

Info:

If asked statement – a statement created when media outlets specifically request information and provided only to those who request it. It is not placed on SYP website and social media.

For offer statement – a statement created and proactively released on the force website and social media accounts.

If asked statement – 26 January 2018 – requested and provided to multiple media outlets

South Yorkshire Police is investigating reports of three alleged assaults on three workers who were felling trees in Chatsworth Road in Sheffield. This matter was reported during October 2017. Officers have carried out forensic tests and have spoken to a number of witnesses regarding this matter and enquiries are ongoing.

If asked statement – 31 January 2018

The alleged assault reportedly took place on 23 October 2017 and was reported to police on 1 November. Officers first spoke to the complainants on 5 November, marking the start of the formal investigation. The complex forensic element of the enquiry began in December.

For offer statement issued on 12 February 2018:

Witnesses sought to alleged assault and damage

Officers are appealing for witnesses, mobile phone and CCTV recordings after receiving allegations of assault and criminal damage on Meersbrook Park Road in Sheffield on 22nd January 2018.

The appeal for information follows an incident involving tree-felling staff and people objecting to their activities at the site between 9am and 5pm.

Anyone with information should call 101 and quote incident number 535 of 24 January 2018.

For offer statement issued on 23 February 2018

Following the announcement from Amey Plc that tree felling in Sheffield will begin in the coming days, Assistant Chief Constable David Hartley explains why there will be a higher level of police presence at the sites.

“With the reintroduction of the felling, the police now have a very clear and independent role to play, and that is one of keeping everyone involved safe - respecting people’s right to protest, balanced with allowing the rights of SCC and their contractors to carry out their lawful business.

“Previously, we maintained a low-key presence, and this has worked well with our officers responding only to incidents requiring police intervention. However, what we saw on Meersbrook Park Road, which led to the pause in work, was a definite change in behaviour and atmosphere - we saw disorder and violence, resulting in a number of injuries.

“Our main priority is to keep everyone involved safe; this includes protestors, SCC and Amey staff, residents, media at the sites and our own staff. Our primary role is to balance the rights of those who wish to exercise their lawful right to protest and

Sheffield City Council’s contractors, who need to carry out their lawful work.

“To achieve this we will now have further resources available and have the ability to move to a different policing style if needed. I absolutely work to the principles of ‘no surprises’ and maintain our approach of meeting all parties involved to explain our role and thresholds for action.

“My hope is we return to the peaceful balance seen before Meersbrook Park Road, however, if disorder or criminality is encountered, it will be dealt with promptly and proportionately.”

For offer statement issued on 26 February 2018:

South Yorkshire Police officers at the site of tree work on Thornsett Road, Sheffield today made three arrests.

A 48-year-old man has been arrested on suspicion of a section 4 public order offence ? using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour or disorderly behaviour.

A man and a woman have been arrested on suspicion of obstructing a person acting in the execution of the Highways Act 1980.

Enquiries are ongoing.

For offer statement issued on 27 February 2018:

South Yorkshire Police at the site of tree work on Thornsett Road, Sheffield have today reported three people for summons under section 303 of the Highways Act 1980.

No arrests were made.

Following yesterday’s update, a 36-year-old man and a 39-year-old woman arrested on suspicion of obstructing a person acting in the execution of Highways Act 1980, and a 48-year-old arrested on suspicion of a section 4 public order offence have all been released under investigation.

An allegation of assault was reported to officers at the site yesterday and enquiries into this remain ongoing.

For offer statement issued on 28 February 2018:

Due to concerns with the weather, tree work on Thornsett Road, Sheffield was stopped earlier today, Wednesday 28 February 2018.

No arrests were made and no-one was reported for summons.

An allegation of assault was reported to officers on the site today and enquiries into this are ongoing.

For offer statement issued on 5 March 2018

Man arrested at Sheffield tree work site

South Yorkshire Police at the site of tree work on Abbeydale Park Rise, Sheffield have today made one arrest and reported numerous people for summons under section 303 of the Highways Act 1980.

A man, aged 38, has been arrested on suspicion of assault and remains in police custody for questioning.

Numerous people have been reported for summons under section 303 of the Highways Act 1980.

