

Resilience Committee meets in the early hours

Terror threat level raised to 'critical' but First Minister urges business as usual.



Scots must not allow terrorism to triumph and should go about their business as usual, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon has said.

Last night the UK's terror threat level was raised to 'critical', and the FM chaired a further Resilience Committee meeting in the early hours of this morning which was attended by the Deputy First Minister, the Justice Secretary, the Lord Advocate and senior officers from Police Scotland.

At the meeting, ministers were briefed by Police Scotland about the practical implications for Scotland of the heightened security status.

The First Minister said: "While raising the UK terror threat level to 'critical' has been judged a necessary response to the despicable attack in Manchester, we must not allow terrorism to triumph.

"I urge the people of Scotland to be vigilant but not alarmed and, as far as possible, to go about their business as usual.

"Police Scotland have already visibly increased their presence in locations such as transport hubs and city centres as a precaution. Security arrangements for upcoming public events, including this weekend's Scottish Cup Final, are being thoroughly reviewed and the public should anticipate additional safety measures such as full body and bag searches.

"Our emergency services prepare extensively for situations such as this, and those well-rehearsed plans are now being put into practice."

The First Minister added: "Anyone who was in Manchester and witnessed the terror attack or its immediate aftermath will

undoubtedly be feeling stressed or upset. Anyone with concerns about themselves or their children should contact their GP for support or NHS 24 if their GP surgery is closed.”