Q. Yes. So far as the suggestion that you posted something
17 to the police, Mr Gilbertson, it wouldn't have been
18 difficult, would it, to have obtained the headquarters
19 address of West Yorkshire Police for an internet expert
20 like yourself?

21 A. That's correct, yes, I did obtain it from the internet.

22 Q. You know, don't you, I think, that there was an
23 extensive investigation led by a detective
24 superintendent from West Yorkshire Police who advanced
25 12 distinct and, again, extensive lines of enquiry to

1 see whether there was any truth in the suggestion that
2 you had posted something?

3 A. I did not know that, no.

4 Q. You see, I wonder whether you can account for the fact
5 that, despite deploying phenomenal resources and numbers
6 of detectives, not a single jot of evidence, not one jot
7 of evidence, came to light to support your assertion,
8 not even one thing supported it.

9 Is there any reason for that, Mr Gilbertson?

10 A. They probably got -- they've got lost in the post.

11 Q. Lost in the post?

12 A. Or I put the wrong address on it.

13 Q. But, you see, that's one of the things that the
14 detective superintendent had in mind, that it had got
15 lost in the post, so he went to the National Returns
16 Office, nothing. Do you see?

17 It can't be right that you put the wrong address,
18 can it? Because even you couldn't fail to get the
19 address of West Yorkshire Police headquarters.

20 A. I did post those disks.

21 Q. That is a lie, isn't it, Mr Gilbertson --

22 A. No, it's not a lie.

23 Q. -- and you don't have the good grace now to put a lot of
24 people, including many bereaved people, out of the
25 misery of this suggestion that somehow the police were

1 warned?

2 A. I did not say the police were warned. I said I tried
3 to. There's a difference in that there. I don't know
4 whether they got it or not, but did I post those disks.

5 Q. Mr Gilbertson, I suggest that, to add to your
6 dishonesty, there is this egregious feature which is
7 that you actually wasted West Yorkshire Police's time
8 with one of your lies.

9 A. I did not lie.

10 MR BEGGS: Yes, thank you very much.

11 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Garnham?

12 MR GARNHAM: There's nothing else I need to ask, my Lady.

13 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Right. Those are all the questions
14 we have, Mr Gilbertson.

15 MR KEITH: Thank you, Mr Gilbertson, you're excused.

16 In the light of the evidence, although Mr Grigg from
17 the Metropolitan Police was due to give evidence this
18 afternoon, I think, having spoken to --

19 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: You can leave the witness-box,
20 Mr Gilbertson.

21 MR KEITH: -- Mr Hill, that because there are no areas that
22 Mr Hill would wish to raise during the course of oral
23 evidence and perhaps the same might be said on behalf of
24 Mr Beggs, I don't need to call Mr Grigg or even to read
25 his statement, because, if I may paraphrase it, he would

1 have said that, as a result of his dealings with
2 Mr Gilbertson on 19 and 20 July 2005, alongside another
3 colleague, DC McIntyre, there was nothing that
4 Mr Gilbertson alluded to or referred to which supported
5 their investigations into Operation Theseus: namely, the
6 investigation of 7 July 2005.

7 Unless I hear to the contrary, that is where I'll
8 leave it.

9 MR BEGGS: I may have slightly misunderstood. It would seem
10 to us sensible that Mr Grigg's statement is read, for
11 all the time it will take. Whether it has to be done
12 today or tomorrow, we don't mind.

13 MR KEITH: It won't be tomorrow, but I'm very happy to read
14 it, if that would assist.

15 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: I think it may be better, Mr Keith,
16 because I was checking my notes and Mr Gilbertson did
17 assert at one stage in his evidence that he was sure he
18 had told the Metropolitan Police officers he had tried
19 to contact the West Yorkshire Police. So I think it is
20 only right that Mr Beggs does have -- even if it's only
21 the two lines.

