

# OPUS2

The Cranston Inquiry

Day 15

March 27, 2025

Opus 2 - Official Court Reporters

Phone: 020 4515 2252

Email: [transcripts@opus2.com](mailto:transcripts@opus2.com)

Website: <https://www.opus2.com>

Thursday, 27 March 2025

1  
2 (9.59 am)

3 SIR ROSS CRANSTON: Yes. Well, good morning, everyone.  
4 We are going to continue today with the evidence  
5 from those loved ones of the people who died in the  
6 tragedy.

7 Mr Phillips.  
8 MR PHILLIPS: Yes, sir. We will continue to hear  
9 statements, eight further statements today in respect of  
10 three Ethiopian victims. The original language in all  
11 cases is Amharic.

12 But before the first recording is played I should  
13 give a warning: what we are about to hear during the  
14 morning may be distressing to those in the room or those  
15 following on the livestream and if so, they should leave  
16 the room or look away as the case may be.

17 The first two recordings and statements you will  
18 hear are made by the brother and wife of Fikiru Shiferaw  
19 who was born in 1975.

20 Statement of MR ANDARGACHEW SHIFERAW read (in Amharic)  
21 (Audio played to the Inquiry)

22 MS LE FEVRE: I am Andargachew Shiferaw, the brother of  
23 Fikiru Shiferaw.  
24 Fikiru and I had a particularly close relationship  
25 within the family. We confided in each other and I was

1

1 one of the few people who knew that Fikiru was  
2 struggling before he left Addis Ababa. My brother was  
3 the strongest member of our family so he could not show  
4 weakness.

5 He carried everyone and he did not want to  
6 disappoint them.

7 When Fikiru was still alive, he was the rock of our  
8 family. He was an incredibly supportive man, who would  
9 care for anyone that needed his help. He was living  
10 a very good life with his wife and children Addis Ababa.  
11 He was doing very well financially and was able to share  
12 this with his family.

13 He was supporting our younger brother by paying for  
14 his medical treatment and helping my parents with their  
15 rent, their medical bills and their daily costs such as  
16 groceries.

17 He was like a pillar of strength to everyone that  
18 knew him and when he died, this came crashing down and  
19 changed the lives of everyone who knew him.

20 After Fikiru left Ethiopia, I had very little  
21 contact with him because I rarely had phone signal or  
22 internet when I was working outside the city. Our  
23 conversation in Addis Ababa had not been very specific.  
24 He simply told me he was going to find somewhere safe.

25 I first found out about the accident more than

2

1 a week after it happened. At that time, no one had  
2 heard from Fikiru for 11 days. Since Fikiru has died,  
3 our entire family have suffered a terrible emotional  
4 loss and on top of that, we have lost the key financial  
5 provider.

6 Losing the breadwinner in the family has had a huge  
7 impact on us. My parents had to move out of their home,  
8 my father cannot pay for his medical bills anymore and  
9 Emebet and the children are relying on her great uncle  
10 to look after them.

11 The consequences have been catastrophic.

12 I want my parents to be able to lead a decent life,  
13 but we are struggling to support them through this.

14 My parents have explained that everything in their  
15 lives fell apart after Fikiru died. My mother used to  
16 run a small kiosk which brought in some money. However,  
17 my father had a stroke when he heard the news of  
18 Fikiru's death and has, since then, needed constant  
19 care. He can no longer move around independently.

20 My mother stopped working and now acts as his full  
21 time carer. They are now entirely dependent on my other  
22 siblings to support them.

23 They have moved to an area on the edge of  
24 Addis Ababa, where they do not know their neighbours and  
25 they feel very lonely, but they could not afford to stay

3

1 in their old neighbourhood.

2 My mother continues to suffer a lot from the loss of  
3 her son. She cannot speak about him without feeling  
4 this pain. She was in a state of complete disbelief  
5 when she heard that he had died in the Channel. When  
6 she heard the news that many people on the boat were  
7 calling for help, but no one came to them, she was  
8 distraught.

9 We do not understand how the coastguard could ignore  
10 the plight of these people. Fikiru died so far away  
11 from home in a place where we do not speak the language  
12 or understand the customs. This is very painful for us.  
13 We hope that this Inquiry will help us to understand  
14 what happened to Fikiru and will result in holding those  
15 responsibility for his death accountable.

16 We pray every day for his wife and children. We  
17 pray that they will find the strength that they need to  
18 carry on with their lives. We pray that we will be able  
19 to survive without Fikiru.

20 MS LE FEVRE: And we will next hear the recording and  
21 statement of Emebet, Fikiru's wife.

22 Statement of MRS EMEBET KEFYALEW read (in Amharic)  
23 (Audio played to the Inquiry)

24 MS LE FEVRE: I am Emebet Kefyalew, the wife of  
25 Fikiru Shiferaw. I met Fikiru in Addis Ababa in 2012.

4

1 We met through a mutual friend. We became best friends  
2 very quickly. We later fell in love and decided to be  
3 in a relationship. We got married in Addis Ababa on  
4 10 November 2015.

5 Fikiru and I were living together in our own rented  
6 home in Addis with our two children before he left. Our  
7 son was born around a month before Fikiru left  
8 Addis Ababa.

9 In October 2021, around the time of our son's birth,  
10 Fikiru told me that he was very afraid and that he felt  
11 he had to leave Ethiopia or his life would be at risk.  
12 He left about a month later and he did not tell me  
13 specifically where he was going. He just said that he  
14 was going to look for somewhere safe.

15 I was in frequent contact with him after he left  
16 Ethiopia. We were speaking on the phone and on  
17 WhatsApp. I find it very hard to remember the details  
18 from this time. I think it is because my memory has  
19 been damaged by the grief and suffering that I went  
20 through directly after this time, after the incident on  
21 23 November 2021.

22 I spoke to him on the phone in the afternoon on  
23 23 November 2021. I cannot recall the exact time. We  
24 had a video call so that our daughter could see him  
25 because she was missing him a lot. I missed a call from

5

1 him later that night and then received a voice note at  
2 12.12 am Ethiopian time, saying, "We have already  
3 boarded the boat. We are on the way. I will turn off  
4 my phone now. Goodnight, I will call you tomorrow  
5 morning."

6 I did not have any contact with Fikiru since our  
7 WhatsApp messages on 23 November 2021. I had no  
8 information about what had happened to him for almost  
9 two weeks. I did not know where he was and I had no  
10 news of him. Waiting in the face of the unknown was  
11 traumatic.

