

Party: C
Name: J Pollock
Exhibit: JP2
Date: 18 July 2024
Number: 2
Claim No: KB-2024-002336

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

KING'S BENCH DIVISION

B E T W E E N:-

GATWICK AIRPORT LIMITED

Claimant

-and-

PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO, IN CONNECTION WITH THE JUST STOP OIL OR OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CAMPAIGN, ENTER OCCUPY OR REMAIN (WITHOUT THE CLAIMANT'S CONSENT) UPON THAT AREA OF LAND KNOWN AS LONDON GATWICK AIRPORT (AS SHOWN FOR IDENTIFICATION OUTLINED IN YELLOW AND SHADED YELLOW AND BLUE ON THE PLAN 1 ATTACHED TO THE PARTICULARS OF CLAIM

Defendant

SECOND WITNESS STATEMENT OF JULIAN POLLOCK

I, JULIAN POLLOCK, of Herbert Smith Freehills LLP, Exchange House, Primrose Street, London EC2A 2EG **WILL SAY** as follows:

1. I am the same Julian Pollock who gave a first witness statement in these proceedings.
2. I make this witness statement in support of the Claimant's application for an injunction to prevent protesters from trespassing and/or causing a public or private nuisance at London

Gatwick Airport (as defined in the Particulars of Claim). I am authorised by the Claimant to give this witness statement on its behalf.

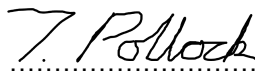
3. I refer to the exhibit marked **JP2** in this statement. It has been produced to me and I verify that the document in the exhibits is a true copies of the document. References in this witness statement to the page numbers in **JP1** are marked "**JPx**".

BBC News Article about Just Stop Oil

4. Following my first witness statement which I signed earlier today, I have come across an article on the BBC website, which states that five environmental activists who participated in a protest on the M25 motorway by Just Stop Oil protesters in November 2022 have been sentenced to imprisonment [**JHP1**]. The five named activists are Roger Hallam, Daniel Shaw, Louise Lancaster, Lucia Whittaker De Abreu and Cressida Gethin. Mr Hallam received five years' imprisonment and the remaining four defendants received four years each.

STATEMENT OF TRUTH

I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings for contempt of court 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: 

JULIAN H POLLOCK

Date: 18 July 2024.....

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

KING'S BENCH DIVISION

BETWEEN:-

GATWICK AIRPORT LIMITED

Claimant


-and-

PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO, IN CONNECTION WITH THE JUST STOP OIL OR OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CAMPAIGN, ENTER OCCUPY OR REMAIN (WITHOUT THE CLAIMANT'S CONSENT) UPON THAT AREA OF LAND KNOWN AS LONDON GATWICK AIRPORT (AS SHOWN FOR IDENTIFICATION OUTLINED IN YELLOW AND SHADED YELLOW AND BLUE ON THE PLAN 1 ATTACHED TO THE PARTICULARS OF CLAIM

Defendant

EXHIBIT JP2

This is Exhibit "JP2" referred to in the Second Witness Statement of Julian Pollock dated 18 July 2024.

Signed:..........

JULIAN H POLLOCK

Date: 18 July 2024

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Just Stop Oil protesters jailed after M25 blocked



JUST STOP OIL/PA

The protests on the M25 resulted in nearly 51,000 hours of driver delays

Tom Symonds

BBC News

18 July 2024, 15:52 BST

Updated 22 minutes ago

Five environmental activists who organised protests that brought part of the M25 to a standstill over four days have been jailed.

Forty-five Just Stop Oil protesters climbed gantries on the motorway in November 2022, forcing police to stop the traffic, in an attempt to cause gridlock across southern England.

Judge Christopher Hehir said Roger Hallam, 58, Daniel Shaw, 38, Louise Lancaster, 58, Lucia Whittaker De Abreu, 35, and Cressida Gethin, 22, had "crossed the line from concerned campaigner to fanatic".

At Southwark Crown Court, Hallam was sentenced to five years' imprisonment while the other defendants each received four-year jail terms.

'Intricate planning'

The sentences are the longest since the introduction by the last government of the new law of conspiracy to cause a public nuisance, in a bid to clamp down on disruptive protests.

The court heard the intention was to block most of the M25, preventing traffic from other roads from joining the motorway.

The action resulted in chaos on the M25 over four successive days, resulting in nearly 51,000 hours of driver delays, the court heard. The protests closed parts of the motorway in Kent, Surrey, Essex and Hertfordshire.

People missed flights, medical appointments and exams. Two lorries collided, and a police motorcyclist came off his bike during one of the protests on 9 November 2022 while trying to bring traffic to a halt in a "rolling road block".

Prosecutors alleged the protests led to an economic cost of at least £765,000, while the cost to the Metropolitan Police was put at more than £1.1m.



PA MEDIA

| Roger Hallam received the longest sentence

A Zoom call chaired by Shaw was infiltrated and recorded by a Sun newspaper journalist and passed to the police, the court heard.

Judge Hehir said the recording revealed the "intricate planning and the level of sophistication involved" in the protest action.

He said the defendants were "parading their political views" by appointing themselves as "sole arbiters of what should be done about climate change".

Hallam, a veteran environmental campaigner, was described as the "ideas man" of the movement, while the judge said Shaw was "up to his neck" in the planning of the protest.

What is Just Stop Oil and what are its goals?

19 June

Activist sentenced over Heathrow drone plan

5 April

Whittaker de Abreu and Gethin were arrested close to the M25 dressed to climb the gantries that cross the motorway.

Lancaster rented a safe house for activists due to take part, and bought climbing equipment.

Representing herself in court, Lancaster said the impact of climate change meant it was a "perilous and critical point in human history" and added that "all other means of democratic persuasion have failed".

Gethin told the judge: "It was always my intention to limit the harm caused by the disruption." But, she said, it would not have happened if "those in power had been taking their responsibilities seriously".

A barrister for Hallam said the 58-year-old had since rejected direct action campaigning due to its limitations and changed his approach to more conventional political campaigning.

The judge responded that the campaigner had "turned the trial into a piece of direct action protest."



| Just Stop Oil staged a series of protests on the M25 motorway

During the proceedings, Hallam was arrested three times for disobeying the orders of the judge.

He also encouraged 11 supporters to go to the court with signs saying: "Juries have a right to hear the whole truth."

Some arrived with placards stating: "Jurors have an absolute right to acquit a defendant according to their conscience."

As a result the judge, apparently concerned that this could affect the jury's decisions, ordered the arrests of 11 protesters for contempt of court.

However, Judge Hehir confirmed on Thursday he had dropped the charges, saying Hallam had "orchestrated" the protest at court, making those who responded to his call less culpable.

'Unimaginable horrors'

Hallam said in a statement during the trial: “The corruption of our judges by the carbon state has crossed a line in the sand.

“This is an opportunity, and an obligation, to act. We only have a limited amount of time to halt the unimaginable horrors of climate and social collapse - and to save our democracy.”

The law of conspiracy to cause a public nuisance, which was introduced in 2022, outlaws direct action that causes “serious harm” to a section of the public. This can include property damage, injury, serious distress, annoyance or inconvenience.

In April 2023, Morgan Trowland, who scaled the Queen Elizabeth II bridge, was jailed for three years for an offence under the new legislation.

The judge in the M25 case argued that Parliament had made clear it saw non-violent direct action against national infrastructure as serious and passed a law allowing him to hand down sentences of up to 10 years - more than for some violent offences.

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