ISS GLOBAL / INCIDENT REPORT

Co-op Live evacuation

Unknown-substance incident at Don Toliver's Manchester concert

REPORTING / REVIEW WINDOW

Incident: 22 November 2026; review through 07:42 GMT, 23 November 2026

ISSUE DATE

2026-11-23

A major venue evacuation, a changing description of the substance and an investigation that must keep clinical evidence, witness accounts and material identification connected.

This report reconstructs the public record available at the stated cutoff, assesses its evidential limits and identifies the information needed for a defensible incident record. It covers the event on 22 November and reporting on 23 November. It is an initial incident assessment, not a final investigative finding.

02 / Location atlas
03 / Event and reporting timeline
04 / Scene imagery
05 / Evidence and implications

01 / EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

What happened and its threat significance

COUNTRY	WHERE	WHEN
United Kingdom	Co-op Live, Etihad Campus, Manchester. [1][5]	Sunday 22 November 2026, evening. Police alerted shortly after 22:00 GMT. [1]

What happened

Greater Manchester Police report that over 12,000 concertgoers were safely evacuated from Don Toliver's show after reports of a substance affecting the crowd. The ambulance service assessed more than 50 people and took one patient to Manchester Royal Infirmary for further assessment. [1][2]

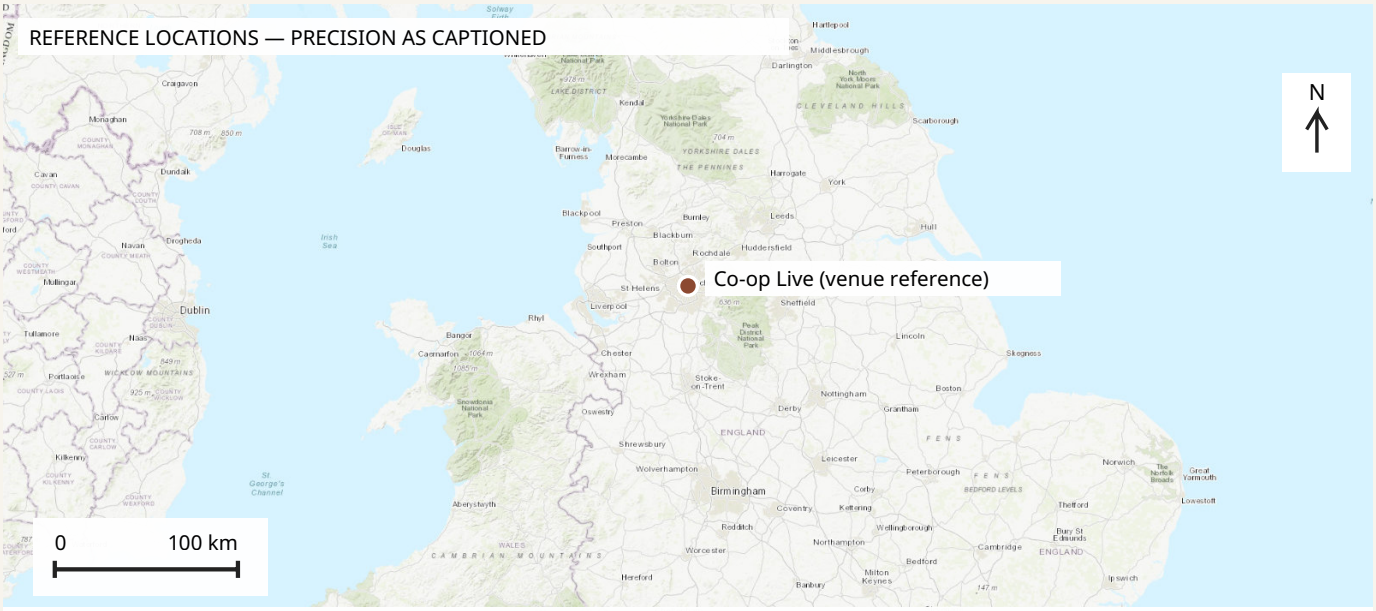
Threat significance

ISS Global assessment. An incident affecting people within a large crowd creates simultaneous demands for welfare, public communication and reliable evidence capture. Information needs to remain coherent as the emergency response becomes an investigation.