12 On Sunday, 5 December 2021, I found out that Fikiru  
13 had drowned in the Channel. At around 4 am GMT some of  
14 my family members including Andargachew, Fikiru's uncles  
15 and my cousins came to my home to tell me the news.

16 After they told me, I think I lost consciousness or  
17 maybe the grief has made me forget exactly what  
18 happened.

19 When I went home with my children after the funeral,  
20 I realised we were facing serious financial problems  
21 without Fikiru to support us. We had to leave our home  
22 because it was too expensive and I had to take my  
23 daughter out of her school. We now live with my great  
24 uncle and he supports us.

25 We are making things work, but it has been difficult

6

1 for all of us since Fikiru passed away because he was  
2 the one who was supporting all of us and looking after  
3 us.

4 I am struggling to go back to work after what  
5 happened. I do not feel strong enough. I try to work  
6 part-time, but this is not enough. I am also trying to  
7 complete my Master's degree, which I had to stop for  
8 a while after Fikiru's death. I am currently completely  
9 dependent on my great uncle and other family members.

10 My daughter and Fikiru were best friends. She was  
11 a real daddy's girl. They would go everywhere together.  
12 She still remembers so much about him and is always  
13 telling stories about the things that they used to do  
14 together. I found this very hard at first because I was  
15 missing him so much and I was coping with his loss very  
16 differently.

17 But as time moves on, I try my best to talk about  
18 him with her and keep the memory of him alive. She does  
19 not know how her father died, but she understands that  
20 he is no longer with us and that he is with God and at  
21 peace. My son was only a month old when Fikiru left and  
22 he is still too young to really understand that he does  
23 not have a father anymore.

24 Fikiru's older brother, Andargachew, comes to visit  
25 my children every Sunday and the whole family come

7

1 together to visit Fikiru's parents as much as possible.  
2 Fikiru's father became very ill after Fikiru died and he  
3 is not able to move around easily.

4 Fikiru's mother has had to stop working so that she  
5 can be his full-time carer. Following Fikiru's death  
6 they could not afford it stay in their home anymore  
7 because Fikiru financially supported them and so they  
8 now live much further away on the outskirts of  
9 Addis Ababa.

10 Fikiru's death changed all of our lives forever. We  
11 have all had to adapt to living life without him and  
12 finding ways to support ourselves, given that so many of  
13 us in the family were dependent on him. It is so hard  
14 to accept that this is how Fikiru lost his life. He was  
15 a man that was loved by all and he was a lifesaver for  
16 all. He would do everything he could to make life  
17 easier for other people.

18 Fikiru was such a humble and kind person. He was  
19 a people pleaser and he had a kind heart. He loved his  
20 family so much and he would never have left us if he had  
21 not felt threatened in Ethiopia. Fikiru was a committed  
22 family man who felt very strongly about his country. He  
23 always tried to help others, especially those who were  
24 struggling and who had less.

25 He always told me to help others and he never failed

8

1 to do that himself. Seeing others smile warmed his soul  
2 and heart. His beliefs were based on God's word and  
3 sharing. He was a family man and he spent time on work,  
4 doing charity works and with his family.

5 His daughter was his favourite companion. He  
6 enjoyed taking care of her and playing with her. They  
7 always went to church together on Sundays. She has been  
8 asking for her dad and her best friend every day since  
9 he left home and she still does not understand why her  
10 dad is not here, and why he is not playing with her,  
11 even if just through a phone call.

12 His hobbies were cooking and reading books. He was  
13 the best cook I know. He was loved by his family,  
14 friends and colleagues. His mother was his best friend  
15 and adviser; his voice always changed when he called her  
16 name and talked about her. He adored her so much and  
17 she has been broken after losing her beloved son and  
18 friend.

19 He was such a great husband and friend, too. He  
20 never failed to love and care for me until death stopped  
21 him. We had such a beautiful bond and totally loved  
22 each other. He knew how to take care of me and be my  
23 best friend, husband and life partner. He deserves  
24 every admiration in the world since he was the perfect  
25 man and partner and I thank him for that, for the love

1 and respect he gave me until death took him away from me  
2 and our beautiful kids.

3 I know that nothing can bring him back and nothing  
4 can take away my pain or save me from my sleepless  
5 nights. Nothing can bring back the loving father and  
6 son. No one will bring my best friend back. But I do  
7 hope that this does not happen to anyone else because no  
8 one deserves to endure this pain, no daughter, no son,  
9 no mother, no father, no wife, no sibling.

10 I hope that people will get more protection in the  
11 future. I hope those who are responsible will  
12 understand how serious this is and understand that the  
13 people on that boat were humans as much as anyone else.

14 MR PHILLIPS: The next recordings and statements you will  
15 hear are made by the mother, father, and brother of  
16 Niyat Ferede Yeshiwendi, who was born in 1999.  
17 Statement of MR FEREDÉ YESHIWENDIM NADEW read (in Amharic)  
18 (Audio played to the Inquiry)

19 MS ONABANJO: I am Ferede Yeshiwendim Nadew, the father of  
20 Niyat Ferede. I miss my daughter and although I have  
21 tried to recall every detail of what she told me,  
22 I cannot remember everything. We have been in mourning  
23 for a long time and everyone is still devastated. We  
24 have lived through a war and my family and I have been  
25 through difficult times.

1 Niyat had a happy childhood. She was an  
2 extraordinary girl. She was so thoughtful and loving  
3 towards her family. She grew up with her brothers in  
4 our home and went to school and then later to university  
5 in Mekelle. She was determined to become a pharmacist  
6 in Mekelle and to devote her life to helping people.

7 Before the Tigray war, my family and I had a good  
8 and comfortable life in Mekelle. The fighting started  
9 in the outskirts of Mekelle and in the west of Tigray  
10 before the conflict reached the city.

11 We left Mekelle around 23 or 24 November 2020. This  
12 was the last time I saw my daughter. I was able to  
13 speak to Niyat regularly on the phone after she left  
14 Addis Ababa. I was in Sudan, where there was no active  
15 conflict at the time, so I had signal and was able to  
16 communicate with her.

17 The whole of Tigray was in danger at the time and  
18 the rest of my family were trapped there.

19 I could not communicate with them to get  
20 confirmation that they were safe. It was so important  
21 to be able to speak with Niyat during this time. We  
22 spoke so often because we needed each other. Then  
23 suddenly, in mid-November 2021, I did not hear from her.

24 I found out about the incident and Niyat's death  
25 when Morris called me approximately 10 or 15 days after

1 the incident. He told me that she had drowned in the  
2 Channel. He said that the boat had not been rescued and  
3 that Niyat had died. I flew to France from Sudan. In  
4 France, I met Morris, who had travelled from Dubai.

