



CST PROTECTING OUR
JEWISH COMMUNITY

2024
ANNUAL
REVIEW

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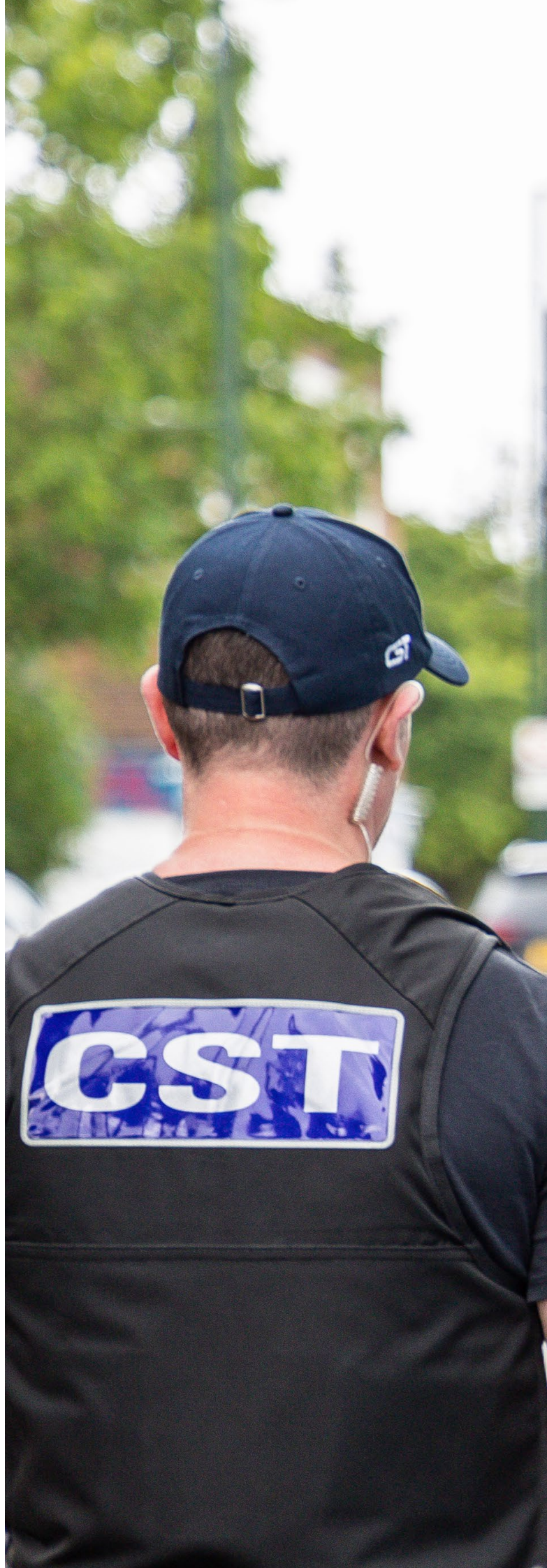
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INTRODUCTION

CST is the charity that protects British Jews from terrorism and antisemitism. We ensure that Jewish people across the UK can lead the lives of their choice.

Widely recognised by police and government as a unique model of best practice, CST's research regularly informs public policy and helps to safeguard wider British society.

CST gained charitable status in 1994, though its origins lie in many decades of Jewish self-defence - both before and after World War Two.

Across the UK, 2,000 dedicated volunteers and over 110 members of staff power CST's mission.



FACILITATING JEWISH LIFE

SECURITY

We provide security advice and equipment to Jewish schools, organisations, synagogues etc. across the UK. CST also donates money for security equipment costs, such as hardened doors, anti-shatter window film, fencing, gates; and advanced CCTV systems that link to CST's 24/7 National Control Centre.

Since 2007, CST has funded over £18 million of security improvements at communal sites across the UK.

VOLUNTEERS

Security volunteers are the heartbeat of CST. Highly trained and regularly tested, CST volunteers provide physical security, free of charge at communal events, each Shabbat, on High Holy Days, and throughout the year; helping to facilitate Jewish life.

CST has over 2,000 fully trained active security volunteers throughout the UK, coming from every part of the Jewish community. In 2024, volunteers protected many hundreds of communal events.

ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS

We encourage the public to report antisemitic incidents and crimes to CST and police. Expert staff help provide support to those in need.

Ordinarily, CST receives over 2,000 reports each year of antisemitism, crime, and suspicious behaviour. In 2024, CST recorded 3,528 antisemitic incidents. This is the second-highest annual total of anti-Jewish hate incidents ever recorded by CST.

POLICE & GOVERNMENT

CST is a highly trusted partner for both police and government. We work closely with local and national police forces, meeting regularly to share information. This partnership often leads to arrests and helps prevent terrorism.

During 2024, CST's research helped police convict several terrorists across the UK.

CST manages a £15 million government grant which pays for security guards from commercial companies to work daily at all Jewish schools, as well as at synagogues and other communal buildings.

Following on from the Hamas terrorist attack on 7 October 2023, the government committed to a four years' grant of £18 million per annum.





YOUTH

We work closely with the youth and sports group Maccabi GB on various initiatives supporting the physical and emotional well-being of young people. This includes *Streetwise*, which teaches personal safety to over 20,000 Jewish teenagers per year; and *Stand Up!* – an anti-discrimination interfaith project that teaches anti-racism and specifically combats antisemitism and anti-Muslim hate.

STUDENTS

CST has long held a strong partnership with the Union of Jewish Students to help protect Jewish students on campuses across the UK.

CST has three dedicated student coordinators who work with Jewish students and university staff across the UK.

ANTISEMITISM

CST is recognised by the Jewish community, government, police and media as Britain's leading expert on the data, cause and impact of contemporary antisemitism. Our research publications on antisemitism, anti-Jewish

terror and political extremism broaden public understanding of antisemitism and how to combat it. Our annual *Antisemitic Incidents Report* is the most authoritative study of antisemitic hate incidents in the UK.

We always strive to present information as soberly and responsibly as possible. We are not here to sensationalise this vital issue. Our role is to be a reliable resource on every aspect of antisemitism

HELPING OTHERS

Our SAFE programme (Security Advice For Everyone) shares CST's extensive security knowledge and expertise with other faith and minority groups outside of the Jewish community, who may also suffer violence, extremism or hate crime.

In 2024, SAFE delivered 191 in-person security talks and online webinars to 4,607 people representing 630 different places of worship across the UK.

All CST's services are provided free of charge and most costs are covered by charitable donations.