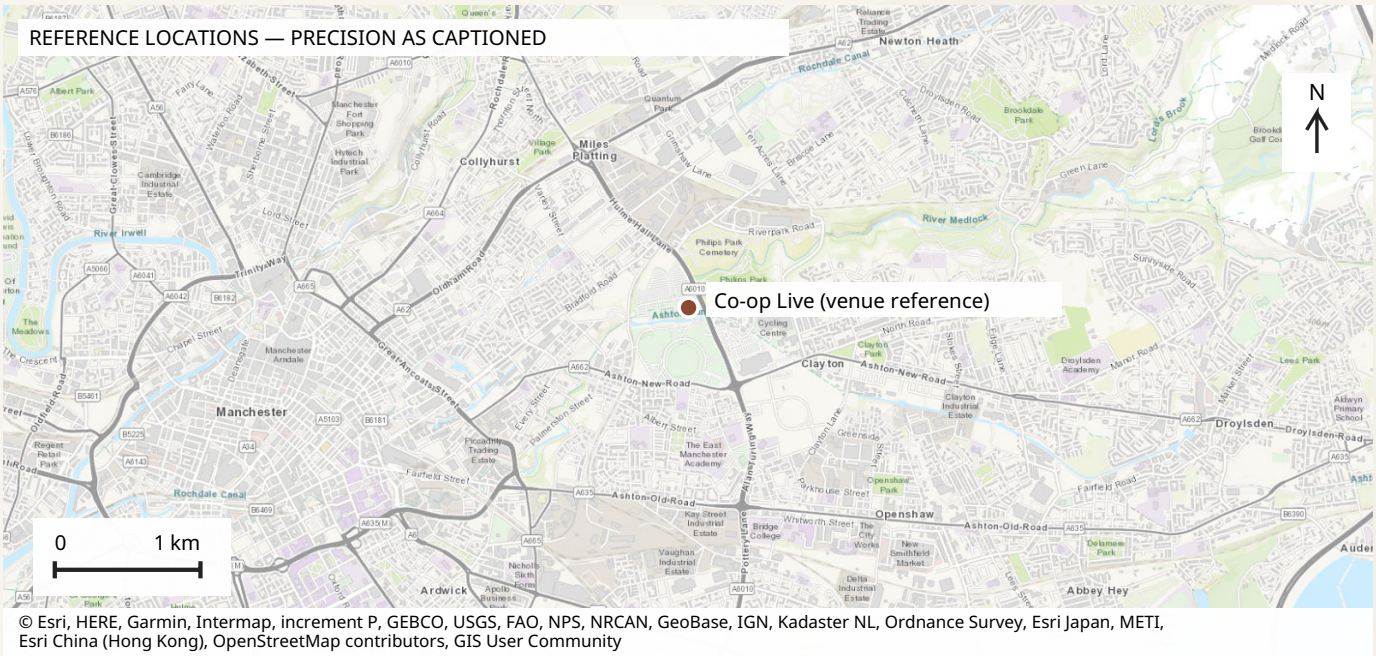
> EXECUTIVE JUDGEMENT
>
> Preserve the clinical, scene and witness records as linked but distinct evidence. Use attributed, versioned statements so early descriptions do not become an assumed explanation.

02 / LOCATION ATLAS

Manchester and the Etihad Campus



Regional context. The same public venue reference is used on both maps; 100 km scale. [5][6][7]



Local context. Building POI at 53.48639° N, 2.19994° W; 1 km scale. This does not locate a release, person, exit or response position. [5][6][7]

The operator places the venue on the Etihad Campus; the gazetteer point agrees with that setting and the neighbouring stadium on the basemap. The maps show orientation only. They do not reconstruct movements or explain how any substance entered the venue.