22 MR BEGGS: Even if it's just that bit. Likewise,
23 Mr McIntyre says the very same thing.

24 MR KEITH: Yes, Mr McIntyre's evidence wasn't, in fact, on
25 today's list, but perhaps I could read then the relevant

1 parts of Mr Grigg's statement briefly?
2 His statement is dated 27 August 2010. He was then
3 posted to Leeds as part of Operation Theseus, he was,
4 however, overall posted to S013, the then
5 Metropolitan Police Anti-terrorist Branch, to speak to
6 Mr McDonald, who he realised was a Mr Gilbertson.
7 Statement of DC TOBY GRIGGS read
8 "On 19 July, I was tasked with meeting
9 Mr Gilbertson, who had intimated he may have been in
10 possession of material likely to assist the
11 investigation. Before meeting with him, it was decided
12 in conjunction with senior officers that we would afford
13 him a degree of anonymity to ensure his safety.
14 A meeting was arranged. Present was DC McIntyre,
15 Mr Gilbertson and myself. He handed over a photograph",
16 the details of which I think need not concern us:
17 "Mr Gilbertson made mention of the Cross of Islam
18 and suggested that we, the police, may have missed other
19 bombs that should have been detonated on 7 July. These
20 would have detonated in places in conjunction with the
21 explosion he said would have formed the shape of
22 a cross, but that he could not substantiate the
23 information when pressed and began to talk at length
24 about the true meaning of Islam without providing us any
25 meaningful information that could be independently

1 corroborated.

2 "The following day, on 20 July, there was a further
3 meeting. He gave a description of the men that he met
4 at the Iqra bookshop, Naveed, Taf and a man called Majid
5 as well as McDaid, and he discussed the computers
6 installed there. He said he believed that McDaid
7 displayed extremist views and was a Muslim convert. He
8 further stated that Fiaz knew all the bombers, the
9 bombers frequented the shop. Fiaz also attended
10 a number of outdoor activities with the bombers and the
11 trips were arranged by McDaid.

12 "During the meeting, he stated that there was
13 another youth centre in an industrial area across the
14 road and he believed this had been used by the
15 above-named persons. He did not have any direct
16 knowledge about keys or access to Alexandra Grove, but
17 had heard McDaid discussing the premises.

18 "During the meeting, both DC McIntyre and myself
19 probed him on dates, times, places and whether or not he
20 could substantiate any of the information given to us in
21 relation to his perceived views of the extremist nature
22 of McDaid, Fiaz or Majid's activities or beliefs.

23 "In my view, Mr Gilbertson could not sustain any
24 scrutiny in relation to his beliefs around the
25 aforementioned people. He provided details of an

1 address which was the subsequent address to which the
2 gym had moved in Woodview Road. A search revealed the
3 property to be derelict. The roof had fallen in. It
4 appeared to be full of rubbish. At no time did he
5 allude to or directly refer to any previous dealings
6 with the police."

7 My Lady, I mentioned after the short adjournment
8 that, regrettably, it had not been possible to secure
9 the attendance of Nicki Blackmore before my Lady.

10 There is, as far as I understand it, no objection to
11 her evidence being read, but in any event, rule 37(2) of
12 the Coroners Rules permits even objected evidence to be
13 admitted into proceedings if the maker of the document
14 is unable to give oral evidence, and it would seem that,
15 due to her condition, sadly, that witness is unable to
16 attend court to give her evidence.

17 So may I simply invite my Lady to confirm that you
18 propose to have the evidence accepted under rule 37(2),
19 but that, in any event, if there was no objection, it
20 could be admitted under rule 37(1)?

21 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: We've done our very best, and as
22 there appears to be no objection, then the statement can
23 be read.

24 MR PATTERSON: My Lady, might I just observe, we had hoped
25 that she would attend, we did have questions.

1 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: We all did, Mr Patterson.

2 MR PATTERSON: But in the light of what I've been told about
3 the efforts, we do not make any objection.

4 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: If there is any change, we could
5 always call her, but I don't think there's going to be.

6 MR PATTERSON: It doesn't sound like it, no.

7 MR KEITH: Her statement is dated 19 July 2005. It reads as
8 follows:

9 Statement of MS NICKI BLACKMORE read

10 "My name is Nicki Blackmore" and at that stage,
11 2005, she had recently turned 18.

12 On Monday, 20 June 2005 -- so at a time when she was
13 approaching her 18th birthday -- she went with a friend
14 to the Quanendon Community Centre, which, my Lady, is
15 Mr Aylesbury:

16 "There is a boxing club there and I usually go on
17 Monday night with a friend to watch the boxing.

18 I became aware of a male showing interest in me. He
19 winked at me and smiled. My friend moved away and a man
20 told me that the man's name was Tyrone. Tyrone had been
21 practising his boxing. I had never seen him at the
22 centre before and he never went again. He told me he
23 was 19 years' old and I thought he was good-looking. We
24 exchanged phone numbers. I have two phones and their
25 numbers are ..."

