

Witness Name:Glyn Johnson

Exhibits: GJ/1-8

Dated: 26th August 2025

THE SOUTHPORT INQUIRY

[FIRST] WITNESS STATEMENT OF **Glyn JOHNSON**

I, **Glyn JOHNSON**, will say as follows:-

1.I am employed as the Head of Security for DPDgroup UK Ltd ('DPD UK). I am responsible for overseeing all aspects of security within DPD UK's operation, including physical security, personnel protection, and regulatory compliance. This role involves developing and implementing security strategies, managing security personnel, and ensuring the integrity of the supply chain.

DPD UK is a parcel delivery company and a subsidiary of La Poste, the second largest postal group in Europe. DPD UK provides a range of delivery services, including express parcel delivery within the UK and internationally.

2. This witness statement is made to assist the Southport Inquiry (the "Inquiry") with the matters set out in the Rule 9 Request dated 28th July 2025.

3. I have been requested by DPD UK's General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer, to respond to a letter dated the 28th July 2025 from Jennifer Forrest, Assistant Solicitor to the Southport Inquiry, in which it is requested to draw to our attention the fact that, from disclosure provided by Merseyside Police, DPD UK claimed not to be able to trace its delivery details in relation to the machete delivered by DPD UK to the perpetrator of the Southport attack, where the vendor considered that DPD UK could not have looked very hard to find such information. The Chair expects and requires full and candid information and is unlikely to accept a response that details of this delivery cannot be traced by DPD UK.

4. Supporting documents were also provided to assist with the response, namely 1) a copy of the driving licence for the intended recipient in the name of Miss Alice [DPA], police exhibit no GMR04, **MERP000330** 2) a DPD tracking invoice numbered 15423746, headed "Springfield of Burton", dated 13/06/23 depicting consignment number 1504267797, indicating 1 parcel at a gross cost of £2689.98, police exhibit number GMR05, **MERP000470** 3) A MG11 witness statement provided by TDC Gareth MORGAN-RICHARDSON of the NW ROCU. **MERP000827** 4) A Springfield letter headed order, with the billing and shipping details of Alice [DPA], 10 Old School Close, Banks, PR98SB, telephone number [DPA], email address a.megalaria7@yahoo.com, illustrating the purchase of a 22" Bushcraft Survival Machete incl tax price of £9.49 and a Extra Large Sharpening Stone 8" incl tax piece of £3.32, grand total including delivery and tax of £17.30. Police exhibit GMR03, **MERP000161** 5) The transaction details of the payment received from Alsice [DPA] for £17.30, police exhibit GMR06, **MERP000290**.

5. From the information supplied I was able to examine our delivery database software known as "Universe" to locate the record of delivery requested by the inquiry, which I now exhibit as GJ/1- [DPD000006]. This record shows that consignment number 1504267797, had been delivered on the 14th June 2023 at 12:18pm to 10 Old School Close, Banks, PR98SB.

6. The delivery was made by a DPD driver namely Joseph POMEROY (b. [DPA]), of [DPA] [DPA] [DPA], telephone number [DPA], it shows 1 parcel was delivered with an actual weight of 1kg. The delivery address recipient has the name Alice [DPA], notification email A.MEGALANIA7@YAHOO.com, notification phone 0748362306, and the account of Springfield Burton Ltd (115687) displayed. From the information provided by Jennifer Forrest I was able to cross reference the consignment number, notification email address, delivery address and recipient details to identify and confirm the delivery details requested by the inquiry.

7. This Universe record provides other information to include the image taken at the time of the delivery by the driver Joseph POMEROY exhibited as GJ/2- [DPD000007] the delivery coordinates and google map location exhibited as GJ/3 [DPD000008] and the name of the recipient taken by the driver on delivery, namely "RUDAKUBN." The record also shows that the delivery was "aged checked."

8. The Proof of Age (POA) process is to ensure that parcels containing bladed items are delivered into the hands of a person aged 18 years or over. For every delivery of this type the driver will verify that the recipient is over the age of 18, either visually or by checking the recipient's ID. The sender will let their customer know if they need to provide ID prior to dispatch of the goods. As stated in this process, the person "signing" for the delivery must be over 18 years of age but does not necessarily need to be the named recipient. This process is documented and exhibited as GJ/4

DPD000009

9. On 30th July 2025 at 08:02 am the driver Joseph POMEROY was interviewed by the General Manager of security Paul SEPHTON. During the interview POMEROY stated that he had worked for DPD for 4-5 years as a general delivery driver on a sub contract basis for John Faulkner. He declared that his route was recently changed for deliveries in Banks with a postcode of PR8. When asked about 10 Old School Close, Banks, POMEROY replied; he knew that the address was where the murderer lived. He remembered only delivering to this address once, but couldn't remember the date. He remembered the fella that answered the door to him, his memory of this was more apparent after the Southport incident had happened, recalling he had been to that house.

