Recovery from a Major Incident

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10.31 pm

Suicide bomber detonated device in Manchester Arena; capacity of 21,000 mainly young people and parents.

Multi Agency response led by GMP activated immediately supported by AGMA/MCC civil contingencies and 24 hour command centre established at GMP Force HQ.

Largest and most complex incident Manchester has dealt with.

Consequence management hub established within to monitor impact at local level.
Response phase remained live until 1st June 2017 moving formally into recovery phase led by MCC. Recovery plan has 5 key sub-groups;

1. Welfare and health (humanitarian aspects and inc post discharge support)
2. Community (Community Impact undertaken – work will focus particularly on community cohesion aspects)
3. Business (economic)
4. Communications (consistency in messages and reassurance)
5. Finance (costs and donations fund)

Debrief and lessons learned sessions related to response planned
Challenges

National incident that ‘happened to take place in Manchester’

Majority of casualties and victims not from Manchester; ambition to ensure they are not forgotten and Business As Usual support is better than BAU has been before.

23 People arrested, detained under counter-terrorism legislation and released - limited experience/resources to assess risk to family and community.

Schools/children impacted during the ‘incident’ and recovery phase - varying levels and much unknown (6 weeks since and full impact on children not yet fully understood). 1 school within cordon which brought its own challenges.
Community and Schools Response

Maintained daily contact with all schools and settings (including independent sector) via email and direct phone calls where appropriate (eg in localities where arrests were taking place and high media interest).

Support offered to schools included open access to Educational Psychology Service; setting up an employee welfare scheme including access to 24 hour telephone counselling; information to put on websites/letter to parents/carers.

Set up drop ins with an Educational Psychologist for each day of half term at different locations across the city.

Schools - response

Used existing framework (Working Together 2015) and guidance previously developed with CTU revised and adapted Social Work Assessment.

Worked collegiately across Greater Manchester (Future Minds Board Members) - advice and guidance to schools.
Community and Schools Response

Community - response

Safer communities group revised and adapted to provide community response

Proactive engagement of communities, Children and Young People to be integral to the recovery phase and beyond

Visibility - Police and Community Engagement presence
Impact on Young People

Families of those arrested engaged and being offered support

Impact of instances of hate crime – this is being monitored closely/daily levels

Some schools reviewing security arrangements

Young People – concerned about amount of negative media/over focus on some schools in city. Not yet clear if there will be an impact on GCSE

Work being planned to proactively engage young people in community recovery
Next Steps

Joint risk assessment pathway developed - informing practice guidance

Educational psychologist demand/capacity

Briefing on trauma, signs and responses (guidance produced) using EP/CAMHS advice

Some schools reviewing security arrangements

Work being planned to proactively engage young people in community recovery - citywide event planned for late 2017

Promoting programmes such as Right, Respecting Schools (bringing communities together)

Proactive media, communication campaign with staff, schools and communities
Questions?

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