

Maidenhead company director prosecuted for obstructing an SIA investigation

Press release

On Friday 11 November 2022, Muhammad Imran was prosecuted in his absence at Reading Magistrates' Court for failing to supply information to the Security Industry Authority (SIA).



Security Industry Authority

Mr Imran, a company director from Maidenhead, was fined £440 and required to pay £1,953.50 prosecution costs plus a £44 victim surcharge.

Mr Imran's company MNMFM Ltd was the supplier of security to an Oldham supermarket. On 28 August 2021 the store's retail manager noticed that the usual security operative was replaced by an unidentified man who was unlicensed. The manager notified the SIA who began an investigation.

SIA investigators sent a request for information to Mr Imran last December. He responded but failed to provide the information that had been requested. The SIA sent a further request for information last February which Mr Imran ignored. He also failed to respond to a request to attend an interview under caution, which would have given him the opportunity to respond to the allegations. This left the SIA with no option but to prosecute Mr Imran.

Jenny Hart, one of the SIA's criminal investigation managers said:

Mr Imran failed to engage with the SIA, whose purpose is to administer the private security licensing regime that protects the public. If there are unlicensed operatives working in supermarkets the public are put at risk. I'd like to thank the Oldham store for their co-operation with this case. As a licence holder Mr Imran was reasonably expected to comply with requests for information from his regulator. He ignored this request and has now ended up with significant costs, no licence, and a criminal record.

Notes to editors:

- By law, security operatives working under contract must hold and display a valid SIA licence
- [Read about SIA enforcement and penalties](#)
- The offence relating to the Private Security Industry Act (2001) that is mentioned above is: section 19 – failing to provide information relating to an investigation

Further information:

- The Security Industry Authority is the organisation responsible for regulating the private security industry in the United Kingdom, reporting to the Home Secretary under the terms of the [Private Security Industry Act 2001](#). The SIA's main duties are the compulsory licensing of individuals undertaking designated activities and managing the voluntary Approved Contractor Scheme.
- For further information about the Security Industry Authority or to sign up for email updates visit: www.gov.uk/sia. The SIA is also on [LinkedIn](#) [Facebook \(Security Industry Authority\)](#) and [Twitter \(@SIAuk\)](#).

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Published 22 November 2022

[Car crash exposes man with forged security licence](#)

Press release

A Southend man without the legal right to work in the UK was caught with a forged Security Industry Authority (SIA) licence after he was injured in a car accident in Bristol.



Security Industry Authority

On Monday 14 November, Ahmed Altorshan was handed a 17 weeks' jail sentence,

suspended for 12 months, by Southend-on-Sea Magistrates' Court. He was also ordered to do 120 hours unpaid work and pay £500 prosecution costs plus a victim surcharge of £128. The sentence follows his guilty plea to fraud on 30 September 2022.

The SIA brought the prosecution following the road accident when the car that Mr Altorshan was driving hit a tree in Bristol on 29 April 2021. As Mr Altorshan was injured, he was taken to hospital. Police officers investigating the incident recovered multiple identity cards, including a forged SIA door supervisor's licence, from the car.

The forgery was of a genuine licence held by a legitimate licence holder. Avon and Somerset Police referred the incident to Home Office Immigration, who contacted the SIA.

Essex Police went to Mr Altorshan's address in Southend-on-Sea to search the property for further evidence. As Mr Altorshan wasn't at the address, SIA investigators sought an interview under caution with him (with the aid of an interpreter) on 28 February 2022 at a separate address. He admitted to paying for the fraudulent document but claimed that he didn't use the licence to gain work.

The presiding district Judge said:

You paid for this card to be made as you had been unable to find employment. At the time there was a good reason for that as due to your immigration status you could not legally work in this country... you could have put members of the public at risk as you would be unable to protect them without the proper training or you would have had access to vulnerable individuals without the relevant safeguarding training.

Jenny Hart, one of the SIA's criminal investigations managers said:

Mr Altorshan's road accident revealed the possession of a fraudulent SIA licence, which is both illegal and unacceptable. We are grateful to our enforcement partners Avon and Somerset Police, Essex Police, and Home Office Immigration for helping to identify this licensing fraud. The licensing regime is there to protect the public by ensuring that licence holders are fit and proper and suitably trained. Thankfully Mr Altorshan did not use the licence but he broke the law, has been handed a serious sentence and now has a criminal record.

Notes to editors:

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Published 22 November 2022

[Mr. Asada Teruo honoured by Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II](#)

World news story

In recognition of his distinguished services to relations between the UK and Japan in a variety of fields, Julia Longbottom, the British Ambassador to Japan, has presented Mr. Asada Teruo, former Chairman of Marubeni Corporation with an Honorary Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, at an investiture ceremony held at the British Embassy Tokyo on 21 November 2022.