10. He confirmed that no one had ever spoken to him about that delivery, apart from mentioning it to other drivers saying that was his route. There was something about the delivery that remained with him, he thought it was because of the recipient's attitude, "it was just terrible." He described the person he had delivered to as a black, adult male, whom he thought was older than 46, that being POMEROY's age.

11. He couldn't recall anything about the package delivered. POMEROY was asked about "age verification" and "aged checked," he explained that this is requested if for example it's a bladed article or booze. He stated that if a person was clearly under the age of 18 he would request ID, he had never been told to check documents otherwise, he wouldn't deliver the item if the recipient looked under age. On this occasion as the recipient looked of age, he pressed confirm on the delivery device and left the item. This interview concluded at 08:12. The interview and transcript I now exhibit as GJ/5 - **DPD000002** and GJ/6 **DPD000003** respectively.

12. As can be seen from the above disclosure DPD has very easily been able to identify the information required by the inquiry team, we can only apologise and find it unacceptable that TDC 5814 Gareth Morgan-Richardson of the North West Regional Organised Crime Unit, was unable to ascertain a response from DPD and would request further information from the officer to determine who he spoke to, so that we can ensure this poor response is rectified moving forward.

13. I have conducted data research on DPD system, known as Universe, with regards to any other deliveries that were made by DPD that should have been age verified and were delivered by DPD between

1 January 2019 and 30 July 2024 to:

10 or 8 Old School Close, Banks to

a. Axel Rudakubana

b. **DPA** Olakunle (an alias used by AR)

c. Anyone using the emails accounts: a.megalaria7@yahoo.com or through account a.hyenadon@gmail.com. or **DPA**

d. The user of telephone 07428362306; or

e. Alice **DPA** (another alias used by AR)

14. Whilst there were other deliveries made to these addresses, I can confirm there were no other age verification deliveries made.

15. Whilst our systems don't allow searches for recipients names, due to the GDPR regulations, I can again confirm that there are no other records showing any deliveries from customers supplying weapons to the address used by AR, cross referenced by the telephone number or emails addresses provided. A full internal review has been conducted and the full details I now exhibit as GJ/7- **DPD000005** all consignments shipped to AR between May 2019-30th July 2024 our records prior to this date no longer exist.

16. DPD are committed to preventing the delivery of knives and machetes to children and have since the incident been working with the Home Office, Mr Simon Eglington Firearms & Weapons Policy Unit, Public Safety Group, Crime Directorate in how logistic companies can engage with customers to implement delivery failsafe procedures such as PIN. PIN is currently used by some of DPD's customers when shipping their goods and consists of the sender providing a unique

PIN number that is sent to the authorised age verified recipient and then used to unlock the delivery when the DPD driver arrives. We continue to implement this process with our customers reiterating the support and value it provides in this area.

17. You will see from the POMEROY's disclosure that he believed the recipient on the 14th June 2023 to be of adult age, if this inquiry has identified this not to be the case, DPD will take immediate action against POMEROY as this would be in contravention of DPD's policies.

18. In January 2020 DPD introduced a new age verification induction and yearly refresher training module to our driver community, this is delivered either in a group sessions or on a one 2 one basis with the relevant franchisee. It streamlined the process and supported a more user friendly approach. We continue to update the training with both visual and paper facilitation. I now produce the video training as GJ/8 - DPD000004 POMEROY following the introduction of this module received yearly refresher training, however this is signed off electronically so unable to provide a hardcopy.

19. DPD remains reliant on the integrity, trust, ethical behaviour and cooperation of their customers in compliance with our terms and conditions in relation to the shipping of bladed articles. Any avoidance may result in DPD refusing to collect the goods even if the Customer has been given a consignment or order number; We realise the importance of ensuring that all our delivery drivers comply with the age verification process, which is educated through regular training, briefing documents and on road reviews.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth.

Signed

SIGNATURE

Dated 26th August 2025

Exhibit List

Exhibit No	Inquiry Reference No	Document Description
GJ/1	DPD000006	Universe record and attached notes
GJ/2	DPD000007	Image of delivery
GJ/3	DPD000008	Google Map indicating delivery address
GJ/4	DPD000009	Proof of age Training and Process policy
GJ/5	DPD000002	Interview of delivery driver POMEROY on 30/07/25
GJ/6	DPD000003	Transcript of interview GJ/5
GJ/7	DPD000005	All Consignment shipped to AR
GJ/8	DPD000004	Video training for Proof of Age