5 Before her burial, we were allowed to see her body.  
6 Morris and I identified Niyat. This was an extremely  
7 emotional experience for me and I broke down in tears.  
8 I was devastated. We attended Niyat's burial together  
9 on 29 December 2021.

10 Niyat was buried in Lille.

11 We were not able to repatriate her body at the time  
12 because of the war in Tigray, and we decided to have her  
13 laid to rest in France. The war in Tigray meant that  
14 I was barely able to make contact with my wife or my  
15 other children for around two years after I left  
16 Ethiopia because all communications in Tigray were cut  
17 off for the majority of that period.

18 I could not tell them anything that I knew about  
19 Niyat or that I had gone to her burial. We lost our  
20 daughter in a place that we do not know or understand.  
21 When she told me that she was in Europe, I really hoped  
22 that she would be safe. We are a very close family who  
23 have suffered a lot in different ways.

24 My wife has shared in her statement how special  
25 Niyat was and how much we all loved her. It is too much

1 to bear that we lost our daughter because she was trying  
 2 to find somewhere safe.  
 3 MS ONABANJO: We will next hear the recording and statement  
 4 of Freweyni, Niyat's mother.  
 5 Statement of MRS FREWEYNI HAYIEMARIAM GITET read (in  
 6 Amharic)  
 7 (Audio played to the Inquiry)  
 8 MS ONABANJO: I am Freweyni Hayiemariam Gitet, the mother of  
 9 Niyat Ferede. My husband and I married in April 1997.  
 10 Niyat was born in Mekelle, Ethiopia, on 14 June 1999.  
 11 She was the third of my four children and the only  
 12 girl.  
 13 After Niyat finished high school in around 2018, she  
 14 started studying at Sheba University College in Mekelle  
 15 to become a pharmacist.  
 16 Around two years into her studies, in November 2020,  
 17 the war between the Ethiopian Federal Government and  
 18 Tigray People's Liberation Front started in Tigray.  
 19 Niyat would never have left Mekelle if the war had not  
 20 started. She was excited about her studies and about  
 21 becoming a pharmacist. She wanted to set up her own  
 22 pharmacy in Mekelle. She did not show any interest in  
 23 going to Addis Ababa before the war started.  
 24 We lost her because of this war. She tried to  
 25 escape so she could survive. My daughter was a truly

1 exceptional person. From an early age, she was known  
 2 for her kindness and generosity. She often helped our  
 3 neighbours, especially the elderly and her greatest  
 4 dream was to, one day, build a shelter where they could  
 5 be cared for and feel safe.  
 6 Niyat was deeply spiritual, spending much time in  
 7 prayer at churches and monasteries. Her connection with  
 8 elderly monks may have driven her attachment to the  
 9 elders around her. Her connection to her faith was  
 10 evident in everything she did and she constantly sought  
 11 ways to uplift others.  
 12 In our home, she took on significant  
 13 responsibilities even though she was still a teenager.  
 14 Her maturity and sense of duty were beyond her years.  
 15 Her school friends described her as someone who would  
 16 put other own needs aside just to help others.  
 17 She considered that we had a privileged life because  
 18 we had a house to sleep in and food to eat. She often  
 19 compared her life to those who did not have basic  
 20 housing or enough food.  
 21 Niyat was loved by her friends and the entire  
 22 community. She was the most kind-hearted, humble and  
 23 intelligent person we have known. Her memory forever  
 24 live on in the lives she touched.  
 25 When the war in Tigray broke out in 2020, Niyat

1 showed remarkable strength. Despite the dangers and  
 2 challenges we faced as a family, she continued to help,  
 3 not only us, but also the elderly in our neighbourhood,  
 4 putting their needs above her own. Eventually, she fled  
 5 the war hoping to survive and one day achieve her dreams  
 6 one.  
 7 We were not able to speak with Niyat through normal  
 8 means of communication because the federal government  
 9 shut down all telecommunication and internet services in  
 10 Tigray. I did not have any direct contact with Niyat  
 11 after she left.  
 12 In or around December 2021, we had a phone call with  
 13 my son Morris, who told us that Niyat had died. This  
 14 came completely out of the blue. I had no idea she had  
 15 gone to France. All communication was still cut off in  
 16 Tigray, but we had managed to get access to the  
 17 satellite phone through an NGO to speak to Morris.  
 18 My immediate grief as a mother was indescribable.  
 19 My husband was away in Sudan, I had lost my daughter,  
 20 and we, in Tigray, had suffered more than I can  
 21 describe.  
 22 The war was still going on and we could not speak to  
 23 anyone to find out more information about what had  
 24 happened to Niyat.  
 25 The Pretoria Agreement was signed on 2 November 2022

1 and we slowly started to get communication services back  
 2 in Tigray. At first, it was only local phone calls, so  
 3 we still did not know much about what had happened to  
 4 Niyat. In around January 2023, we were able to start  
 5 making international calls again. It was only then,  
 6 over a year after the incident, that we were able to  
 7 communicate regularly with Morris and speak with him  
 8 properly about what had happened.  
 9 In March 2023, I was able to travel to France to  
 10 visit Niyat's grave near Lille. The pain that I feel  
 11 when I think about this is overwhelming. I want her  
 12 body brought to Ethiopia, so that at least we can have  
 13 her here with us and we can visit her.  
 14 There was no way her body could be brought back at  
 15 the time when she died because of the war. But I wish  
 16 that somehow we could arrange this, now that the  
 17 tensions have settled in Mekelle and we are able to have  
 18 international communication again.  
 19 MS ONABANJO: We will next hear the recording and statement  
 20 of Morris, Niyat's brother.  
 21 Statement of MR MORRIS SLESHI TEWELDE read (in Amharic)  
 22 (Audio played to the Inquiry)  
 23 MS ONABANJO: I am Morris Sleshi Tewelde, the brother of  
 24 Niyat Ferede Yeshiwendim. Before the war broke out in  
 25 Tigray in November 2020, I was based in Mekelle.

1 Both my mother and father have described what the  
 2 situation was like in Tigray after the war started  
 3 in November 2020. Niyat left by bus to Addis as soon as  
 4 the roads re—opened. Addis Ababa was not safe for  
 5 Tigrayans either. After the Tigrayan Forces retook  
 6 Mekelle in June 2021, Tigrayans were hunted down  
 7 everywhere in the country. People were being arrested  
 8 and detained simply for being from Tigray or having  
 9 Tigrayan connections.