One woman was injured at the site and taken home by officers.

In response to queries about the number of officers deployed at the site today, we do not confirm the amount of officers involved in an operation while it is ongoing.

However we can confirm there will be a higher number of officers at the site to allow their rotation throughout the day, and to provide support should they be required. This is standard procedure for operations of this nature.

If asked statement – 8 March 2018

South Yorkshire Police's Protest Removal Team were today, Thursday 8 March 2018, called to Kenwood Road, Sheffield to remove a protester from beneath a truck, located within a secured safety zone at the site of tree work.

The truck had been lifted off the ground using hydraulic jacks and to ensure the safety of the protester, engineers placed axle jacks underneath the vehicle to create a safe working environment.

Due to the level of risk, officers were equipped with protective headgear while working under the truck to remove the protester.

Two men have been arrested on suspicion of obstructing a person acting in the execution of the Highways Act 1980. They remain in police custody for questioning.

For offer statement issued 9 March 2018:

Officers from South Yorkshire Police have reported one person on summons and made two arrests at the site of tree-work on Abbeydale Park Rise, Sheffield, today, Friday 9 March 2018.

One man was reported on summons on suspicion of obstructing a person acting in the execution of the Highways Act 1980.

One man was arrested on suspicion of criminal damage. A second man, aged 74, was arrested on suspicion of witness intimidation and a camera and a phone was seized under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984.

All three remain in police custody for questioning.

Following peaceful protest earlier today, an agreement was made with the protesters to conduct a slow walk at the end of the day's activity.

Two men aged 33 and 56 arrested yesterday on suspicion of obstructing a person in the execution of the Highways Act 1980, have both been released under investigation.

For offer statement issued 13 March 2018:

Officers from South Yorkshire Police have today (Tuesday 13 March), arrested one person at the site of tree-work on Thornsett Road, Sheffield.

The man was arrested on suspicion of obstructing the highway, under the Highways Act 1980.

A small number of police resources were deployed to the site this morning, however extra officers were later required to assist, following a breach of the designated safety zone, which temporarily stopped work.

At the end of the day's activity, following peaceful protest, an agreement was made with the protesters to conduct a slow walk.

A 42-year-old man arrested on suspicion of causing criminal damage on Friday 9 March has received a caution.

A 73-year-old man, also arrested last Friday on suspicion of witness intimidation, has since been bailed with conditions.

For offer statement issued 15 March 2018

Following an obstruction at the site of ongoing tree-work in Sheffield today, one man has been arrested.

The man, aged 47, has been arrested on suspicion of wilful obstruction of the highway.

Work at the site on Kenwood Road ceased in the early afternoon and a slow walk was then facilitated after liaising with protestors. However, as workers attempted to exit the site, one vehicle was unable to leave for around 45-minutes, due to pedestrians in the road.

As such, one person was arrested under the Highways Act 1980.

For offer statement issued 16 March 2018

Witnesses to alleged Sheffield assault asked to come forward

Officers investigating two alleged assaults in the Abbeydale Park Rise area of Sheffield are appealing for witnesses who may have footage of the incident to come forward.

At around 3pm on Monday 5 March, it is reported that two members of the Servoca security team were assaulted, during ongoing tree-felling work in the area.

During the incident, a member of the public is also said to have been injured. She was taken to hospital by officers and was released later that same evening.

A 38-year-old man arrested on suspicion of assault and a public order offence in connection to the incident has since been conditionally bailed pending further enquiries.

Police have reviewed CCTV footage of the incident and are now asking members of the public, who saw what happened and who may have video footage of the incident, to get in touch with police.

Anyone with information can call 101 quoting incident number 133 of 5 March 2018 or send footage to enquiries@southyorks.pnn.police.uk

For offer statement issued 16 March 2018

Tree-work on Sackville Road, Sheffield has now concluded for the day.

No arrests were made and no-one was reported for summons.

A small number of police resources were deployed to the site this morning, however extra officers were later required to attend following members of the public gathering in the highway.

A 47-year-old man arrested yesterday (Thursday 15 March), on suspicion of wilful obstruction of the highway has been released under investigation.

For offer statement issued 20 March 2018

Officers from South Yorkshire Police have today (Tuesday 20 March), arrested two people at the site of tree-work on Rivelin Valley Road, Sheffield.

