

## Southport Inquiry

**Witness Name:** Hamza Ali

**Exhibits:**

**Dated:** 05 September 2025

### THE SOUTHPORT INQUIRY

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#### FIRST WITNESS STATEMENT OF HAMZA ALI

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I, Hamza Ali, will say as follows: -

#### Background

1. I started my career as a delivery driver for Yodel Delivery Service on 23rd May 2022 till 18th September 2022. I then worked for Amazon Flex from November 2022 until April 2024. I started working for Condor Carrier at amazon flex from 19th April 2024 till around May 2025.
2. I never had any issue when delivering as my employers and colleagues may vouch for. They would in fact notice my additional help to the team and assisting others on finishing their workload.

#### Condor Carriers

3. From April 2024 till May 2025, I worked for Condor Carriers as a delivery driver. My role included making deliveries to the customers.
4. In April/May 2025 I had a change of employment as the job was very physically demanding as I would constantly be on the move trying to get all my workload completed. At the same time, I was completing my university degree at Blackburn College University Centre. Condor Carriers would allow us to leave home early depending on the time, we complete our parcels. I was the type of person to get my

packages delivered as quickly as possible and some days would be more difficult than others so racing against the time, sunlight and energy was difficult to juggle.

### **Training received from Amazon or condor carriers**

5. Regarding the training I received training from Condor Carriers, it was straight forward to understand as I had previously been a delivery driver, so it became easy when completing the examination process. The training was provided by the managers and an experienced worker, Lewis Graves.

6. *What topics did you discuss during the training? Was it classroom based or online? How long did it take? Where you given any handbooks or material on the day?*

I was taught the general day to day and expectations. I did say I had previous experience in delivering so the teaching and learning of how to work with amazon was easy, but majority of the learning was how to drive the van as I had never driven a bigger vehicle before, so majority of my training was driving the van safely. But the delivery protocols and the rest was still taught and delivered to me by my mentor Lewis Graves.

7. *Did you ever get refresher training?*

Apart from having the 2 day training there was no training after that. However, when I had questions regarding anything the managers and team were helpful too and responsive.

### **Age verification training**

8. *How were you made aware that age verification was required?*

The amazon flex app would tell me that the parcel needs age verification. I would ask whoever is receiving the parcel for their Date of birth, if they looked under 25, I would have to ask them to provide a form of ID which I would then review. I followed protocols as you cannot complete the delivery until the checks have been made, else the application won't let you pass.

9. *Whether you were permitted to give the parcel to someone over the age of 18, even if they are not the recipient named on the parcel. In this respect, please consider Schedule 4 of the Driver's Contract: "For all AVD, the Driver needs to ask for*

*Identification (ID). If the recipient passes age verification, you can only offer delivery to either the Customer, Front Desk, or Mailroom” [Inquiry reference: COND000004 /p.9];* I don't remember the name of the recipient but whoever id hand the parcel to ask the name and date of birth and if it checks out, id give them the parcel. If there is resident who lives with the recipient, then I'd ask them for their date of birth if the customer is unavailable.

10. *What happens when a parcel is signed for. Who retains a copy of the signature?*

When signed it gets passed to amazon, I as the delivery driver don't get to see the signature

11. Did Condor Carriers or Amazon carry out checks as to whether you were acting in accordance with their training, contractual obligations and policies, in particular whether you were carrying out appropriate age verification checks?

Yes, they have checks and performance on a spreadsheet. If we underperform or any issues arises, they let us know weekly so we can improve in our areas which need improving.

### **The Delivery**

8 Old School Close (AR's neighbour)

12. After reviewing the footage from the doorbell, I don't remember particularly making this delivery, but I do know which house this is. This house would normally have a letter on the door saying to leave it in the bush. To speed up the rate of workflow I rang the doorbell and left it in the bush as seen in the doorbell camera.

10 Old School Close

13. I have been informed by the Inquiry that on **13 July 2025**, at 20.19:44 AR made an online order for two knives from Amazon. The knives AR ordered were Apollo Chef Knife 20cm (c.8 inch), Cerbera. I have also been told that the shipping details were: Name: Ax Rud. Address:10 OLD SCHOOL CLOSE BANKS, SOUTHPORT, PR9 8SBGB; tel +, 447428362306. However, at the time of delivery I was not aware of the contents I was delivering as its protocol strictly to keep parcels concealed in its package until delivered.

14. I have also been informed by the Inquiry I delivered the knife on behalf of Amazon through Condor Carriers on 15 July 2025 at 17.40pm. I do not remember delivering that parcel.
15. However, there was a point where I remember the street being taped off by police and I was delivering the parcels to the police as well as giving them my phone for age verification. Not entirely sure if the timescale aligns with this situation.
16. During my time as a delivery driver, the days became a lot more repetitive so recalling a single delivery out of 250+ parcels a day out the 5 days is difficult.
17. As for the age verification, the normal process would be to wait for the customer, ask their age and then if its above 18 hand them the parcel. If they 'look' under 18 then ask for ID. I must've completed this process on the other parcel I had in my hand as Amazons app allows you to make multiple deliveries at the same stop.

### **Improvements**

18. On reflection, Amazon should label their packages with dangerous items label. Even though its 18+ the drivers may assume that it may be alcohol or other adult accessories. But as for weapons distribution should completely be banned as this poses a risk to the delivery driver unknowingly knowing what is in the parcel we carry.

### **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: 05/09/2025