2024 IN REVIEW

CST secured one of the **largest public commemorative events** in Manchester protesting against antisemitism



Holocaust denial is prohibited on Meta platforms following evidence submitted by CST of this widespread issue

After many years of effort by CST and partner groups, **Hizb ut-Tahrir is proscribed as a terrorist organisation**

JANUARY

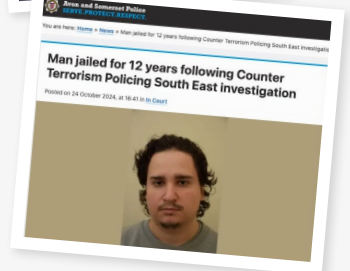
Over 40 MPs from across the political spectrum joined CST, Antisemitism Policy Trust and Jewish Leadership Council (JLC) at a **parliamentary engagement to discuss record levels of antisemitic hate** and the importance of protecting the Jewish way of life

MARCH

70 members of the Jewish community attended **CST's breakfast briefing with West Yorkshire Police** in Leeds



Three men **charged with terrorism offences** for allegedly planning to commit a terrorist attack against British Jews in North West England



Dave Rich joined the then Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak, and other senior government figures, plus university Vice Chancellors and the Union of Jewish Students, at **10 Downing Street for a roundtable discussion on combating antisemitism on university campuses**

MAY

Anjem Choudary, the notorious Islamist preacher, was **jailed for life after being found guilty of directing a terrorist organisation**. CST historically **investigated, exposed and reported** on the dangerous antisemitism and extremism that he and his followers promoted

JULY

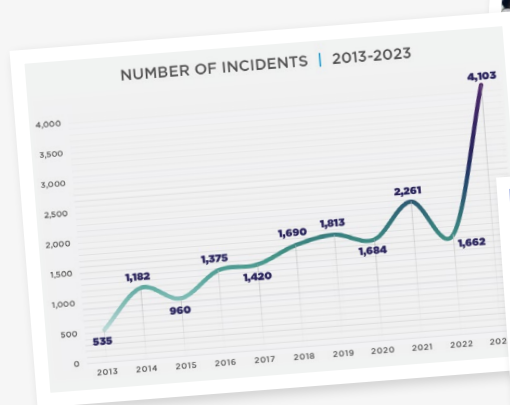
FEBRUARY

CST's Antisemitic Incidents Report 2023 is published, showing that **4,103 antisemitic incidents were reported to CST, the most in any calendar year**. The severe increase in antisemitism was well known to British Jews, UK media, police and government, but CST's report brought hard facts to the matter and received extensive coverage in UK and international media

1,200 people attended CST's Annual Dinner. This was the first fundraising event for the charity since the events of 7 October 2023 and subsequent war. At the CST Annual Dinner, Rishi Sunak MP, the then Prime Minister, announced that the **Government Grant towards communal security (managed by CST) would be committed every year for the next four years**

APRIL

CST's Chief Executive Mark Gardner joined other communal leaders for an important meeting with Commissioner Sir Mark Rowley QPM, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police and Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Matt Twist to **discuss Jewish community concerns about the policing of anti-Israel protests**



JUNE

One of CST's largest ever single event security operations helps **ensure the safety of those attending a large public demonstration against antisemitism** in London



Another referral from CST, far-right extremist **Gabriel Budasz, is convicted of several terrorism offences**, including four counts of encouraging terrorism. He was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment

After a referral to counter terror policing by CST, neo-Nazi **Gareth Waite is sentenced to over nine years in prison** for sharing terrorist material and **deeply antisemitic content**

CST's Antisemitic Incidents January-June Report 2024 is published. It shows **1,978 antisemitic incidents took place in the UK in the first six months of 2024: the highest January-June total ever reported to CST**

CST secured the **European Maccabi Youth Games**, one of CST's longest and most complex security operations

AUGUST

Following a complaint by CST to police, **Peter Kandalaft was sentenced to eight weeks imprisonment** for antisemitic social media posts

CST published Pathway To Terror: From antisemitism to terrorism. The briefing revealed how **Robert Taylor was sentenced to four years in prison for nine offences relating to racial hatred**, two terror offences, two offences related to hatred on the grounds of sexual orientation and one case of support for a proscribed organisation due to a two-year investigation led by CST

CST secured the **large public commemorative event** to mark the one-year **anniversary of 7 October 2023**

OCTOBER

CST's Northern Regional Director Amanda Bomsztyk received an MBE: a testament to her hard work and dedication to Jewish communities in Manchester and the north

UK-based Hamas supporter **Mohammed Ahmed was sentenced to a year in prison** for supporting a proscribed terrorist organisation, thanks to CST research

CST's bi-annual report, **Campus Antisemitism in Britain 2022-2024**, is published showing that in the last two academic years **CST recorded 325 antisemitic incidents across the UK**

New York based extremist **Christopher Brown is sentenced to ten years** following CST's intelligence work

DECEMBER

SEPTEMBER

400 people attended CST's annual Business Lunch with keynote speaker, the Home Secretary RT Hon Yvette Cooper MP

At the request of the Office of the Chief Rabbi, Mark Gardner joined Commissioner Sir Mark Rowley QPM, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police for an **on-stage discussion regarding antisemitism and policing**, held for UK rabbis in advance of the forthcoming Jewish High Holy Days period

NOVEMBER

After complaints by CST regarding antisemitic and homophobic content, the **Islamist website, 5 Pillars UK, leaves the media regulator, Impress**

400 people attended a **fundraising event** for CST in Manchester

CST's Chairman Sir Gerald Ronson and Chief Executive Mark Gardner joined community leaders for a **meeting on antisemitism with Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer MP at Downing Street**





PROTECTING - AND STRENGTHENING - OUR JEWISH COMMUNITY



Welcome to CST's Annual Review of our work.

CST's work and mission - driven by our principles of Community, Security and Trust - has never been more important than it was throughout 2024: so I hope that you will take the time to read this publication.

2024 was a very tough year for British Jews, because of widespread antisemitic reactions to what was happening in the war between Israel and Hamas and its allies.

I cannot recall a time when British Jews faced such deep and sudden damage to their basic sense of equality, safety and belonging.

CST's job was to protect British Jews in order for British Jewish life to continue despite the unprecedented rise in hate crimes against Jews, and more concealed forms of anti-Jewish prejudice, exclusion and double standards. All of this against a constant backdrop of terrorism threats from Jihadis, Nazis and those of no clear ideology.