10 My sister experienced this. She was arrested when  
 11 she arrived in Addis Ababa and detained for one week in  
 12 Katalit Prison. This is why me and her decided that she  
 13 should leave Ethiopia. Niyat would never have left  
 14 Ethiopia if war had not broken out. None of us would.  
 15 We had good lives in Mekelle before the war.

16 I helped Niyat in every possible way I could before  
 17 she left Ethiopia. We spoke almost every day — every  
 18 other day after she left. We kept contact until five or  
 19 six days before she died. I first heard a boat had sunk  
 20 in the Channel two or three days after it happened.

21 I was very worried because I had not heard from Niyat  
 22 for several days and she was not answering my calls.

23 I found a number for someone from Care4Calais  
 24 through a social media post and I called her.

25 After a few days, I was put in touch with the French

17

1 investigation team. Niyat was buried with Meron in  
 2 Lille on 29 December 2021. Because of the war, she  
 3 could not be repatriated to Mekelle where our family  
 4 was.

5 Niyat was so loved and was an incredibly special  
 6 person. Losing my little sister has been devastating  
 7 for me and for the rest of my family. Our family has  
 8 been through so much and all we wanted was for Niyat to  
 9 be safe. I am older than Niyat and I felt it was my  
 10 responsibility to keep her safe. I did everything  
 11 I could, but it was not enough. I feel an overwhelming  
 12 sense of guilt for not being able to protect her.  
 13 I just wished I had been a bit faster at finding  
 14 a solution before she decided to take this route.

15 Niyat had never even seen the sea before she came to  
 16 Europe. It must have been so terrifying for her. As  
 17 a family, we need to understand what happened and why  
 18 Niyat was not rescued. I carry so much guilt for not  
 19 being able to protect my little sister.

20 We need to grieve as a family and find some sort of  
 21 closure, which we cannot do until we know the truth.

22 We hope that the Inquiry will be able to establish  
 23 the truth and help to ensure that no other family will  
 24 have to go through what we have gone through.

25 MR PHILLIPS: Sir, would that be a convenient moment for

18

1 a break?

2 SIR ROSS CRANSTON: Yes, I think so. So, 15 minutes. Thank  
 3 you.

4 (10.55 am)

5 (A short break)

6 (11.10 am)

7 SIR ROSS CRANSTON: Mr Phillips.

8 MR PHILLIPS: Sir, the final three recordings and statements  
 9 you will hear are made by the father and two brothers of  
 10 Meron Hailu Gebrehiwot, who was born in 1996.

11 Statement of MR HENOK HAILU GEBREHIWOT read (in Amharic)  
 12 (Audio played to the Inquiry)

13 MS WOODS: I am Henok Hailu Gebrehiwot, the brother of  
 14 Meron Hailu Gebrehiwot.

15 I grew up in Adigrat, Tigray with my parents and  
 16 siblings. I was the second youngest sibling and Meron  
 17 was the youngest, so we were very close. I know Meron  
 18 was under a lot of stress before she left Ethiopia. She  
 19 felt a lot of fear being in Tigray and was very worried  
 20 about our family.

21 I know the war was a frightening and difficult time  
 22 for my family who remained in Tigray. Although Meron  
 23 did not share anything with me about her mental health  
 24 generally, she had suffered a lot of trauma as a result  
 25 of having to flee our home in Adigrat and move around to

19

1 find refuge from the Tigray war. Meron moved from  
 2 Tigray to Addis Ababa in mid—February 2021.

3 She felt very unsafe and scared. She often talked  
 4 about how this was no life and she needed to leave  
 5 Ethiopia and go somewhere safe. Psychologically, she  
 6 was impacted very badly by this. I could see the effect  
 7 it was having on her. She was scared because of her  
 8 Tigrayan identity.

9 We also had no contact with our family in Adigrat  
 10 because during the war, there was a communication black  
 11 out. This meant phone lines and internet services were  
 12 down and it was nearly impossible to speak with anyone  
 13 in Tigray.

14 We had no idea if they were alive or how they were.  
 15 She decided she needed to flee. I spoke to my sister  
 16 almost every day after she left Ethiopia. I last spoke  
 17 to my sister on around 22 or 23 November 2021, in the  
 18 afternoon. She told me to take care of myself and asked  
 19 if I had any news about the family.

20 She mentioned she was worried about our father who  
 21 had not been in the best health when she left Tigray.  
 22 On 24 November 2021, I saw on BBC news that a small boat  
 23 carrying migrants had sunk and that some people had  
 24 died.

25 I had not heard from Meron since we spoke on the

20

1 afternoon of 22 November 2021 and I was worried, as we  
 2 usually spoke almost every day.  
 3 We have a cousin from my mother's side who lives in  
 4 the United States. I think she saw that a boat had  
 5 sunk, and that Meron was one of the victims, on social  
 6 media. My cousin travelled to France from the  
 7 United States to identify Meron's body. She then called  
 8 my uncle who lives Addis Ababa and told him.  
 9 One of my other cousins who lives in Addis then  
 10 called me and said my uncle was sick and I had to go see  
 11 him. This was not true, but they wanted me to go to his  
 12 house so he could tell me that Meron was dead. My  
 13 family wanted to make sure I was told in person,  
 14 surrounded by family.  
 15 This was approximately two weeks after I saw the BBC  
 16 news report. During that time, I had been worried, but  
 17 I believed she was alive. Due to the conflict in  
 18 Tigray, we were unable to safely repatriate Meron's body  
 19 to Tigray as there were limited flights and the region  
 20 was unsafe.  
 21 To this day, our cousin who identified the body is  
 22 the only member of our family to have seen the grave.  
 23 We have only seen photos. My family and I are  
 24 desperately trying to get her back to Ethiopia. It is  
 25 our wish that Meron's body can come home so that she can

1 be with her family and we can visit her grave.  
 2 Meron was the youngest, but she was the rock of our  
 3 family. She was the one who kept us all close. The  
 4 family bond was really based on our love for Meron. We  
 5 miss her and feel the loss of her every day. It is  
 6 a great sorrow.  
 7 We are all so sad and we will never be back to  
 8 normal following this loss. The mourning period is  
 9 over, but it continues for my family. My parents cry  
 10 a lot about this. Meron was the youngest child and so  
 11 they have lost their baby and I do not believe they will  
 12 ever recover.  
 13 MS WOODS: The next statement and recording is from  
 14 Tesfahun, the brother of Meron Hailu Gebrehiwot.  
 15 Statement of MR TESFAHUN HAILU GEBREHIWOT read (in Amharic)  
 16 (Audio played to the Inquiry)  
 17 MS WOODS: I am Tesfahun Hailu Gebrehiwot, the brother of  
 18 Meron Hailu Gebrehiwot.  
 19 Meron was born in Adigrat, Tigray. My father and  
 20 mother had seven children. We all lived in Adigrat as  
 21 a family when we were growing up.  
 22 Meron was the youngest and was the centre of our  
 23 family bond. She was the one who always brought us all  
 24 together. Before the conflict, she was living a happy  
 25 life. She was a beautiful woman.

