

Speech: Remembering Srebrenica Memorial Event

Thank you, Jon [Professor Jon Silverman], and good evening everyone.

It's a great honour to be here tonight to mark this important milestone – 23 years since the Srebrenica genocide.

It's still hard to believe what happened there.

That scenes we thought would never be repeated after the World Wars unfolded on our doorstep and in our modern age.

But as this year's theme – [Acts of Courage](#) – rightly highlights, even in the darkest times, there is always light and hope.

I know my ministerial colleague Lord Bourne was honoured to have helped launch this at the House of Lords earlier this year.

It's a theme that reminds us that real courage isn't about epic feats or superhuman qualities or skills.

It's about the decisions that ordinary people make, every day, under sometimes severe pressure, to put others first.

During the war in Bosnia, these decisions saw Jewish families choosing to protect their Muslim neighbours.

They saw teachers choosing to refuse to exclude pupils on the basis of their faith.

People choosing to risk their lives to tell the world what was happening.

And, even now – as seen through the work of Mothers of Srebrenica – people choosing to continue to fight for justice for their loved ones.

And that's the point – even in the most desperate of circumstances, even when we feel there's no choice, there's always a choice.

And the people in Bosnia, who chose hope over hate – even when their neighbours succumbed to an appalling genocidal ideology – are truly remarkable.

And I applaud them.

Ordinary people showing the most extraordinary courage – whose experiences challenge us to consider not just why people hate and perpetrate evil, but also how communities can resist this, survive and remain hopeful.

As [Remembering Srebrenica](#) has so rightly said, these questions are critical for preventing future genocides and paving the way for peace and

reconciliation.

A big part of this work also, of course, involves survivors speaking out; continuing to tell their stories, demanding the truth about what happened, testifying to ensure that justice is done.

As underlined by last year's focus on the horrific atrocities committed against women and girls, this is another, very powerful example of the incredible courage and resilience shown by those who have suffered unspeakable trauma.

I know that we will be hearing from the survivors who are with us today and I want to pay tribute to them – for everything they've gone through and for sharing their stories with us.

Even now there are still those who deny that the genocide happened and glorify the perpetrators.

Which is why it is vital that we continue to support survivors to stand up and be heard.

To ensure that we never forget what happened and learn from it.

I know that this mission is at the heart of Remembering Srebrenica's work.

The UK government is very proud to celebrate all that you have achieved over 5 years.

- over 5,300 memorial activities organised, bringing together 175,000 from all backgrounds
- 75,000 young people benefiting from your educational programmes to ensure that future generations learn from the past
- the creation of over 1,000 Community champions, who have done so much to fulfill their pledge to commemorate Srebrenica and other genocides and to challenge bigotry in their own areas today

I understand that 2017 was one of your most successful years yet and I am sure that you will build on this – to not only remember the victims of Srebrenica, but to inspire us, through their courage and resolve, to build strong, vibrant, well-integrated communities.

Sadly – as we saw during last year's terror attacks in London Bridge, Manchester and Finsbury Park – there are still those who want to divide us and spread fear and hatred.

That they did not succeed was, again, down to the courage and resolve of survivors and ordinary people who, regardless of their differences, came together so magnificently.

People like Imam [Mohammed] Mahmoud, whose courage and calm, prevented further tragedy at Finsbury Park.

I had the privilege of meeting him recently and it was a pleasure to be able to thank him personally and to express my support for his efforts to champion our free, open and tolerant society.

We all need to get behind this vital endeavor.

We in government are playing our part by, for example, strengthening our approach to tackling hate crime. We will publish our plans to do this later this summer.

We're also supporting communities to thrive – to ensure that people of all backgrounds can take advantage of the opportunities that our country offers – through our bold new [Integrated Communities Strategy green paper](#).

Work is underway to trial a new localised approach to tackling integration challenges in 5 areas.

And we will also be hosting a [Communities Conference](#) in September; to inspire policymakers and showcase the incredible impact that cohesive communities can have.

From my previous roles, I know just how important this work is to creating a strong sense of belonging and identity and places that people from every walk of life are proud to call home.

It's this sense of belonging and pride that, I believe, is our guiding light in the darkest of times.

It only remains for me to once again thank Remembering Srebrenica for your very valuable work.

To honour the victims of Srebrenica.

To ensure we learn from their experiences.

To remind us that we always have a choice to stand up and do the right thing – and to inspire us with the courage we need to do it.

[Press release: Birmingham road-rage attacker has sentence increased after Solicitor General's referral](#)

A man who drove over another man in an act of road-rage will spend longer in

prison after the Solicitor General, Robert Buckland QC MP, referred his original sentence to the Court of Appeal as unduly lenient.

In July 2017, Shahid Ali, 43, shouted and swore at his victim before deliberately driving over him at a slow speed. Ali blamed his victim for holding up traffic along Brighton Road in Balsall Heath. He then drove away and attempted to conceal his involvement by cleaning his car using abrasive materials and hiding his phone.