I am hugely proud of the way in which CST's volunteers, staff and trustees met the challenge. By almost every measure, our work doubled: in security, in research and in helping victims of antisemitism.

CST's origins go back to the years after World War Two, when British Jews physically forced the fascists off our streets. It was dangerous, but it had to be done and it was. Next, we had to develop security against terrorists. That work has now gone on for decades and it will continue.

This Annual Review barely scratches the surface of CST's work throughout the UK, including the thousands upon thousands of hours worked by our highly trained volunteers and the unparalleled expertise of our staff. It does, nevertheless, give a good summary of what it takes to not just protect our community, but to also give it much needed physical and emotional strength.

Sadly, looking ahead, we are going to need to keep providing that additional protection and strength for many years, but we are proud to do so and it is my personal privilege to lead those efforts.

Please support us in our work.

Together We Protect,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Mark Gardner'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line underneath it.

Mark Gardner MBE
CST Chief Executive

WORKING WITH POLICE

CST's close working partnership with police forces across Britain is widely regarded as the best example of its type, both nationally and internationally. The purpose is to make relations as good as possible between Jewish communities and their local police services. CST is grateful for the support and encouragement that it receives from police officers of all ranks in our work.

CST's work with the police includes sharing intelligence regarding hate crimes, but also terror threats to the Jewish community and all of British society. This work has helped police to prevent terrorist attacks.

Regarding physical security protection, CST and police jointly deploy on many operations, both for regular communal activities (such as weekly synagogue services) and for large-scale public events, whether religious, social or political in nature. CST and police may also attend antisemitic crime hotspots, such as transport hubs near Jewish schools.

During times of heightened alert or special operations, police officers are often posted to CST's 24/7 National Security Control Centre, meaning antisemitic incidents, suspicious activity and information relating to potential

terrorism offences are all passed immediately to officers for swift action.

CST participates in numerous advisory groups, in which the police consult with various local stakeholders. CST's unique expertise in building responsible communal security networks is highly valued in these groups and is something CST is always keen to share.

CST is proud to assist the police in understanding and tackling hate crime, preventing terrorism against the Jewish community, and providing practical solutions and reassurance to Jewish communities. This work frequently helps show what police may be able to adapt or replicate with other communities.

CST runs online and in-person seminars for police officers and staff covering topics such as 'understanding the threat', 'CST's role and expertise', 'Jewish customs and traditions' and 'practical policing tips'. CST's booklet, A Police Officer's Guide to Judaism, is now in its sixth edition and explains Jewish practice and custom, relevant to those working with Jews and Jewish communities. It has inspired similar publications overseas and has also been produced in Scotland as The Firefighter's Guide to Judaism.

CST's close working partnership with police forces across Britain is widely regarded as the best example of its type



Mark Gardner MBE in conversation with Commissioner Sir Mark Rowley QPM of Metropolitan Police and Lord Kestenbaum on the current state of antisemitism in the UK





IMPROVING COMMUNAL SECURITY INFRASTRUCTURE



In 2006, CST began giving contributions to help UK Jewish communal buildings with their physical security measures. Over £19 million have now been given by CST towards this goal.

CST also gives free building security advice to complement official guidance from governmental bodies like the Centre for Protection of National Infrastructure, Secure by Design and the National Counter Terrorism Security Office.

Any security measure may be supported by CST, but priorities include perimeter fencing, gates, strong security doors and airlocks, all of which comprise initial lines of defence through to important additional layers of protection.

The best planning is when security is built into the design of the location, so CST often works closely with architects and contractors during the planning stages for new communal buildings. This also enables locations to take advantage of the latest security technology.

As with all Jewish community buildings, CST ensures that the physical security measures are supplemented by CST's extensive CCTV network that operates nationwide. Feeds are monitored by a 24/7 National Security Control Centre, where analytics and other advanced technologies ensure a watchful eye over the Jewish community's security. Footage is often requested by police as evidence into all manner of crimes, making CST an

important element in many police investigations. The demand on CST's National Security Control Centre to monitor and respond to hate crimes in real time has increased significantly.

CST also manages the distribution of the Jewish Community Protective Security Grant (JCPSG) from the government. This Grant is for commercial security guards (i.e. from independent commercial companies, not CST personnel) to help secure synagogues, Jewish educational establishments and high-profile Jewish buildings.

The Grant is £18 million per annum, and, after the Hamas terror attack of 7 October 2023, it was also used to introduce guarding operations within Jewish commercial areas around the UK.

In 2024, CST managed government funding for commercial security guards to:

- Over 200 nurseries, primary and secondary schools, higher education religious colleges
- 28 youth movements, for their summer and winter camps
- Over 260 synagogues
- Nearly 50 high-profile communal buildings
- Multisite operations that covered over 100 Jewish communal and commercial sites within relatively close proximity to each other

SECURITY TRAINING



The nature of CST's security work demands that all CST security personnel are trained to the highest possible level, regardless of whether they are staff or volunteers. Those who fail are not permitted to work on security.

All staff and volunteers are expected to have a professional level of expertise in everything from routine security processes to emergency procedures.

In 2023 and 2024, CST received an unprecedented influx of new members, all of whom required training with no lowering of standards. This was achieved through more trainers and more training classes than ever before, at all levels of ability.

This training ranged from initial CST membership courses through to advanced leadership skills. All sessions aim to ensure that CST's security personnel are able to implement the required skillset for their level of membership.

Multiple training opportunities are offered to CST members throughout each week. This includes strength and conditioning classes; self-protection and fighting skills; control and restraint; and lessons in security theory and planning.

An important addition in recent years has been the imposition of tactical trauma training to every operational member of the security team; not only focusing on life saving medical skills but also how to implement them in the midst of a chaotic security emergency such as a terror attack.

As well as training CST's own security staff and volunteers, seminars are regularly held for members of the Jewish community, ranging from online security awareness classes to in-person women's self-defence seminars.

All of CST's training is given free of charge.



Liberating Creativity

PROGUARD
ARMOUR

ELITE

YOUNG MAN

WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT, POLITICIANS & CIVIL SERVANTS

CST works closely with government, politicians and civil servants both nationally and locally, to best ensure that Jewish communal concerns regarding terrorism, antisemitism, policing and security are properly understood and addressed. CST also seeks broad political consensus regarding Jewish communal security and defence needs.