1 Meron came to Addis Ababa for the first time  
 2 in 2014. She studied computer science at Addis Ababa  
 3 University, but she left university in her third year  
 4 without graduating because she was more interested in  
 5 being a business owner than studying. When she left  
 6 university, she opened a take away food business.  
 7 After her business closed in 2019, Meron moved back  
 8 to Adigrat to be with our parents.  
 9 Meron and my other sister decided to go into  
 10 business together. They opened a juice bar, serving  
 11 fresh fruit juice and milk shakes. They were quite  
 12 successful and were making a good profit. Meron and our  
 13 other sister continued to run their juice business until  
 14 the war broke out in November 2020.  
 15 At the time that the war broke out, all of my  
 16 family, except my brother Henok, was still in Tigray.  
 17 As a family, we felt that we needed to flee Adigrat as  
 18 it was not safe. In mid-November 2020, I left Adigrat  
 19 with my wife and son, my mother, Meron, my other sister,  
 20 and her eight-year-old and four-year-old sons.  
 21 We travelled around to lots of different towns and  
 22 villages in Tigray, sometimes returning to places we had  
 23 been. We could not stay anywhere too long.  
 24 It was a horrific life. It was a war zone. I felt  
 25 a lot of responsibility, as the man, to care for my

1 family. I think that Meron was deeply affected and  
 2 traumatised by this period of our lives. The war and  
 3 the displacement were extremely difficult for her.  
 4 Meron was having nightmares about what she was seeing  
 5 when awake.  
 6 We saw total destruction of buildings, homes and  
 7 lives completely destroyed. The whole region was  
 8 a battlefield with constant gunfire, overturned cars,  
 9 crying and bullets.  
 10 I could not soothe her. Meron tried to be strong  
 11 and although she never explicitly said to me that her  
 12 mental well-being was suffering, I could see that the  
 13 situation had taken a huge toll on her. Meron left  
 14 Ethiopia in October 2021.  
 15 Our family, who were still in Tigray at this point,  
 16 did not know that Meron had left Ethiopia. I spoke to  
 17 Meron about twice a week on the phone after she left  
 18 Tigray, until around a week before she passed away.  
 19 I was in South Sudan when I learnt that Meron had passed  
 20 away, a few weeks after the incident. My friends in  
 21 Juba became aware of the tragedy and took my phone away  
 22 from me so I did not read it online.  
 23 They were trying to protect me.  
 24 My friends sat me down and told me. I could not  
 25 believe it. I cannot put the grief into words. I could

1 not control my grief and avoided speaking to my family  
 2 from a few weeks after that.  
 3 Due to the conflict in Tigray, Meron had to be  
 4 buried in Lille in France. This is a great source of  
 5 pain for our family, especially my mother. It is our  
 6 wish that her body is returned to Ethiopia.  
 7 Everyone is feeling grief and sadness and the family  
 8 cannot cope with the loss. We cannot bear to spend time  
 9 together as a family anymore because we feel Meron's  
 10 absence. We cannot be together without thinking of her  
 11 and what we lost. It is a misery every day. Our mother  
 12 cries every day thinking of Meron.  
 13 Recently, we went to our family home and removed  
 14 some pictures of Meron, because our mother cannot cope  
 15 with seeing them every day. Even though it has been  
 16 nearly three years, it still feels like a fresh wound  
 17 for our family. This has been a heartbreaking  
 18 experience and we hope to find closure once and for all.  
 19 That is our ultimate desire, but every time we have  
 20 to think about what happened to her, it rips the pain  
 21 open again. We want her to be remembered and respected.  
 22 We need to be able to process the pain we are feeling so  
 23 we can continue living our lives.  
 24 We hope that the Inquiry can give us the answers and  
 25 closure we need to be able to continue our lives without

1 her.  
 2 MS WOODS: The final statement and recording is from  
 3 Hailu Gebrehiwot, the father of Meron Hailu Gebrehiwot.  
 4 Statement of MR HAILU GEBREHIWOT read (in Amharic)  
 5 (Audio played to the Inquiry)  
 6 MS WOODS: I am Hailu Gebrehiwot, the father of  
 7 Meron Hailu Gebrehiwot. My wife and I raised our seven  
 8 children in Adigrat, Tigray. Meron was my youngest  
 9 child. I am struggling with immense grief.  
 10 I lost my youngest daughter and I find it extremely  
 11 hard to talk, or even think, about her.  
 12 Meron was an extraordinary woman; she was kind,  
 13 devoted and an amazing daughter. Meron grew up in  
 14 Adigrat in the family home and lived with us her whole  
 15 life, except when she lived Addis Ababa. She was  
 16 a happy child and we had a good life when she was young.  
 17 Meron had left Tigray to attend university in  
 18 Addis Ababa in 2014 and started a business there. But  
 19 she returned to Tigray in 2019.  
 20 Before the war, she had been setting up a business  
 21 with her sister, and was trying to build a life for  
 22 herself in Tigray.  
 23 She had no desire to leave Ethiopia and our home in  
 24 Tigray before the war started. She had a good life and  
 25 she was happy there. She had big ambitions. She was

1 committed to helping her parents and siblings before  
 2 settling down to get married.  
 3 She would care for me and her mother and her  
 4 siblings, even though she was the youngest, both  
 5 emotionally and financially, including by helping to  
 6 support the family with the money she earned from the  
 7 juice bar.  
 8 She was very kind and humble.  
 9 War broke out in Ethiopia in November 2020. My  
 10 wife, Meron, and my other children, were together as  
 11 a family during the bombing of Adigrat on  
 12 13 November 2020. Everyone in Adigrat was terrified and  
 13 we did not feel that any Tigrayan was safe.  
 14 We were afraid that there would be more mass  
 15 killings. Meron left Tigray in early 2021. We cried  
 16 a lot when we had to say goodbye to Meron and we knew we  
 17 would miss her. But we had no idea that would be the  
 18 last time we saw her.  
 19 During the war, communication was cut off in Tigray.  
 20 This meant that there was no internet service, no  
 21 telephone line and no ability to communicate, either  
 22 within Tigray or with loved ones outside of Tigray. We  
 23 did not hear from Meron again after she fled Tigray.  
 24 Throughout 2021, I was having a lot of nightmares  
 25 about what was happening to my children who were no