Patrick Colbert, who was in Birmingham celebrating his 35th birthday, was left with severe brain injuries, fractures to his skull, ribs, and sternum, and collapsed lungs. He will likely suffer long-term complications from these injuries, and requires professional care.

Ali was originally sentenced at Birmingham Crown Court in April, where he was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment. Today, after the Solicitor General's referral, the Court of Appeal increased his sentence to 15 years.

Commenting on the sentence increase, the Solicitor General said:

Ali made a deliberate choice to carry out an horrific act, and further to this attempted to conceal his actions. I am pleased that the Court of Appeal has agreed to increase Ali's sentence, and hope that this brings his victim some comfort.

[Corporate report: Nuclear Decommissioning Authority: Annual Report and Accounts 2017 to 2018](#)

The NDA exceeded its targets for generating revenue, earning £1.2 billion of income to offset the total £3.3 billion annual budget that is spent on tackling the UK's historical nuclear legacy.

The details are outlined in the Annual Report and Accounts for 2017/18, which reports on a year of progress across the 17 sites as well as organisational change to build a foundation for long-term success.

NDA Chief Executive David Peattie said that spending had remained below the annual limit set by government, while the income from reprocessing and management of spent fuels and waste had helped to offset the costs for taxpayers.

Mr Peattie, who was appointed in 2017, added:

Our mission remains unchanged, as does the relentless focus on cleaning up and decommissioning the UK's civil nuclear sites and delivering value for the taxpayer, with the safety and security of people and the environment at the forefront of our minds.

My vision now is to build a stronger NDA Group, where all parts of our business are working together with a collective focus on delivering the mission more efficiently.

He said that changes to the organisation and its businesses would reflect learning from the Magnox competition and contract, with the key aim of improving delivery and building a foundation for long-term success.

The report highlights significant decommissioning progress across the estate including:

- Retrieval of radioactive waste from Sellafield facilities that date back to the very beginning of the nuclear industry.
- Start of a programme at the Dounreay Fast Reactor to remove fuel elements which had been trapped for decades
- Final preparations for Bradwell, in Essex, to become the UK's first former Magnox power station site to enter a state of care and maintenance during the year, after all mobile hazards and the vast majority of buildings have been cleared.

[News story: Home Office hosts roundtable on mental health demand on policing](#)

The Home Office has today hosted a cross-agency roundtable as part of its efforts to tackle the demand on police of dealing with cases involving mental health issues.

The police and health response to those in mental health crisis has improved, supported by government funding, legislative changes and better partnership working. But it remains the case that many calls to the police have a mental health component.

Today's roundtable brought relevant agencies together to share good practice and consider further opportunities for collaboration to ease the burden on the police and provide mental health sufferers with appropriate care and support.

It was attended by Minister for Policing and the Fire Service, Nick Hurd,

officials from the Department of Health and Social Care and representatives of the emergency services, among others.

Minister for Policing and the Fire Service, Nick Hurd, said:

Police are too often left to deal with people suffering from mental health issues, who actually need help from healthcare professionals and social services.

We have made progress but are determined to do more to free up police time so they can focus on fighting crime, while ensuring vulnerable people get the care they need.

The roundtable follows the minister writing to all forces and police and crime commissioners in February asking for more information about the scale and nature of the demand they face.

The feedback showed a sizeable proportion of the cases involving mental health issues that the police deal with relate to 'concern for welfare calls'. They may involve injury, missing persons or suspicious circumstances, for example, and come from the public or health and social service agencies.

Some individuals with complex needs are also persistent callers to emergency services. The Metropolitan Police said they logged 2,269 calls from one individual in 2017.

Police have previously estimated that they may spend between 20 and 40 per cent of their time dealing with mental health cases.

Examples of good practice shared by police forces included street triage schemes, which enable officers to access health professionals for timely and relevant advice, and initiatives to put care packages in place for persistent callers.

The government has invested £30 million to increase health-based places of safety and banned the use of police cells for under 18s in mental health crisis. This has led to significant reductions in the use of police cells to hold people detained under section 136 of the Mental Health Act.

A roll-out of mental health assessments in custody suites and criminal courts also continues, supported by government funding.

Those present at the meeting included representatives from:

- Association of Police and Crime Commissioners
- National Police Chiefs Council
- College of Policing
- Independent Office for Police Conduct
- HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services
- British Transport Police
- Association of Ambulance Chief Executives

- Association of Chief Fire Officers
 - National Fire Chiefs' council
 - Department of Health and Social Care
 - Public Health Wales
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Notice: SY10 8BG, Morton Growers Limited: environmental permit issued

The Environment Agency publish permits that they issue under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This decision includes the permit and decision document for:

- Operator name: Morton Growers Limited
- Installation name: Morton Ley Farm
- Permit number: EPR/TP3930NH/V003