The quick decision by the new Labour Government to continue the CST administered 'Protective Security Grant for the Jewish Community' and honour the previous Conservative Government's commitment to multi-year funding exemplifies the non-party political approach of CST, whereby CST is considered a key stakeholder across party lines.

CST's cross communal model, its security expertise, research and analysis, are all repeatedly cited by national and local government as an example of best practice. CST is proud to share its example for the benefit of all parts of British society.

Since the change of government, CST's engagement has included meetings with the Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer MP, the Deputy

Prime Minister and Communities Secretary Angela Rayner MP, the Home Secretary Yvette Cooper MP, the Health Secretary Wes Streeting MP, the Culture Secretary Lisa Nandy MP and many other cabinet members and government ministers (including the Security Minister Dan Jarvis MP, the Policing Minister Diana Johnson MP and the Communities Minister Lord Wajid Khan - all positions pertinent to CST's focus). CST has also maintained regular contact with opposition politicians, including the Conservative and Liberal Democrat leaders and shadow teams.

Much of the day-to-day parliamentary engagement continues to be undertaken in close cooperation and consultation with other Jewish communal organisations, including the Jewish Leadership Council (JLC), the Antisemitism Policy Trust (APT), the Manchester Jewish Representative Council, the London Jewish Forum and the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

In addition to day-to-day parliamentary engagement, CST has participated in several larger scale events such as a 'parliamentary drop-in' co-organised by JLC and APT where



CST Chairman Sir Gerald Ronson and CST Chief Executive Mark Gardner meeting with Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer MP, alongside other communal leaders



around 50 parliamentarians met with five CST staff members from across the organisation, and briefings of groups of MPs.

Also notable, was CST providing oral evidence to the Home Affairs Select Committee Inquiry into the policing of protests, which has been a key concern of the Jewish community.

Importantly, CST is the first contact for government when it seeks to understand the impact upon British Jews of local or international crises. This longstanding relationship saw, from 7 October 2023 onwards, CST leading the Jewish community's interactions in Westminster and beyond, at a time of unprecedented communal concern.

As the key Jewish communal interlocutor on antisemitism and extremism, CST maintained constant engagement at all levels of government, and across all political parties, providing expert briefings and insight. In 2024, this included CST experts contributing to several high level policy dialogues on relevant areas alongside high level civil servants, academics and other key stakeholders.

The value of CST as a trusted partner for government, politicians and civil servants was most keenly shown on and after 7 October 2023 and throughout 2024, but these relationships rely upon many years of CST engagement and reliability.

CST works closely with the government's Counter Extremism strategy (Prevent), helping support counter-extremism measures and improve community cohesion. Similarly, CST continues to work closely with the Commission for Countering Extremism, and with specialist units within the Home Office that research and monitor extremism in the UK.

CST's Research and Analysis Team continue to research and publish restricted circulation Situation Assessments and Threat Updates that are circulated amongst core partners across Whitehall, where they are considered to be of key importance in understanding antisemitism and assessing Jewish community sentiment. In addition, the publication of CST's annual antisemitic incident reports and the biannual Campus Antisemitism Report provides unparalleled data and analysis of antisemitism in the UK, so as to best inform government understanding and policy.

CST also monitors hatred against MPs who face threats from antisemites and extremists. CST shares this information with the MPs and their staff, gives them security advice and frequently interacts on their behalf with social media companies and the police, including parliamentary security.

CAMPUS ANTISEMITISM

Tackling antisemitism at UK universities and colleges has long been fundamental to CST's work. This is because of the enduring nature of antisemitism on British campuses, from both students and staff.

The antisemitism comes from both basic anti-Jewish racism and extreme anti-Israel politics, whether from the far left or Islamists. All such problems showed a severe escalation throughout the wars that followed the Hamas-led mass terror attack in southern Israel on 7 October 2023.

In response, throughout 2024, CST's dedicated campus team worked in tandem with numerous Jewish campus groups, including the Union of Jewish Students and the University Jewish Chaplaincy to best ensure Jewish well-being, despite the sharp increase in anti-Jewish and anti-Israel hostility.

In 2024, CST recorded 145 university-related antisemitic incidents. By comparison, 61 such incidents were recorded in 2022. These figures only include what is reported to CST by victims,

or passed to CST by student groups, university security officers or police.

CST's campus team supports students and staff who have been the victims of antisemitism, by providing initial welfare and psychological support, practical security advice, assistance for victims in escalating antisemitic incidents to relevant authorities and supporting students and staff through official processes.

CST's campus team works closely with the Union of Jewish Students to ensure that university-related antisemitic incidents are raised with the relevant university staff in a confidential manner, and that universities are pressed to take appropriate action to limit antisemitism at their respective institutions.

As well as providing victim support, CST's campus team travels around the country to meet with university security officials to discuss security and anti-racism provision.

In 2024, CST's campus team travelled to over 20 different campuses throughout the UK.





Campus Antisemitism in Britain 2022-2024

In December 2024 CST published its biannual *Campus Antisemitism Report*, detailing the campus-related antisemitic incidents that occurred during the 2022/23 and 2023/24 academic years. The report found that 272 campus-related incidents occurred in the academic year 2023/24, which is a 413% increase from the previous academic year.

The report also details the hostile environment Jewish students faced following 7 October, due to increase in extreme rhetoric regarding Zionism and Zionists on campus from individual students, staff, activist student groups and student encampments.

Following the report's publication, CST's campus team briefed senior civil service officials, Universities UK, and the National Union of Students on the report's findings and presented CST's recommendations for universities to more effectively tackle antisemitism.

In response to the report, the Secretary of State for Education Bridget Phillipson stated: "These findings are sickening. It is an absolute disgrace that Jewish students feel unable to participate fully in university life due to the abhorrent rise

in antisemitic abuse detailed in this report and we are determined to change this as a matter of urgency. It shows we have a long way to go to combat antisemitism in our society. The Government remains firmly committed to tackling antisemitism across the country and stamping out hatred wherever it occurs."

CST remains committed to ensuring that Jewish students can experience the full range of opportunities available to them whilst at university without fear of hostility. As such, CST continues to strongly recommend that universities should take appropriate and effective action to combat antisemitism, support the victims of antisemitism, and comply with their legal obligation to tackle radicalisation and extremism as outlined in the PREVENT programme.





I like to

I need to

Streetwise
LIVING PERSONAL EDUCATION

CST
MACCABEE CR

Our Class Birthdays
When is your birthday?

1. SIT
2. LISTEN
3. LEARN

CST SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE: STREETWISE & STAND UP!