1 She gives them and she then provides his phone
2 numbers. My Lady, the two numbers that the man, Tyrone,
3 provided, the man being, of course, Jermaine Lindsay,
4 are none of the -- do not fall within the operational
5 numbers of which my Lady heard from DS Stuart. They are
6 amongst his personal numbers:
7 "Whilst he told me that his name was Tyrone, he said
8 that his friends called him 'Jamal'. On this occasion,
9 at the boxing club, he was wearing green,
10 three-quarter-length trousers and a T-shirt. I left at
11 about 9.00 pm with my friend and Tyrone was still in the
12 boxing club. He phoned me at about 11.00 pm and asked
13 to meet me. He picked me up from outside the address
14 that I was currently living in. He was driving a deep
15 red Fiat Brava which was very messy inside.
16 "We drove to Watermead Lake and parked the car. We
17 walked around the whole lake and sat on the bench. We
18 talked about job, friends, family and school and he told
19 me that he worked for his father, writing songs. This
20 was in contradiction to something he said on another
21 occasion, when he told me he had no contact with his
22 father and did not know if he was dead or alive.
23 "He told me his family comprised a mother and sister
24 and that they lived in Leeds. He said he studied for
25 his GCSEs at school and did well, getting A to D grades.

1 At midnight, he dropped me back to my home address. He
2 kissed me and we arranged to meet the next day. About
3 20 minutes after leaving him, I received a text message
4 from him asking if I would like to start a relationship.
5 I texted him back saying 'Yes, but nothing serious
6 because we have only just met'.
7 "On Tuesday, 21 June, I met Tyrone in Argyle Avenue
8 and we drove to Milton Keynes where we met a friend. We
9 walked around the shopping centre but did not buy
10 anything. We left the centre at about 6.30 and took the
11 friend home. We then drove to Aylesbury. On the way
12 back, he asked me if I could get hold of a gun for him.
13 He did not mention any type of gun. I told him no and
14 asked him why he would need a gun. He told me that he
15 was going to London with some of his mates to teach some
16 people a lesson. He said it was to do with drugs. He
17 said he'd already had a gun but there was something
18 wrong with it and it would take his hand off if he used
19 it."
20 My Lady will recall that in the boot of the car at
21 Luton there was found, of course, a semi-automatic
22 pistol with a magazine and a case with bullets, but the
23 bullets would not have been fired or it wouldn't have
24 been possible to fire those bullets from that gun:
25 "I told him I could not help him. We drove the rest

1 of the way home in uncomfortable silence and he turned
2 the music on. On Wednesday, 22 June, he phoned me at
3 about 11.00 am. I told him I was working and could not
4 meet him until 11.00 pm. He did pop into the shop once
5 I was working, but I do not remember his name."
6 My Lady, she then goes on to describe how they met.
7 He read out poems to her:
8 "They were read partly in English and partly in
9 a Muslim script. They were also about Al-Qaeda.
10 Alongside the side of the poems were little quotes and
11 words next to them. He asked me to read them twice to
12 him, which I thought was a bit strange. I don't
13 remember what the poems were about but they had a very
14 positive message about Al-Qaeda and the Muslim faith."
15 My Lady, she then gives details of further calls on
16 the 23rd and 24 June to which I need not make reference:
17 "On Saturday, 25 June, he phoned and picked me up.
18 He stopped outside a house. The house was terraced and
19 had a red door. He stopped the car, looked at the house
20 and drove away. He asked me if I knew someone called
21 Tanweer. I told Tyrone that I knew a few people called
22 Tanweer as there are a few boys in my school called
23 that. He asked me if I had heard anything bad about
24 them and I told them that I had not.
25 "We drove down Haveloc Street and past the mosque.

1 He then slowed down at the junction and looked at the
2 mosque and shouted over to an Asian male in a red car.
3 They spoke for two to three minutes and then we drove up
4 Haveloc Street into Fleet Street and New Street. We
5 then went to Milton Keynes. We met up with two friends.
6 One then received a telephone call from her friend who
7 wanted to meet up with us as well. Tyrone asked if we
8 could go shopping and meet up with that friend later,
9 but I said it would be good to wait.

10 "Tyrone also asked one of them if there was a place
11 where he could cash a cheque. We tried one place but
12 they stopped cashing cheques at midday. Before that
13 friend arrived, Tyrone received a telephone call. When
14 he answered it, he walked away from me and into an area
15 where we couldn't hear his conversation. It was clear
16 that he was very agitated on the telephone. He came
17 back to us when he had finished his call and said 'We
18 have to go now'. It was a very abrupt statement and it
19 was clear he was very agitated. I suggested that we
20 wait another few minutes for the friend, but he snapped
21 and said 'No, I need to go now'.