Under Mr. Asada's leadership, Marubeni made pioneering investments in the UK. Marubeni invested £370m into Westermost Rough offshore wind farm creating thousands of jobs. This pioneering investment also helped kick-start the UK offshore wind industry, and set the scene for Marubeni's more recent strategic engagements with the UK on offshore wind in Scotland and Hokkaido.

Mr Asada revitalised the British Market Council (a group of leading Japanese and UK companies focussed on supporting trade relations between Japan and the

UK) , as Chairman over six years. He was instrumental in raising awareness in Japan of the UK's strengths, further improving the partnership between our countries.

The award by the Majesty The Queen of the honorary CBE to Mr Asada was announced on 4 June 2021.

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Published 22 November 2022

[Mr. Hayashi Haruki honoured by Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II](#)

World news story

In recognition of his distinguished services to relations between the UK and Japan in a variety of fields, Julia Longbottom, the British Ambassador to Japan, has presented Mr. Hayashi Haruki, former CEO, Mitsubishi Corporation, Europe and Africa and CEO, Mitsubishi Corporation International (Europe) plc with an Honorary Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, at an investiture ceremony held at the British Embassy Tokyo on 21 November 2022.



Under Mr. Hayashi's leadership, Mitsubishi Corporation strengthened its relationship with the UK in strategically important industries, investing in renewable energy, including large offshore wind, helping to establish the UK as a world leader in this field. Separately during his tenure, Mitsubishi Corporation's patronage of the British Museum's Japanese Department has given millions of visitors the opportunity to deepen their understanding of Japanese history and culture.

The award by the Majesty The Queen of the Honorary OBE to Mr Hayashi was

announced on 12 June 2020.

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Published 22 November 2022

PM: UK and South Africa will turbocharge growth together

The UK and South Africa will join forces to drive economic growth and turbocharge infrastructure investment, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has announced today [Tuesday 22nd November] at the start of President Ramaphosa's formal State Visit.

The next phase of the UK-South Africa Infrastructure Partnership is being launched today, supporting South Africa's economic growth through major infrastructure developments and offering increased access to UK companies to projects worth up to £5.37bn over the next three years. The UK Government will also confirm new grant-funded technical assistance to South Africa to help unlock green hydrogen opportunities and boost skills in this key sector.

As an example of the opportunities for UK businesses, Globeleq – a UK company which is majority owned by British International Investment – is today announcing they have reached legal close on six solar power projects, with construction expected to kick off in South Africa next year.

South Africa is the continent's second largest economy and is already the UK's biggest trading partner in Africa, with trade worth £10.7 billion annually. Unlocking export finance offers significant opportunities for British businesses to invest and trade.

South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa is in London for a two-day state visit, hosted by His Majesty The King. After attending a state banquet for the South African delegation this evening at Buckingham Palace, the Prime Minister will welcome President Ramaphosa to Downing Street for a bilateral meeting and lunch on Wednesday.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said:

South Africa is already the UK's biggest trading partner on the continent, and we have ambitious plans to turbocharge infrastructure investment and economic growth together.

I look forward to welcoming President Ramaphosa to London this week

to discuss how we can deepen the partnership between our two great nations and capitalise on shared opportunities, from trade and tourism and security and defence.

A new education and skills partnership between the UK and the South African governments will also promote shared learning in technical and vocational education, driving youth employment.

UK funding will build the highly sought-after technical and entrepreneurial skills in the biggest growth sectors including green technology and electric vehicle manufacture, ensuring South Africa's youth are benefitting from the green transition.

Foreign Secretary James Cleverly said:

The UK's relationship with South Africa is hugely important to us. Together we are working to deliver for the British and South African people, creating jobs, enhancing trade and investment, and boosting inclusive economic growth.

This week's State Visit, the first under His Majesty The King, is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate our ties but also allows us to trigger greater growth, create even more opportunities for British and South African businesses alike, and further promote South Africa's transition to green energy.

The South Africa Just Energy Transition Partnership, launched at COP26, also offers new opportunities to collaborate on renewable technology and green innovation. The UK and South Africa are today announcing the creation of a new Partnership on Minerals for Future Clean Energy Technologies to promote increased responsible exploration, production and processing of minerals in South and Southern Africa.

Countries in the region are among the world's leading producers of vital minerals used in clean technology, including platinum group metals and iridium for hydrogen production and vanadium and manganese for battery storage. This partnership will utilise the UK's expertise as the home to leading global mining houses and financial services centre for metals to bolster sustainable and responsible production.

Trade Secretary Kemi Badenoch said:

Today we're moving into a new era of our dynamic trade relationship with South Africa, with exciting collaboration on infrastructure, clean technology, and renewable energy sources.

These new opportunities will unlock trade and investment for businesses from the Eastern Cape to East Anglia and boost growth, create jobs and future-proof our economies against a changing

world.