CST gives extensive support for Jewish schoolchildren via Stand Up! and Streetwise. These projects are close partnerships between CST and Maccabi GB, a charity that specialises in youthwork, informal education and sporting activities.

CST's goal is to deliver important life skills to schoolchildren, increasing their self-confidence and awareness, making them less vulnerable to crime and racism.

Throughout 2024 and following on from the impact of 7 October 2023, Streetwise and Stand Up! played vital roles in opposing antisemitism and strengthening the resilience of Jewish children.

Streetwise teaches Jewish children about contemporary antisemitism, personal safety and personal development. Throughout 2024, Streetwise delivered 750 workshops in 66 Jewish primary and secondary schools, community organisations and youth groups, reaching close to 23,000 young people.

Stand Up! Education Against Discrimination delivers anti-discrimination education in mainstream secondary schools, focusing on antisemitism and anti-Muslim hate. It is a cross-communal project, carried out in partnership with other organisations who combat hate crime such as Tell MAMA, Kick it Out and Galop. Stand Up! is widely recognised as an example of best practice in anti-discrimination education.

In 2024, Stand Up! delivered 558 workshops in 93 mainstream schools nationally. These sessions, led by Jewish and Muslim facilitators, reached over 24,700 students in London and 4,780 students in Bradford, Wakefield, Birmingham and Norfolk. The London weighting is heavier as the project has received support from The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime's 'Shared

Endeavour Fund' for five consecutive years, where it is now considered a flagship project.

Streetwise continues to support Jewish schoolchildren against the sharp rise in antisemitism post 7 October 2023. In 2024 it engaged with nearly 11,000 young Jewish students with self-defence and personal safety sessions, all supported by CST.

In recognition of the increasing need for young people to be supported with difficult conversations outside of the classroom, in 2024

Streetwise launched a new antisemitism programme aimed at school leavers (year 11+) called 'Managing antisemitism in the next chapter', complementing ongoing work with secondary schools alongside the Union of Jewish Students (UJS), United Jewish Israel Appeal (UJIA), and Jewish Activities in Mainstream Schools (JAMS) team.

In addition, Streetwise actively engages in further educational campaigns, with 2024 highlights including its active participation in 'National Anti-Bullying Week'; collaborative educational

work with Holocaust Educational Trust (HET) and Kisharon-Langdon; and expanding its safeguarding provision.

As well as proactive educational sessions at non-Jewish schools, Stand Up! have continued to offer anti-discrimination workshops in response to incidents of antisemitism in high schools throughout the year. The increased need for education on antisemitism as well as anti-Muslim hate has not been limited to the classroom, with an increased demand by staff members of London schools to support their having difficult conversations on the Middle East with students and colleagues.

...following on from the impact of 7 October 2023, Streetwise and Stand Up! played vital roles in opposing antisemitism and strengthening the resilience of Jewish children.

ANTISEMITISM AWARENESS TRAINING

CST gives antisemitism awareness training, free of charge, to third parties.

CST does not advertise this service, but its reputation means that the charity is often approached and asked if it is able to assist. Whenever possible, CST will do its utmost to help in this regard.

The rapid growth of antisemitism in the last quarter of 2023 and throughout 2024 caused many more enquiries to CST about such awareness training. Most commonly, CST was approached by Jewish staff and networks within various companies, who wanted their co-workers to get a better understanding of what their Jewish colleagues were feeling and experiencing.

In 2024, CST continued to deliver antisemitism awareness training sessions to various charities, university staff, councillors, companies, organisations, football clubs and theatre staff. Where appropriate, CST worked with other educators to give as comprehensive a service as possible.

Generally, antisemitism awareness training will cover core definitions, a brief history of British antisemitism, the demography of the Jewish community; and common antisemitic tropes and stereotypes. Most sessions include the latest statistics and an overview of what antisemitism looks like in the UK today. The sessions end with a chance for the participants to ask questions.

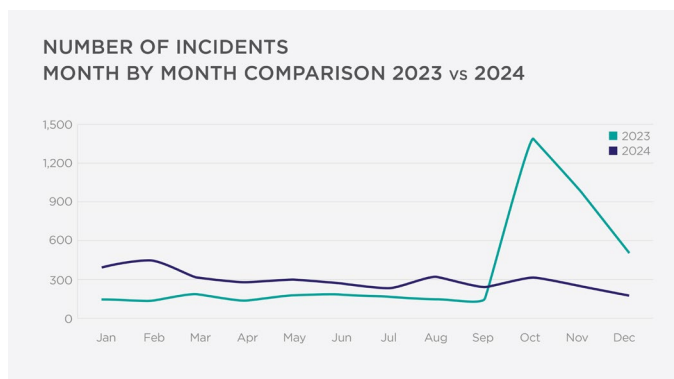


ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS IN 2024

2024 and 2023 were the two years with the highest ever totals of antisemitic incidents recorded by CST.

2023 was the worst year, with 4,296 anti-Jewish hate incidents recorded by CST. This was entirely due to the unprecedented wave of antisemitism that followed the 7 October 2023 mass terror attack in southern Israel by Hamas and other groups.

The war that ensued lasted throughout 2024, during which time antisemitic incident levels fell slightly, to approximately double their pre-October 2023 level. CST received reports of 3,528 antisemitic incidents in the UK in 2024. This was 18% lower than the total for 2023.



These totals only include antisemitic incidents (i.e. anti-Jewish hate crimes and acts) that are reported to CST by third parties, such as members of the public, security personnel and police forces. It does not include the antisemitism that is found every day by CST researchers, whether online or in political meetings and demonstrations.

This methodology has been conducted by CST and its predecessor groups since 1984. It is very likely that reporting rates have increased considerably throughout these 40 years of work, but overall the figures show strong consistency across different categories (e.g. violent, verbal, desecration etc.) and trigger events.

The incident total reported in 2024 shows the sustained high levels of antisemitism that have been recorded across the UK since the Hamas terror attack in Israel on 7 October 2023. Whenever Israel is at war, there is a noticeable surge in antisemitism directed at British Jews. This may come from people who are excited and inspired by violent attacks on Israel and its citizens; from people who consider British Jews as legitimate proxies for

their anger towards Israel; and from people who use Israel as an excuse to vent their pre-existing, unrelated prejudice against Jews.

December was the only calendar month of 2024 in which CST logged fewer than 200 antisemitic incidents. By comparison, prior to October 2023, there had only ever been five calendar months in which over 200 incidents had been recorded (all of which correlated with periods when Israel was at war).