1 longer in Adigrat. I could not speak with or see Meron  
 2 and my sons, Henok or Tesfahun, and my mind would often  
 3 start to think the worst. I needed to know how my  
 4 children were doing and my health was suffering as  
 5 a result of the stress I was under.  
 6 I felt constantly unwell and struggled with deep  
 7 feelings of worry and fear. I was very depressed and am  
 8 still struggling today. I am often extremely tired and  
 9 too sad to speak to anyone and I continue to have very  
 10 disrupted sleep.  
 11 The war traumatised me, as it did my whole family.  
 12 Towards the end of 2021, my oldest son went to the  
 13 border between the Tigray and Amhara regions, to try to  
 14 find information to give me and my wife some peace.  
 15 There was some communication there, as people were able  
 16 to pass on messages on behalf of others by word of  
 17 mouth. This was the only way to get information in and  
 18 out of Tigray.  
 19 He was hoping that someone might have news of Meron,  
 20 Henok and Tesfahun. He heard from someone at the border  
 21 that Meron had died.  
 22 Shortly after, he came home and told us that Meron  
 23 was dead. This was around the 10 December 2021. It is  
 24 hard to remember the exact date as that time is such  
 25 a horrible memory. We could not believe the news. We

1 did not even know she had left the country.  
 2 A terrible grief came over our family, the feeling  
 3 was indescribable. Meron was an extraordinary daughter.  
 4 Meron was the youngest and yet, she was always taking  
 5 care of us. I was very close with her and feel her loss  
 6 deeply. Meron was extremely generous. She used to give  
 7 her clothes away to the needy. It was in her nature to  
 8 always think of others before herself. She was very  
 9 responsible. We miss her kind spirit and generosity.  
 10 She was our youngest child and such a sweet girl.  
 11 Meron's mother has suffered so much after Meron's  
 12 death. She is devastated by what has happened and has  
 13 many health problems. We both have problems with our  
 14 eyes and struggle with our sight, alongside various  
 15 other health issues. We are also both older now and  
 16 have suffered a lot in our lives. To lose a child who  
 17 was still so young has been extremely hard for us and  
 18 especially a child as kind and beautiful as Meron.  
 19 We are struggling a lot with our grief. It is  
 20 a great source of pain for us that Meron is not buried  
 21 at home. Her body could not be repatriated. The Tigray  
 22 region was in the middle of an armed conflict and it was  
 23 too dangerous and expensive to fly her body home. This  
 24 meant she had to be buried in France. For that reason,  
 25 we have not been able to visit and had not even seen a

1 photo of her grave until this year, 2024, when our  
 2 solicitor went to visit the grave and sent us pictures.  
 3 We desperately want her buried close to our home,  
 4 but bringing her body home would be very expensive and  
 5 we cannot afford it. Because of the war, we were also  
 6 unable to hold a proper wake and could not be visited by  
 7 the community or relatives, as the region was too  
 8 dangerous.  
 9 I find it very difficult to talk about this. No  
 10 parent should ever have to endure the loss of their  
 11 child. My daughter deserves better. She deserves to be  
 12 buried at home with her family and given a proper send  
 13 off. We have been deeply affected by this situation.  
 14 We believe that every human being should be treated with  
 15 dignity and kindness. We would like to thank the  
 16 Inquiry for investigating the death of Meron and we hope  
 17 that she is treated with respect and mourned throughout  
 18 the investigation.  
 19 The loss of Meron will stay with me and my family  
 20 forever and she will never be forgotten and we hope that  
 21 this tragedy will not be forgotten by the UK.  
 22 MR PHILLIPS: Sir, that concludes the evidence you will  
 23 receive in the course of the hearings as to the impact  
 24 of this tragedy from the loved ones of those who died.  
 25 Sir, that also concludes the evidence at these full

1 hearings.  
 2 SIR ROSS CRANSTON: Well, what we have heard over the last  
 3 day and a half, has been very upsetting and deeply  
 4 moving. As I said yesterday, and as I have said on  
 5 previous occasions, it was important that we gave voice  
 6 to those who are so deeply affected by the tragedy. It  
 7 has been — their evidence has been central to our work.  
 8 So I understand we are coming back at 1 o'clock for  
 9 closing hearings. So, thank you very much.  
 10 (11.49 am)  
 11 (The Lunch Break)  
 12 (1.00 pm)  
 13 SIR ROSS CRANSTON: Well, we now come to the closing  
 14 statements and I am going to call upon Sonali Naik,  
 15 King's Counsel, representing the survivor and the  
 16 families, to begin.  
 17 Closing submissions by MS NAIK  
 18 MS NAIK: Thank you very much, sir. As you know, we  
 19 represent many of the bereaved families and  
 20 Issa Mohamed, one of two survivors of the tragedy on  
 21 24 November 2021.  
 22 The survivor and the bereaved families are deeply  
 23 grateful to you and your team for the humanity,  
 24 dedication and rigour with which you have conducted the  
 25 Inquiry hearings. This oral closing statement is made

1 after the closure of four weeks of evidence and after  
 2 the Inquiry has just heard the powerful family impact  
 3 evidence yesterday and this morning.  
 4 This Inquiry is presented with a historic  
 5 opportunity to examine the adequacy of the UK search and  
 6 rescue response on 23 and 24 November 2021 and to expose  
 7 the dysfunction in the system then tasked with  
 8 protecting life at sea. That task matters. It matters  
 9 because of the memories of those lost by our clients  
 10 that deserve to be vindicated. It matters because you  
 11 have heard people continue to be at risk and to lose  
 12 their lives making small boat crossings across the  
 13 English Channel and your Inquiry matters because it  
 14 provides a crucial and unique opportunity to prevent the  
 15 further loss of life at sea.  
 16 In this oral statement, we focus on four key  
 17 submissions; first, we focus on our clients' loved ones,  
 18 we emphasise the centrality to the Inquiry of our  
 19 clients' voices being heard, we emphasise the  
 20 preventability of their loved one's deaths. Second, we  
 21 submit that this disaster was predictable.  
 22 Third, we focus on the discriminatory stereotypes  
 23 and attitudes towards migrants on small boats, which  
 24 fatally affected the SAR response. Fourth, we summarise  
 25 briefly the state failings, both individually and

1 institutionally , which led to the disaster . And fifth,  
2 we emphasise that in order for any recommendations you  
3 make to protect lives and futures, that the state  
4 authorities have to be willing to reflect on and learn  
5 from their failings .