22 "We dropped the others off and I asked him what was
23 wrong. He tried to control his temper and said that he
24 needed to prepare himself. I asked him what did he need
25 to prepare himself for, and he said 'Shooting the people

1 who need to be taught a lesson in London'. We did not
2 talk for the rest of the journey. He dropped me off.
3 I did not hear from him again until Wednesday, 29 June."
4 Could we have on the screen, please, [INQ11177-35]?
5 My Lady, the significance of Lindsay's receipt of that
6 call was that it was after midday, because midday was
7 when the shop that would cash the cheques closed, on
8 25 June.
9 You will recall, my Lady, DS Stuart's evidence from
10 the phone calls that, on 25 June that day, at 12.54.53,
11 there were text messages from Lindsay to
12 Mohammed Sidique Khan, we can see three texts at 54, 55
13 and 55.23.
14 Then, after midday, at 12.56, there is a voice call
15 from Khan to Lindsay. There is then a second call which
16 is considerably longer, at 47 seconds, and then,
17 4 minutes after that, a text.
18 So, my Lady, from that evidence from the witness it
19 seems that those are the calls to which the witness is
20 referring on 25 June and at which point he appears to
21 have been very agitated and made reference to preparing
22 himself in connection with shooting people in London.
23 My Lady will see further up the page -- please don't
24 move the text -- on the same day, at 12.33, there is
25 a call from Pakistan to MSK.

1 The reconnaissance mission, my Lady, of course, took
2 place on the 28th:
3 "I tried to call him and text him over the next few
4 days without success. Tyrone phoned me on the morning
5 of Wednesday, the 29th. I was put out that he'd not
6 contacted me and asked him why he had not returned my
7 calls and texts. He said the police had questioned him
8 in relation to the shootings but he had no evidence on
9 him. He had to lay low. He asked me how I was and
10 I told him I was fine and I had to go and get ready.
11 I texted him later in the day, asking him what had
12 happened during the shooting. He texted me back saying
13 he had got wounded in his back, but not badly, but
14 hadn't fired his gun for fear of his life. He also said
15 that he would show me the wounds when he next saw me.
16 "He continued to phone and text me, but not as much.
17 On 1 July, I texted him asking him if he was okay. He
18 texted me back saying 'I am busy, I will text you
19 tomorrow'.
20 "On 2 July, he phoned me in the morning and I texted
21 him saying I did not want to lose him because I had
22 started to have feelings for him. He said, 'Okay,
23 I don't want to lose you either. You are my cheeky
24 Princess. I always wanted someone like you. You make
25 me smile all the time'", and that message she states was

1 on her telephone:

2 "Then on 5 July he texted saying 'I love you more
3 than you can imagine, I want to stay with you forever.
4 Are you going to start being more loving to me? We will
5 do everything, we will go all over the place. Ever been
6 to New York?'. I can't remember what I texted him back
7 and my telephone doesn't record the sent messages, but
8 later that evening he phoned and asked me if I would
9 like to come up to London on the evening of 6 July. He
10 said he had been paid dollar, meaning a lot of money,
11 for what had happened in London a few days earlier.
12 I told him that I would stay in London on the Wednesday
13 night but only if it was just the two of us. I was
14 worried about going to London with him in case he was
15 arrested.

16 "He told me it would just be the two of us. I told
17 him to ring me in the morning.

18 "On 6 July, he phoned me about midday and asked if
19 I still wanted to go to the hotel. I told him I would
20 go and he said that he would ring about 8.00 pm. I was
21 still worried about this and did not want to tell him
22 this. He rang at 8.00 and asked if I was ready. I told
23 him I needed to go home and pick up some clothes.

24 "The more I thought about going, the more worried
25 I got that I would get into trouble or meet the people

1 involved in the shooting. I called him and he called me
2 back. I said 'I have changed my mind, I am really
3 tired, I need to go to sleep'. He said, 'Come on, it
4 will be nice to spend some quality time together and
5 we'll have some bad boy room service'. I replied,
6 'Seriously, I'm really tied up, I need to go to sleep'.
7 He said, 'Okay, then'. He was fine about it. I asked
8 him if he was busy on 14 July as it was my birthday. He
9 said, 'I might be around then, but then again I might
10 not'. He said he would speak to me soon, he loved me
11 and he hung up."

