

Witness Name: SIMON ALLARDICE

Statement No:WITN0311002

Dated: 02/03/2026

## THE NOTTINGHAM INQUIRY

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### SECOND WITNESS STATEMENT OF POLICE SUPERINTENDENT SIMON ALLARDICE

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I, SIMON ALLARDICE, will say as follows: -

#### **Introduction**

1. My name is Simon Allardice and I am an officer of the Nottinghamshire Police serving in the rank of Superintendent.
2. This witness statement is made to assist the Nottingham Inquiry (the “**Inquiry**”) with the matters set out in the Rule 9 Request dated 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026 (the “**Request**”).

#### **Background**

3. I have already set out my background, experience and position within Nottinghamshire Police in my first statement to assist the Inquiry (WITN0311001).
4. I have been asked to provide an overview of the Armed Response Vehicle (ARV) coverage at the time of the attacks by VC.

5. I have been asked to set out in a statement in open form the fact that there was, as a matter of policy and planning, a smaller number of ARVs operating at the time of day when the attacks by VC occurred and the reasons for such a policy.
6. Nottinghamshire Police maintain an Armed Policing Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment (AP STRA). This document determines the minimum number of Armed Policing officers required to be on duty at any time in Nottinghamshire.
7. The AP STRA is formally reviewed and signed off annually by the NPCC Chief Officer lead with responsibility for Armed Policing. This process is supported by quarterly strategic update documents and meetings.
8. The assessment of strategic threat and risk is a continual process, managed through regular operational and training review meetings, the maintenance of risk registers and actions, and a robust governance structure.
9. At the time of the incidents in question the 2023 AP STRA was in place having been signed off by the appropriate Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) on 31 October 2023. This document has already been shared with the Inquiry under reference NGPF0007970.
10. The AP STRA considers several factors relevant to the Armed Policing requirement in Nottinghamshire. This includes, but is not limited to, the number of firearms discharges recorded, the number of firearms recovered, the number of planned and spontaneous deployments of armed police, the timing and locations of those deployments, our response time to those deployments and the variety of armed policing tactics utilised during those deployments. The AP STRA also considers the national and local threat picture.
11. As a result of this analysis a recommendation is made to the ACC as to the minimum level of ARV coverage required. The ACC considers all the

available evidence and then approves the minimum ARV coverage they determine is required.

12. I can see from the 2023 AP STRA that the recommendation was to continue with the existing minimum ARV requirements, which specified a certain number of ARV's during peak periods, when evidence showed we had the majority of armed deployments and firearms incidents, and one less ARV at times of less demand, when evidence showed we had the fewest number of armed deployments and firearms incidents.
13. I believe this to be a robust and sensible arrangement which is informed by careful consideration of the available evidence. It is noteworthy that in 2023 the recommendation was to maintain the existing ARV coverage arrangements, indicating they were assessed to have been appropriate having already been in place for the preceding period.
14. Part of the AP STRA process includes the analysis of response times to spontaneous armed deployments, measuring the response time for the first ARV on scene and the arrival of subsequent ARVs. This data is interpreted in the context of the requirement to intervene in criminal acts of violence to protect the public from harm as well as detecting crime, recovering evidence and bringing subjects to justice.
15. To achieve and maintain acceptable response times consideration is given to the location of armed resources throughout Nottinghamshire. In so doing, Nottinghamshire Police seek to ensure as far as is possible, that the correct resources are in the relevant locations at the relevant times.
16. However, the wider roles and responsibilities of the ARV resources must be balanced with providing a broad spectrum of policing services to the public, including other specialist policing services such as attendance at serious road traffic collisions and the provision of Tactical Pursuit and Containment (TPAC) tactics.

17. Nottinghamshire Police have developed an Armed Policing patrol strategy for ARV's to ensure that wherever possible, they are located in the most appropriate areas according to the threat and risk profile as documented within the AP STRA.
18. I have reviewed the ARV coverage on 13 June 2023 and can confirm that the required number of ARVs were on duty in accordance with AP STRA.
19. Whilst the intention of the Armed Policing patrol strategy is to provide evidence-based clarity concerning 'default' patrol areas, nothing in this procedure detracts from the ability of the FIM (or their deputy) to make deployment decisions that sit outside of this in order to protect the public and serve the communities of Nottinghamshire.
20. It is important to note that the Armed Policing team in Nottinghamshire Police are not held in reserve for only armed policing deployments, or indeed incidents which require their specialist capabilities. The ARVs make up part of our diverse pool of response resources who deploy on a daily basis to a wide variety of emergency and urgent incidents.
21. Whilst specific consideration must always be given to the ability of the ARVs to respond to any spontaneous firearms incidents, this is for the Operational Firearms Commander (OFC) to manage, with support from the Tactical Firearms Commander (TFC) where required.
22. I have reviewed the location of the ARVs prior to the Ilkeston Road incident and can confirm the expected number of ARVs were located in the City area having recently deployed to other emergency incidents around the City.
23. All of the ARVs resources were then involved in the response to the Ilkeston Road incident and adopted various roles as described in significant detail in my first statement.

**Statement of Truth**

I believe the content of this statement to be true. I understand that proceedings may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief of its truth.

Dated 02/03/2026

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

**GRO-B**

**Index to the Second Witness Statement of Simon Allardice**

No.	URN	Document Description
1	WITN0311001	First Witness Statement of Superintendent Simon Allardice, Nottinghamshire Police
2	NGPF0007970	Policy document, re: The Armed Policing Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment 2023, by NGPF