



SPECIAL BULLETIN - 50

Tuesday 9th August
2011

PUBLIC DISORDER

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Public Disorder

As staff will no doubt be aware, yesterday evening saw serious public disorder break out in Birmingham City Centre and surrounding areas.

Ambulance crews in Birmingham experienced a very busy night responding to 34 incidents, mainly in the shopping area of Birmingham City Centre, including New Street, Colmore Row and Paradise Forum. There were also incidents in Digbeth and Handsworth. A total of 28 patients were treated by crews, 13 of which required hospital treatment. The majority of incidents were a result of assaults and thankfully most were not too serious.

For the Trust, it is "business as usual" maintaining a safe ambulance service to members of the public. In addition, the Trust has set up its Gold Command at Millennium Point which is continually monitoring the situation and working closely with fellow emergency services and NHS partners. Additional crews will be laid on to deal with any developing situation without affecting the core 999 service. This arrangement will stay in place for as long as the situation continues.

With police intelligence suggesting further public disorder to continue this week and increasing during the weekend in Birmingham and surrounding areas, the health, safety and welfare of our staff is of paramount importance.

All staff are asked to ensure the following:

- All staff **MUST** carry their ID cards at all times; potential road closures may interfere with access and egress to work and therefore ID will help police to determine who you are.
- Operational staff **MUST** carry personal protective equipment (helmet and florescent jackets) with them at all times.



- Operational staff are asked to make every practical effort to ensure vehicles are kept fuelled during a shift; last night saw many petrol stations close.
- Please ensure all Trust premises are kept secure if unattended. All alarm systems should be activated, roller doors and external doors to be locked and secured.
- All external security lighting at Trust premises should be activated during the hours of darkness.
- All Trust vehicle must be kept locked, and where possible garaged, when not in use.
- Where possible, Trust vehicles being left at hospital sites while patients are being offloaded should have their doors closed and locked.

I would like to thank staff for your help and hard work so far and thank you in anticipation of the efforts I know you will go to in the coming days. Most importantly, please stay safe.

a. c. marsh.