6 So, first , at its most fundamental, this Inquiry is  
7 about giving the deceased and our clients a voice, and  
8 over the past few days, our clients ' voices have been  
9 heard in this room. But what's vital is that they are  
10 listened to and that includes first , their unfathomable  
11 grief and trauma of losing loved ones in such uncertain  
12 circumstances at sea. And in Issa Mohamed's case, of  
13 surviving such a horrific ordeal.

14 The victims of this tragedy need to be recognised,  
15 not as a homogeneous group of nameless migrants or  
16 numbers in Home Office statistics, but they were  
17 a collection of individual human beings, each with their  
18 own reason for finding themselves on board the boat that  
19 night. Some had fled their homes to escape the bullets  
20 of a brutal civil war. Others left behind a life  
21 without hope for the future, but they were so much more  
22 than people on the move and one thing they all had in  
23 common, as you have heard so clearly, is that each and  
24 every one of them leave behind family and friends who  
25 loved them dearly and miss them desperately.

1 Three of our clients ' loved ones were never found.  
2 The failure to find their bodies is a further aspect of  
3 this tragedy. Without that certainty, there can be no  
4 real closure for the mothers and fathers who may never  
5 be able to let go of the hope that one day their sons  
6 will be found alive. But second, it also includes  
7 listening to their anger, their justified visceral anger  
8 at the catalogue of state failures and the  
9 discriminatory attitudes that led to the disaster .  
10 Their anger at the smugglers who ruthlessly exploited  
11 their loved ones. And finally, it means listening to  
12 their resolve, their resolve that further tragedies can  
13 be prevented so that no family should have to relive  
14 their suffering and trauma in the future.

15 It should be remembered that this Inquiry was only  
16 established as a result of our clients ' determination  
17 and perseverance in uncovering truth of what happened on  
18 the night. They sought the initial confirmation that  
19 the disaster engaged the UK's authorities'  
20 responsibility . They threatened legal proceedings, and  
21 they sought disclosure of the documents that would  
22 uncover the truth.

23 Our clients ' grief and anger are magnified by the  
24 uncontested evidence before the Inquiry that had the  
25 search for Charlie been continued and not abandoned, we

1 say negligently , their loved ones may well have  
2 survived. The most basic facts are stark. The  
3 coastguard was first made aware of the small boat  
4 Incident Charlie at 01:06 am. The last call from the  
5 boat was not until an hour and 24 minutes later, at  
6 03:12 am.

7 We heard from Simon Ling, that had the RNLI  
8 all—weather lifeboat been tasked, it could have made it  
9 to the location provided for Charlie in an hour and  
10 13 minutes. So there was time; there was time for the  
11 vessel to reach the area.

12 Professor Tipton's evidence is that although some  
13 would have died upon entering the water, the majority of  
14 the occupants of Incident Charlie survived entry into  
15 the water and were alive 12 minutes after the last call  
16 from the boat, at 03:24 am.

17 We know that the Border Force boat, the Valiant,  
18 reached the original co—ordinates to which it had been  
19 directed just three minutes after that, at 03:27 am.

20 Professor Tipton's evidence is that by 07:03, when  
21 the Valiant returning to base and the search for Charlie  
22 had been abandoned, some would have died. But the  
23 corollary is, of course, that some were alive. That  
24 means it may have been possible for more to be rescued  
25 alive, right up until just after 1 pm in the afternoon,

1 12 hours after the first call from the boat. And the  
2 evidence from Issa Mohamed certainly suggests that  
3 Mohammed Hussein Mohammedie was alive 30 minutes, he  
4 thinks, before he, Issa, was finally rescued.

5 Even on this most stripped back version of the facts  
6 of the night, then, we say but for the core SAR  
7 failures, some, if not most, of our clients ' loved ones  
8 would have survived and could and should have been  
9 rescued.

10 But this stripped down version of events ignores the  
11 wider catalogue of operational and systemic failures  
12 which contributed to the disaster. It ignores the gross  
13 understaffing and under—resourcing, the lack of training  
14 and the focus on border securitisation over saving human  
15 lives at sea.

16 The bottom line is this: the tragedy of 24 November  
17 was preventable and it should never have happened. But  
18 as the numbers of people risking their lives in crossing  
19 the Channel rose exponentially from a handful in 2018,  
20 the coastguard buried its corporate head in the sand.  
21 The Home Office focused on deterrents and security, to  
22 the detriment of developing more effective SAR  
23 capability. And both failed to meet the most basic and  
24 fundamental of their legal obligations; to protect life  
25 at sea.

1 Second, as to predictability , you have heard from  
 2 the witnesses and will no doubt be told by other full  
 3 participants' representatives today, that the increase  
 4 in small boat crossings in 2021 in November, in the  
 5 words of the corporate witnesses, wasn't predictable and  
 6 was unusual. You will be told, no doubt, to be wary of  
 7 viewing events in hindsight. But siren calls to resist  
 8 the use of hindsight should not prohibit proper scrutiny  
 9 of the steps that should have been known and should have  
 10 been taken by the state authorities at the time.

11 As Lord Bingham emphasised, regarding the duty to  
 12 protect life in the 2009 House of Lords case of  
 13 Van Colle: stupidity , lack of imagination and inertia do  
 14 not afford an excuse to national authority which  
 15 reasonably ought, in light of what it knew, or was told,  
 16 to make further investigations or enquiries. It is then  
 17 to be treated as knowing what such further enquiries or  
 18 investigations would have elicited.

19 So with that warning in mind, we make eight points  
 20 on the issue of predictability .

21 First, at its core, this disaster was caused by the  
 22 state SAR system being overwhelmed by insufficient  
 23 staff, inadequate systems for the identification of  
 24 boats, inadequate communication systems and insufficient  
 25 surface and aerial assets. Simply put, the system was

1 not fit for purpose.

2 But, second, whether systems were likely to be  
 3 overwhelmed depends, in large part, on the numbers of  
 4 people and boats undertaking the crossing. And the  
 5 numbers who crossed on 23 and 24 November 2021 was by no  
 6 means unprecedented. It had been exceeded in both  
 7 August and September 2021 and it was exceeded five times  
 8 in the 21 days before the tragedy.