12 She then recounts, my Lady, how, after 7 July, she
13 attempted to call him and phoned him without success and
14 then, on 17 July, she saw his picture and knew that he
15 was one of the bombers. She states:

16 "I froze, and was shocked and very pleased that
17 I had not gone to London with him. He never mentioned
18 the name of the hotel in London that we were going to
19 stay in. He never spoke to me about anything to do with
20 the planning of the bombings in London. I never met any
21 of his friends and he never spoke to them on the phone
22 in front of me.

23 "I am aware that he has another phone as well as the
24 numbers that I have got, because sometimes a 'number
25 withheld' came up on my phone when he rang me. He never

1 spoke to me about his friends. I never went to his
2 home. He told me that he lived in Aylesbury near the
3 Texaco garage and referred to a girlfriend. During my
4 relationship with him, we never had sexual contact.
5 I never knew that he was married and he never told me
6 that he had a child. He never asked me to purchase
7 anything for him or do anything illegal."
8 Although, my Lady, she refers, of course, to the
9 earlier incident when he asked whether she could obtain
10 a gun.
11 My Lady, yesterday we omitted to adduce into
12 evidence -- or, rather, I omitted to adduce into
13 evidence -- one or two pages from the documents which
14 were taken from the metal box that was retrieved by the
15 police through Witness B. The box was opened by the
16 police in August of 2005 and inside the box they found
17 Mohammed Sidique Khan's will as well as a handwritten
18 note. My Lady, I think I can refer to the documents
19 very briefly indeed.
20 The handwritten note is [INQ9364-3]. I don't propose
21 to read it out.
22 The will that he left is at INQ9365. Can we have
23 page 12 [INQ9365-12], please, Islamic will and testament. Page 2 [INQ9365-
24 2],
25 my Lady, this is the introduction to the last will and
testament. It's a lengthy diatribe. My Lady will get

1 the flavour of it from that first page.
2 It contains messages to his wife and his family, but
3 the rest of the document is of a more generic and
4 inflammatory nature and, finally, page 18 [INQ9365-18] of that
5 document, please, on the final page he added the words:
6 "Nothing is to be added or subtracted."
7 My Lady, that concludes the evidence in relation to
8 background.
9 Tomorrow, my Lady is due to hear arguments in
10 relation to the legal principles which relate to the
11 giving of verdicts and also in relation to my Lady's
12 powers insofar as rule 43 is concerned.
13 My Lady, some interest has been expressed on behalf
14 of the interested persons who propose to take part in
15 the proceedings tomorrow as to the running order.
16 Could I indicate, subject to my Lady's approval,
17 that the running order is likely to be something along
18 the lines of the families first -- I don't propose to
19 address my Lady at all at the beginning -- followed by
20 the Secretary of State for the Home Department on behalf
21 of the Security Service, then the Metropolitan Police,
22 West Yorkshire Police, British Transport Police, City of
23 London Police, then London Ambulance Service, London
24 Fire Brigade, Barts, and Transport for London finally,
25 and then, if I may be permitted to do so, I will make

1 some brief observations at the end.

2 My Lady will know that there is a great deal of
3 unanimity in the written submissions that have been
4 filed and all parties are hopeful that, despite the
5 number of people in attendance, my Lady will not be
6 detained overlong.

7 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Well, it's obviously an important
8 matter.

9 Mr Taylor is the only person not mentioned. He's
10 not here today. Do we know whether Mr Taylor wishes to
11 make any separate submissions?

12 MR KEITH: My Lady, as far as I'm aware, we've had no
13 contact from him in relation to tomorrow's matter, but
14 I wonder whether Mr Suter might be prevailed upon to
15 send him a message to remind him that my Lady is due to
16 hear that point.

17 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: I mean, it may well be that he would
18 wish to align himself to the submissions being made on
19 behalf of the other bereaved families, but I think
20 I just need to check, as he's --

21 MR KEITH: I think Mr Patterson's name, although it doesn't
22 appear on the front of the written submissions prepared
23 by the other families, would also align himself with
24 those submissions as well.

25 MR PATTERSON: My Lady, yes.

1 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: So will you be here tomorrow,

2 Mr Patterson?

3 MR PATTERSON: I will be here, yes.

4 (4.35 pm)

5 (The inquests adjourned until 10.00 am the following day)

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