

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

The Interim Independent PREVENT Commissioner (Lord Anderson of Ipswich KBE KC)

and

The Southport Public Inquiry

## Preamble

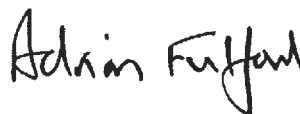
1. On 21 January 2025, the Home Secretary announced Lord David Anderson KC as the Interim Independent PREVENT Commissioner. As part of his terms of reference, he was commissioned to conduct a review of the PREVENT history in respect of Axel Rudakubana (AR), following the attacks in Southport on 29 July 2024 and the Prevent Learning Review (PLR) which followed it, in order to:
  - a. Identify whether there is further learning regarding the specific handling of the case, and if there are any additional findings to add to the PLR now that more information is known/accessible.
  - b. Determine whether appropriate and effective action has been taken to implement the findings of the PLR.
  - c. Examine improvements made to Prevent since 2021, when Rudakubana was last referred in, and determine whether they have sufficiently strengthened the Prevent system.
  - d. Identify remaining gaps or shortcomings that require further improvement and assure action to address them.”
2. On 7 April 2025, the Home Secretary announced Sir Adrian Fulford as chair of the statutory Southport Public Inquiry and the Inquiry was set up on the same day. Phase 1 of the Inquiry will thoroughly investigate the circumstances surrounding the attack and the events leading up to it. This will include examining an overall timeline of AR’s history and interactions with various public bodies including criminal justice, education, social care and healthcare as well as decision making and information sharing by local services and agencies.
3. The two investigations are independent of each other. Each investigation is being conducted pursuant to separate powers and processes. However, the Terms of Reference of each investigation have a degree of overlap concerning the operation of PREVENT in relation to the risks posed by AR, how such risks were handled, and changes to PREVENT that may be necessary.

4. Respecting their respective independence, it is in the public interest that there is appropriate liaison between the two investigations including avoiding duplication of effort so as to protect public funds. Therefore, Lord Anderson and Sir Adrian have agreed to share information where it is proper and reasonable to do so. That is the purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding.

**Information and document sharing**

5. Lord Anderson may share drafts of his report(s) with the Inquiry and the Inquiry may share drafts of its report(s) with Lord Anderson. The receiving party shall maintain the confidentiality of any draft report so shared.
6. Lord Anderson and the Inquiry may share evidence they have received with the other, provided that:
  - (a) the material is relevant to the Terms of Reference of the receiving party, and
  - (b) the Material Provider has been informed that such sharing is to take place with a time-limited opportunity to object.
7. Any material so shared:
  - (a) will be retained and handled by the receiving party in accordance with their existing policies and obligations regarding data protection;
  - (b) will not be published by the receiving party unless the Material Provider has been given a time-limited opportunity to make representations on publication, including in relation to any necessary redactions.

Signed



.....  
Lord Anderson of Ipswich KBE KC

.....  
The Rt. Hon. Sir Adrian Fulford PC KC

Dated: 18 June 2025