The importance of the war throughout 2024 is also reflected in the language of anti-Jewish hate recorded throughout the year. Israel and the Middle East featured in 52% of the antisemitic incidents reported to CST in 2024, alongside anti-Jewish rhetoric, motivation or targeting. In comparison, in 2022, a year when antisemitism in the UK was not significantly impacted by events in the region, such discourse was seen in just 15% of incidents.

In addition to the 2024 total of over 3,500 antisemitic incidents, CST received a further 2,479 reports that CST analysts deemed not to be antisemitic as they did not appear to show anti-Jewish language or targeting. This is the highest number of non-incidents ever reported to CST, and importantly, it includes many cases of suspicious activity that may denote terrorist planning against the Jewish community.

Since 7 October 2023, the demands upon CST's Incidents Department have been extremely high. Taken together, it handled over 6,000 incidents in 2024. Whether or not they were classed as antisemitic, many required thorough casework, emotional and logistical support, security advice, and liaison with police and government. This was a huge team effort, both within CST's Incidents Department and more broadly across the rest of the charity.

CST supports incident victims and reporters in any way they need. For example, CST's specialist schools and campus teams assist young people, whilst CST psychological support volunteers, made up of professional psychologists and psychiatrists, give help to those who have suffered trauma in some way.

TERRORISM THREATS & CST'S MISSION

Protecting the UK Jewish community from terrorism is central to CST's work.

The level of anti-Jewish threat – and the security needed from CST – depends on the overall UK terrorist threat, as well as global threats to Jews.

CST's security training, planning, operations and advice are always evolving to mitigate against current and future terrorism, including attack methods, target selections, hostile reconnaissance, incitement and ideology.

UK Terrorist threat levels

The officially designated UK national threat level from terrorism has remained at SUBSTANTIAL (meaning an attack is "likely") since February 2022.

Between 2017 and 2024, the UK suffered over 20 terrorist attacks, and UK police and security services have thwarted at least 43 terrorist plots. In the last year, this included three plots aimed at causing mass casualties, according to UK authorities.

In December 2024, the senior national coordinator for Counter Terrorism Policing spoke of a "smouldering" threat in the UK, involving a rapid increase in terror suspects fixated on extreme violence. This includes minors increasingly engaging with extreme, violent material.

Most of the terrorism is classified as jihadist or extreme right-wing, but it also includes cases of "mixed" ideologies and grievances. In his annual threat update, MI5's Director-General emphasised that the security services increasingly encounter people with a "dizzying range of beliefs and ideologies" combining extremist views.

The following terrorism patterns are especially current:

- "Soft" targets such as crowded spaces and easily accessible locations remain attractive targets for terrorists, regardless of ideology.
- Most recent terror attacks have involved lone attackers who are more difficult to detect and

disrupt. This emphasises the need to identify and report suspicious behaviour.

- Vehicle ramming and knife stabbings are common methods of terror attack, but post-2000 attacks in Britain have also involved home-made incendiary and explosive devices, as well as suicide bombings.
- Terrorists have used firearms in the UK, but these are relatively less frequent than overseas. It is, however, increasingly common for UK extremists to create or research 3D-printed firearms and homemade weapons.

UK Terrorist threats to British Jews

Hatred of Jews is extremely common in those Islamist extremist, extreme right-wing, Iranian state and "mixed" ideologies that pose a violent threat in the UK.

Director-General Ken McCallum, the head of UK Security Service MI5, has stated:

"Sadly, in the particular case of Jewish or Israeli individuals or entities, they face risk potentially from those of an Islamist extremist mindset and those of an extreme right-wing, antisemitic or neo-Nazi-type mindset. We see both those forms of terrorism in the UK."

Assistant Commissioner Matt Jukes, the head of UK Counter Terrorism Policing, has frequently warned that the 7 October 2023 war may inspire terrorism. After one year of the war, Jukes re-emphasised police "vigilance" and described a 15% increase in intelligence submissions.

Across the UK, police have made over 80 arrests for terrorism offences relating to the conflict, including for illicit protest activity and online breaches of terrorism law.

Recent UK anti-Jewish and anti-Israel terrorism cases include:

On 15 October 2023, Ahmed Alid stabbed a 70-year-old man to death in Hartlepool, telling



police he wanted to kill them due to the conflict in Gaza and for Palestine to be free of “Zionists”. He also said he would have killed many more people if he had the opportunity.

In May 2024, Alid was jailed for life, having been found guilty of murder and the attempted murder of his housemate. In describing this terrorist attack, Matt Jukes emphasised that it was spurred by the 7 October Hamas attacks in Israel:

“This awful incident took place just one week after the 7 October terrorist attack on Israel and before the full-scale conflict that has since unfolded in the Middle East. It is now evident, and as made clear by the judge, that Ahmed Alid’s existing extremist mind set and hatred accelerated over that week. He was galvanised by international events and therefore felt justified to commit such a heinous attack.”

In May 2024, three men in Greater Manchester were arrested after allegedly planning an Islamic State-inspired shooting attack targeting the Jewish community in North West England, police officers and members of the UK military. The suspects are accused of planning to buy assault rifles, handguns and ammunition. The trial is scheduled for October 2025.

In July 2024, Mason Reynolds, a far-right extremist from Brighton, was jailed for several terrorism offences. This included possessing plans to attack a synagogue in Hove in a potential suicide bombing on a Jewish festival. Reynolds had written, “The Jewish holidays that tend to have the most people in synagogues are Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Passover.” Moreover, police found on the teenager’s phone a Google Maps video of the synagogue, and information about its CCTV cameras and fire exits.

In October 2024, Gabriel Budasz, a far-right extremist from Weston-super-Mare, was jailed for multiple terrorism offences, having encouraged terrorism and manufactured a 3D-printed firearm. CST was key in bringing Budasz to the attention of counter terror police. (See article on page 29.)

Also in October 2024, Robert Talyor (who went by the online name Brutus of Goy), from Bolton, was jailed for terrorism and racial hatred offences. He perpetrated anti-Jewish crimes and was in possession of information regarding explosive manufacturing that could be useful for terrorism activities. He also shared a propaganda video from National Action, a proscribed far-right terrorist organisation. CST was responsible for his arrest.

The threat of Iranian terrorism in the UK

Iran and its proxies, whether ideological or criminal, pose a constant threat of terrorism in Britain, Europe and elsewhere.