EPSG:3857 display; EPSG:4326 input. Acquired 23 November 2026. Map images © 2026 Esri and its licensors; used under the provider's report-use terms. Full contributor credits appear on each map. [7][8]

03 / RECONSTRUCTION

Event time and reporting time

22 NOV
AFTER 22:00
GMT

Venue staff alert police

GMP records a priority response following the staff alert. This is a notification time, not a verified release time. [1]

22 NOV
22:25
GMT

Ambulance major incident

NWAS gives this declaration time in its later update. It is distinct from a police declaration or arrival time. [2]

22 NOV
23:40
GMT

Initial ambulance statement

The early account used suspected tear-gas language and reported no serious injuries at that stage. [2]

23 NOV
01:11 / 01:35
GMT

Updated official record

GMP's page displays 01:11; NWAS labels its clinical update 01:35. NWAS describes eye or respiratory symptoms in some patients and precautionary decontamination. [1][2]

23 NOV
MORNING
GMT

Venue response reported

Sky reproduces Co-op Live's statement that it is working with GMP to identify the cause. This is an attributed operator response, not a technical finding. [3]

Timing caution. Some media accounts place the police statement after 02:00, while the current police page carries the earlier update stamp above. Neither establishes when the last attendee left. ITV's reference to "Sunday, November 23" is a date error; GMP identifies Sunday 22 November. [1][4]

04 / VISUAL EVIDENCE

What the scene photograph shows



Plate 1. Police and ambulance personnel at the reported scene. Ryan Jenkinson / Getty Images, via Sky News, published 23 November 2026. Publisher-associated incident photograph; original capture metadata unavailable. [3]

The image supports a limited observation: uniformed responders and marked emergency vehicles are present together. It does not show the reported release, identify a substance or demonstrate the condition of any patient. Apparent protective clothing is not a chemical identification.

The published frame is reproduced in full. Its original file, caption and publication record should remain linked: a later crop or repost can otherwise lose the attribution on which its incident association depends. This copy has not been enhanced or used to infer a camera position.

> **Image audit.** A second Sky image credited to shelbyxx was inspected but excluded: its blurred view of people and an ambulance adds little distinct evidence. An unrelated earlier performance portrait was also excluded. The principal photograph is used for attributed reporting and critical examination; no general reuse licence is asserted.

05 / EVIDENCE AND IMPLICATIONS

Keep the explanation tied to evidence

The initial tear-gas description was provisional. GMP's updated wording returns to an unknown substance and says its cause is under enquiry. That change should control the present classification; it is not evidence that a laboratory identified or excluded a particular agent. [1][3]

QUESTION	CURRENT EVIDENTIAL POSITION
Material identity	No laboratory result or examined object was obtained in the reviewed record. Symptoms and precautionary measures cannot fill that gap.
Intent and responsibility	The reviewed primary statements name no suspect or motive. A deliberate attack, an accident and any specific offence remain unestablished.
Medical consequences	Assessment, treatment and hospital transfer are different measures. Do not add them together, label every assessed person injured or calculate an injury rate from these provisional totals. [2]
Response evaluation	A major-incident declaration supports coordination; it is not a terrorism classification. Public statements alone cannot establish response effectiveness, delay or causation. [1][2]
Source independence	Police and ambulance accounts address different institutional functions. Their early near-identical wording is a shared account; press repetition does not multiply its independence.

Investigative intelligence and Dfuze relevance

ISS Global assessment. Create one event record with dated versions of each source. Link clinical summaries, witness accounts, original media and any later material examination as separate records, preserving who supplied each item and what it can support. A later identification should update the classification without overwriting the earlier suspicion.

Priority evidence would be an attributable material finding, reconciled medical outcomes and corroborated accounts of what occurred. Distinguish a witness description from an examined exhibit and a possible association from an accepted evidential link. These are proposed record requirements; they do not imply the agencies use Dfuze.