One man, aged 48 was arrested on suspicion of obstructing the highway, under the Highways Act 1980.

A second man, aged 47, was arrested on suspicion of racially aggravated harassment, under Section 4a of the Public Order Act 1986.

One man, aged 65, was reported on summons under section 303 of the Highways Act 1980.

Earlier today, due to the peaceful nature of the protests, police resources were withdrawn from the site. However, only a short time later, a breach of the designated safety zone temporarily stopped work, and a number of people were observed gathering on the road.

Due to the breach, and safety concerns associated with people standing on a live highway, a number of officers were sent back to the site, until the tree-work had completed.

If asked statement – 22 March 2018 – information provided in response to Press enquiry

Assault 3

Section 303 5

Public Order Section 4/5 3

Wilful Obstruction of the Highway 2

Arrest Racially Aggravated Section 4a 1

Witness Intimidation 1

Criminal Damage 1

Total 16

Of these:

Six people have been bailed with conditions

Five have been released under investigation

Two have been reported on summons

One has accepted a fixed penalty notice

One has been charged

One has received a caution

Separately, eight people have been reported on summons under Section 303 of the Highways Act 1980 and one person has been reported for summons for Aggravated Trespass.

For offer statement issued 22 March 2018

Following tree-work on Rivelin Valley Road, today (Wednesday 21 March), South Yorkshire Police officers have made three arrests.

A 49-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of Section 5 Public Order Offence and accepted a fixed penalty notice.

A 65-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of obstructing the execution of Act under Section 303 of the Highways Act 1980.

Following a complaint from a member of the public, a 57-year-old woman was arrested on suspicion of causing intentional harm or distress, under Section 4a of the Public Order Act 1986.

Both have been reported on summons.

A number of people at the site were reported on summons under Section 303 of the Highways Act 1980.

Officers called the Yorkshire Ambulance Service earlier today, following reports on an injury. The ambulance arrived and took the woman to hospital as a precaution. Police officers at the site spoke to the woman, who did not make a formal complaint at the time.

For offer statement issued 22 March 2018

At the site of tree-work at Chatsworth Road, Sheffield today, Thursday 22 March 2018, South Yorkshire Police made two arrests.

One woman was arrested on suspicion of Obstructing the Highway under section 303 of the Highways Act 1980.

A second woman, aged 53, was arrested on suspicion of Obstructing a Constable under section 89 of the Police Act 1996.

For offer statement issued 23 March 2018

A man has been charged following a protest on Rivelin Valley Road, on Tuesday 20 March 2018.

Justin Buxton of Main Avenue, Sheffield was charged with Obstruction of the Highway and is due to appear before Sheffield Magistrates Court on 24 April 2018.

A 47-year-old man, arrested on suspicion of racially aggravated harassment under Section 4a of the Public Order Act 1986 has been bailed with conditions.

For guidance: Please note that these proceedings are active and the Contempt of Court Act applies to any comments posted to social media. Any material which could influence members of the jury in an ongoing or imminent trial is deemed as being in contempt of court and is punishable in a court of law.

For offer statement issued 23 March 2018

Today (Friday 23 March 2018), officers at the site of tree-work on Heathfield Road, Sheffield have made one arrest.

A 50-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of obstructing the execution of the Act, under section 303 of the Highways Act 1980.

Following the arrests made on Thursday 22 March on Chatsworth Road, Sheffield, a 56-year-old woman arrested on suspicion of obstructing the execution of the Act under section 303 of the Highways Act 1980, was released under investigation.

A 53-year-old woman, arrested on suspicion of Obstructing a Constable under section 89 of the Police Act 1996 agreed to restorative justice and the matter has now been finalised.

If asked statement 6 April 2018 – statement provided in response to request from media

We neither confirm or deny an investigation into, or an arrest of, a named individual unless charged.

South Yorkshire Police has previously confirmed that during the periods of Sheffield City Council's tree work, including up to the most recent pause in activity (from Monday 26 March), key council and police personnel were co-located within SYP premises. From SCC, one person attended on a daily basis, and was either the Director of Culture and Environment, Head of Highways or Highways Officers.