Since January 2022, UK authorities have foiled at least 20 Iranian plots to kidnap or kill UK-based individuals considered enemies of the regime, especially Persian-language media outlets and journalists. In February 2023 the UK’s then Security Minister, Tom Tugendhat, publicly confirmed that Iran had tried to collect intelligence on UK-based Israeli and Jewish individuals between 2020 and 2022 in “preparation for future lethal operations”.

The Director-General of MI5 has echoed the words of other overseas intelligence heads, stating that Iran uses criminal networks as terrorist proxies, from “international drug traffickers to low-level crooks”. Two terrorism cases in London, in 2023 and 2024, both fitted this profile, one involving a stabbing by Romanian criminals, the other a case of hostile reconnaissance by an Austrian of Chechen origin.

GLOBAL TERRORISM THREATS TO JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN 2024

The Hamas mass terror attacks on 7 October 2023 in Israel and the ensuing regional war have caused a severe worsening of the threat level to Jews, all around the world: including from terrorism.

In 2024, over 50 violent attacks, plots and incidents of extreme violence were directed against Jewish, Israeli and other targets in over 20 countries, many of them showing direct reference or motivation to the war in the Middle East. Attackers have used or planned to use a range of methods, including stabbing, shooting, vehicle ramming and firebomb attacks. They have targeted Jewish schools, synagogues, individuals and Israeli diplomatic installations worldwide.

In Australia, for example, there has been a spate of violent anti-Jewish hate crimes across the country, including an arson attack that destroyed a synagogue in Melbourne; and violent threats against Jewish politicians. Similarly, Jewish communities in Canada have experienced numerous serious incidents between 2023 and 2024. This includes arson attacks of Jewish

community facilities and repeated instances of individuals shooting towards Jewish school buildings during hours of darkness.

Islamist terrorism

Islamist terrorist groups and their supporters have continued to celebrate the 7 October attacks and call for further atrocities. This sustained surge in violent incitement against Israelis and Jews occurs worldwide, including in Britain.

Islamic State, al-Qaeda and their supporters have repeatedly called for attacks against Jews and Westerners. IS has urged supporters to “turn their gatherings and celebrations into bloody massacres”, recommending that attackers use simple methods such as hammers, axes or car rammings. In 2024, Islamist terrorists carried out or planned attacks against Jewish and Israeli targets in the UK, Canada, Germany, India, Belgium, Australia, Russia, the US and elsewhere.

In March 2024, IS claimed responsibility for inspiring a 15-year-old boy who stabbed a

CCTV of Islamic State attacker outside a synagogue in Belgrade





Islamic State's al-Naba newsletter celebrating terror attacks

religious Jewish man in Zurich, Switzerland. The boy had recorded a video pledging allegiance to IS and declaring his intention to follow its call to target Jews, Christians and their allies. During the attack, the boy shouted, “I’m here to harm Jews” and “Death to the Jews”.

In July 2024, a Serbian IS supporter used a crossbow to attack a police officer guarding the Israeli embassy in Belgrade. However, the attacker’s initial target was the Belgrade synagogue, which he visited earlier the same day but was reportedly deterred by police presence. This highlights that antisemitic extremists feel justified in attacking either Jewish or Israeli targets, treating them as substitutions for one another.

In September 2024, US authorities charged a Pakistani national living in Canada with planning an IS-inspired mass shooting against a Jewish religious centre in Brooklyn. He reportedly considered attacking on the anniversary of 7 October or on Yom Kippur because it is “a major festival for the Jews.”

Iran and proxy terrorism

In the last four years, Iranian operations have targeted synagogues, Israeli businesspeople, tourist venues, journalists and others in over a dozen countries worldwide, including in the UK and Europe.












Iran and Hizbollah have long targeted Jewish and Israeli interests. Since the 1980s, they have been behind over 50 terrorist attacks and foiled plots worldwide targeting Jews and Israelis.

In 2024, attacks against Israeli embassies and Israel-linked targets in Sweden, Belgium and Denmark involved local teenagers reportedly acting on behalf of Iran, either knowingly or unknowingly. Consequently, in October 2024, Norway’s security service raised the country’s terrorism threat level due to increased threats against Jewish and Israeli targets in the region.

Extreme right-wing terrorism

A global network of violent right-wing extremists shares violent content on social media and imageboard platforms. Much of this incitement is viciously anti-Jewish. In recent years, extreme right-wing terrorists have planned and perpetrated several attacks against Jews and other minorities.



In November 2024, a 23-year-old man was jailed in the US for ten years in connection to a planned attack on New York City’s Jewish community in 2022. His social media included incitement and evidence of intention to attack Jews. This was found by CST and shared with the relevant authorities, leading to his arrest, investigation and imprisonment.

-  Notifications
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-  Premium
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-  Communities
-  Verified Orgs
-  Profile
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 **Mohammed Ahmed**
@Mohamme52754260

Love live hamas long live resistance

3:33 AM · Dec 9, 2023 · 81 Views

 **Keir Starmer**  @Keir_Starmer · Dec 7

As Jews around the world mark Chanukah, we all feel the contrast between the darkness of recent times and the light of this festival.

May the candles of this Festival of Lights bring hope to us all.

Chanukah Sameach.




1.6K 540 3K 399K

 **Mohammed Ahmed**
@Mohamme52754260

You Zionist. Your time will come 🗡️

9:21 AM · Dec 8, 2023 · 6 Views

 **Mohammed Ahmed**
@Mohamme52754260

F*k u and Zionist Jews. If I see you on the streets of London you best know 🗡️

5:31 PM · Dec 6, 2023 · 13 Views

 **Mohammed Ahmed**
@Mohamme52754260

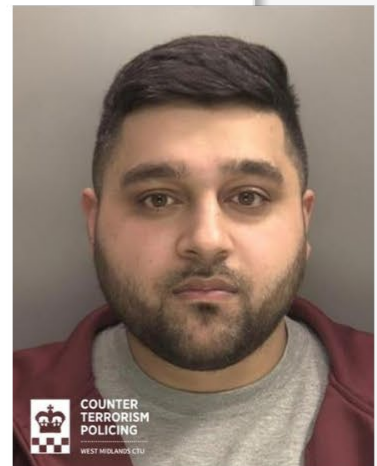
I'd take his head off first thing try that in the UK

5:04 PM · Dec 6, 2023 · 16 Views

 **Mohammed Ahmed**
@Mohamme52754260

Forget the speech what these guys think this?! A movie?! Time for jihad

4:10 PM · Nov 5, 2023 · 5 Views



OPEN-SOURCE INTELLIGENCE & INVESTIGATION

The job of CST's Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) team is to identify, monitor and report the most serious online threats. These threats are mainly, but not exclusively, against British Jews.