Research cutoff: 23 November 2026, 07:42 GMT. No explosive-device classification is supported, so no IED component assessment is included. No claim is made about a reopening decision or later investigative result.

SOURCE REGISTER

Sources 01–04

Source families and access limits are recorded below. Repetition of a statement is not independent proof.

01 Update following major incident declared at Co-op Live, Manchester

Greater Manchester Police · Published 22 Nov 2026, 23:23; updated 23 Nov, 01:11 (page display; GMT)

Family: Primary police statement · Accessed 23 Nov 2026. Full English page retrieved and read. Current version preferred over initial search-cached wording. Page update time differs from press reports describing a statement after 02:00; neither is used as an evacuation-completion time.

https://www.gmp.police.uk/news/greater-manchester/news/news/2026/november/update-following-incident-at-co-op-live-manchester/

02 Incident at Co-op Live, Manchester

North West Ambulance Service · Posted 22 Nov 2026; updates labelled 23:40 and 23 Nov 01:35 (GMT)

Family: Primary ambulance-service statement · Accessed 23 Nov 2026. Full English HTML retrieved directly after web-reader failure. Read both dated updates. Clinical assessment, treatment and hospital transfer are distinct categories; figures are provisional.

https://www.nwas.nhs.uk/news/incident-at-coop-live-manchester/

03 Thousands evacuated from Manchester Co-op Live after major incident declared at Don Toliver show

Sky News · Updated 23 Nov 2026, 07:23 UK

Family: News reporting; reproduced official statements; Getty scene photo · Accessed 23 Nov 2026. Full English article and image files read via direct retrieval. Venue statement attributed through Sky; original X post not independently retrieved. Police/ambulance quotations share their primary source families.

https://news.sky.com/story/concert-goers-evacuated-from-manchester-co-op-live-as-major-incident-declared-13615479

04 Person taken to hospital after unknown substance prompts evacuation at Co-op Live

ITV News Granada · 23 Nov 2026, 06:41; metadata 06:41:45Z

Family: News reporting and official-statement reproduction · Accessed 23 Nov 2026. Full English page read. Its phrase Sunday, November 23 conflicts with the calendar and primary police date of Sunday 22 November. Historical performance portrait excluded; police date controls.

https://www.itv.com/news/granada/2026-11-23/one-person-taken-to-hospital-after-co-op-live-evacuation

SOURCE REGISTER

Sources 05–08

Source families and access limits are recorded below. Repetition of a statement is not independent proof.

05 Getting here

Co-op Live · Undated current visitor-information page; accessed 23 Nov 2026

Family: Primary operator location information · Accessed 23 Nov 2026. Relevant address and Etihad Campus section read through web reader. Direct download blocked. Used for geography only, not an incident-response account or current travel advice.

https://www.cooplive.com/getting-here-lkzg

06 Co-op Live Map — Stadium — Manchester, England, UK

Mapcarta / **OpenStreetMap** · Current gazetteer; publication date not displayed

Family: Third-party public building POI · Accessed 23 Nov 2026. Full geographic entry read. Coordinate 53.48639 N, 2.19994 W; OSM way 1216848400. Operator locality and visible basemap independently cross-checked. This is not the substance-release point.

https://mapcarta.com/W1216848400

07 World Topographic Map — service metadata and static exports

Esri / **ArcGIS** · Retrieved 23 Nov 2026

Family: Primary basemap-provider record · Accessed 23 Nov 2026. Actual service metadata and both 1600 × 760 exports retrieved. Returned extents and projection retained. Provider contributor attribution preserved; scale independently checked.

https://services.arcgisonline.com/ArcGIS/rest/services/World_Topo_Map/MapServer

08 Terms of use for static maps

Esri · Current terms accessed 23 Nov 2026

Family: Primary provider usage terms · Accessed 23 Nov 2026. Read report-use permissions and attribution requirements. Third-party map rights retained; no public-domain or unrestricted resale claim.

https://doc.esri.com/en/arcgis-online/latest/reference/static-maps.html