This is done within the context of the vast quantities of antisemitic and extremist incitement that exist throughout the digital online space. The hardest task is to prioritise which of these cases to further investigate: because such online material is prolific.

The OSINT operation is continuous and drives CST's counter terrorism work, both with CST security operations and police.

The 7 October Hamas-led attacks resulted in an unprecedented increase in the levels of anti-Jewish incitement online. This has a direct real-world impact on Jewish communities, from antisemitic incidents and the spread of anti-Jewish hatred, to impacting communal confidence and encouraging anti-Jewish terrorism. What happens in the online world is absolutely fundamental to modern antisemitism.

In the course of 2024, CST referred over 145 individuals to UK counter terrorism police and

international partners overseas. On average, there are nearly three referrals every single week.

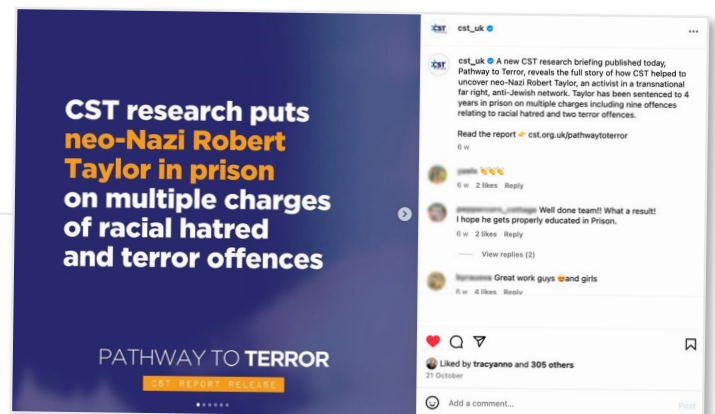
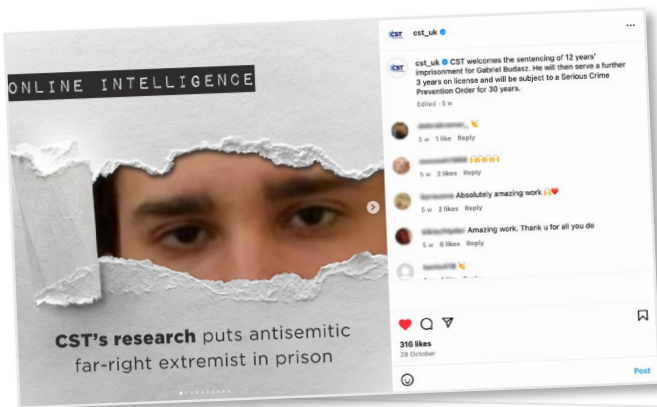
One such case was Mohammed Nafees Ahmed, who on the 19 December 2024 was sentenced to one year in prison, and a further year on extended license for supporting Hamas.

CST became aware of Ahmed due to his extremist activity on X (formerly Twitter) where he posted a series of violent threats, including content that indicated a desire to engage in violent acts himself. Ahmed repeatedly suggested that he was willing or preparing to carry out an act of extremist violence in the UK, as well as supporting Hamas. Ahmed is believed to be the first person in the UK to be imprisoned for supporting Hamas since the Hamas-led terrorist attacks on 7 October 2023, with several others having faced non-custodial sentences and others awaiting trial. It was CST's referral that made this happen.

In 2024, a number of other results were also realised from previous years' work, including sentences for three far-right extremists who were all referred to counter terrorism police by CST. Added together, their jail terms amounted to 25 years' imprisonment.

The detail of CST's OSINT work must remain confidential but has been praised by the highest levels of police and government, with CST thanked for stopping attacks from occurring.

In the course of 2024, CST referred over 145 individuals to UK counter terrorism police and international partners overseas



HELPING OTHERS

CST's commitment to supporting other communities

For over 25 years, CST has played an important role in supporting sectors of British society outside the Jewish community. Police and government agencies have used CST's experience as a template for engaging with other minority and faith groups, and CST has partnered with various non-Jewish organisations, places of worship etc. to help address their security and hate crime concerns.

In 2019, CST decided to formalise this work by launching its SAFE programme, meaning Security Advice For Everyone. This is because CST believes in the fundamental right of every individual and community to live in safety.

Since its launch, SAFE has offered security advice to more than 3,900 places of worship – including churches, mosques, temples, and gurdwaras – as well as a variety of other organisations across the UK that are vulnerable to hate crime.

SAFE: a free security resource for all faith communities

SAFE seminars are delivered by full-time CST staff, free of charge and often in collaboration with local councils and police. Government

Since its launch, SAFE has offered security advice to more than 3,900 places of worship

bodies responsible for public safety have long recognised the unique perspective and expertise that SAFE provides in reaching all manner of minority communities.

In 2024, SAFE held over 200 in-person security seminars and online webinars, attended by over 4,703 individuals from nearly 1,000 places of worship. This was a 47% increase in the number of talks and webinars compared to the previous year.

The SAFE programme not only provides practical guidance but also facilitates meaningful connections between communities. In some cases, attendees have never knowingly interacted with Jews, highlighting the programme's role in promoting cross-community engagement.

Responding to current challenges

On occasion, SAFE has provided tailored support in response to specific events. For instance, when CST was invited by a number of businesses, local authorities and a leading university to offer advice and assistance because those organisations were seeing tensions between people of different backgrounds arising from the Middle East conflict, SAFE stepped in. In this way and others, it continues to contribute meaningfully to the security and cohesion of diverse communities, reinforcing its commitment to ensuring safety for all.







SUPPORT OUR WORK

REPORT

If you experience or witness antisemitism, report it to CST as soon as possible. All reports will be treated with the utmost confidence. In an emergency, dial 999.

VOLUNTEER

Contact your local CST office to learn more about how you can help share the responsibility of protecting our community, by becoming one of our trained volunteer security personnel.

DONATE

CST's work is all provided free of charge. Every pound you give enables CST to do its work for the benefit of the Jewish community and wider society. We welcome every donation.

Scan to report, volunteer and donate | cst.org.uk



National Emergency Number (24-hour) **0800 032 3263**

London (Head Office) **020 8457 9999**

Manchester (Northern Regional Office) **0161 792 6666**

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