9 Third, a key aspect of the disaster was lack of  
 10 aerial surveillance , but Daniel O'Mahoney accepted that  
 11 it was known to Border Force a year in advance that  
 12 where aerial surveillance wasn't able to be put in  
 13 place, including due to poor weather, that the result  
 14 would be a detrimental impact on the situational  
 15 awareness. But there were still no backup systems in  
 16 place in November 2021.

17 Fourth, the Home Office's own Operation Deveran  
 18 predictions were that risk to life would increase over  
 19 the winter. The previous year, in December 2020,  
 20 Daniel O'Mahoney told the then Home Secretary that: we  
 21 will see an increase of small boat arrivals , likely  
 22 concentrated on a single day with favourable conditions.

23 In 2021, Border Force intelligence analysis assessed  
 24 the risk to life to be high and liable to increase  
 25 during the winter months. Fifth, the coastguard red

1 migrant days meetings, from September to November 2021,  
 2 repeatedly raised concerns about the adequacy of  
 3 staffing levels .

4 On 22 November 2021, just the day before the  
 5 incident , the chief coastguard himself commented: the  
 6 amber days are starting to look more red than amber.  
 7 But still , resources and assets were not increased.

8 Sixth, officials at the highest level in the  
 9 coastguard and Border Force were well aware, months in  
 10 advance, of the risk of the SAR response being  
 11 overwhelmed. At a senior meeting in June 2021, attended  
 12 by the director general of the migration and borders and  
 13 key corporate reasons witnesses from whom the Inquiry  
 14 has heard, including Daniel O'Mahoney, Stephen Whitton  
 15 and James Driver, the situation was described as  
 16 a humanitarian crisis waiting to happen and it was:  
 17 amazing that more people haven't lost their lives  
 18 already.

19 As early as 17 August 2021, divisional commander,  
 20 Mike Bill, wrote a key email to the chief coastguard  
 21 warning of a risk of overwhelm and stated that: high  
 22 intensity crossing days meet our definition of a major  
 23 incident. However, we are not declaring it as such.

24 Seventh, when those warnings of overwhelm were  
 25 raised and the response of the senior officials was to

1 be — the response of senior officials was to be  
 2 concerned at the political impact of initiating  
 3 a response in an environment of overt hostility and  
 4 discrimination towards migrants. The reaction at  
 5 that June 2021 meeting was that ministers viewed the  
 6 numbers of people crossing as a political problem, which  
 7 doesn't fit with the narrative of taking back control of  
 8 borders.

9 A decision was then made to proceed with the plan to  
 10 conduct dangerous pushbacks at sea.

11 Mike Bill warned, in his August 2021 email, that the  
 12 reason a major incident was not being declared was  
 13 political . In his evidence, he said: some of it was  
 14 possibly political . It was high profile with Government  
 15 and migrant crossings and they probably didn't want that  
 16 in the news. Should we have declared a major incident,  
 17 it was bound to hit the news, and things like that. So  
 18 that's what I mean by "political".

19 This was a crucial email that forewarned of  
 20 subsequent tragedies and provided an opportunity to put  
 21 systems in place to save lives , but Mike Bill said he  
 22 didn't even recall receiving a response.

23 The 21 August 2021 Migrant Activity Debrief,  
 24 similarly recorded the declaration of a major or  
 25 critical incident would be politically sensitive . It

1 also recognised: if we don't declare, there is a risk  
 2 that we could be seen not to have acknowledged or  
 3 realised the significance in any subsequent enquiry.  
 4 That statement, of course, proved to be sadly  
 5 prescient.  
 6 Eighth, the response of the Home Office, in  
 7 particular, was not to focus on saving lives, but to  
 8 channel time, money and resources into a dangerous and  
 9 doomed plan, to conduct forcible pushbacks on migrant  
 10 boats at sea. Daniel O'Mahoney, the small boats  
 11 tactical commander in charge of the policy, accepted in  
 12 his evidence to the Inquiry that a very considerable  
 13 amount of time and resource was spent on  
 14 Operation Sommen. He said that it was directed by the  
 15 Home Secretary and the Prime Minister themselves.  
 16 He maintained it didn't detract from planning for an  
 17 improved SAR response, but that contention does in the  
 18 withstand basic scrutiny. Stephen Whitton, the head of  
 19 Border Force Maritime Command, candidly gave evidence  
 20 that it did have a detrimental impact on SAR, stating:  
 21 we had a huge amount of pressure to try and develop  
 22 tactics and operations to try and prevent small boats  
 23 crossing. That pressure was right across the command  
 24 and organisations, including the coastguard, were on our  
 25 knees in terms of the pressure we were under and it was

1 getting hugely challenging.  
 2 Turning to the third issue which we address, which  
 3 is that of discrimination, both the right to life under  
 4 the European Convention on Human Rights and duty to  
 5 ensure assistance under the Search And Rescue Convention  
 6 must be discharged without discrimination, but we know  
 7 from the evidence that we have heard, that the victims's  
 8 identities as migrants and as foreigners shaped the  
 9 authorities' response and the outcomes they faced with  
 10 tragic consequences.  
 11 That emerged from the evidence in at least three  
 12 ways; first, assumptions and stereotypes about migrants  
 13 on small boats infected the SAR response. Most  
 14 obviously, the response to small boats was permeated by  
 15 an assumption from callers — that callers from small  
 16 boats tended to exaggerate their level of distress. The  
 17 pervasive and unchallenged nature of that belief was  
 18 stark. The Inquiry heard evidence that there was  
 19 a widely held belief that nine times out of ten,  
 20 a caller from a small boat would exaggerate.  
 21 Stuart Downs of the coastguard, operated under the  
 22 belief that migrants were handed out leaflets,  
 23 instructing them to exaggerate the levels of distress,  
 24 but was forced to accept in oral evidence that the facts  
 25 underpinning his belief were not necessarily accurate.

1 The dismissive attitude at the core of the belief is  
 2 evidenced most viscerally by language used by the senior  
 3 commander Dominic Golden and I quote: now, as usual, the  
 4 catalogue of phone calls is beginning to trickle in of  
 5 the, you know, the classic, 'I am lost, I am sinking, my  
 6 mother's wheelchair is falling over the side, etc.  
 7 Sharks with lasers surrounding boat' and 'we are all  
 8 dying' type of thing coming in. So legally, we are now  
 9 dealing with a distress.  
 10 Mr Golden described his words as unwise or flippant,  
 11 but they are more than that. They reveal the  
 12 perceptions held by those in response — involved in the  
 13 response to the small boats about the occupants. They  
 14 are not unwise, they are discriminatory. They are  
 15 a stereotype and the most obvious risk of this  
 16 stereotype is that call operators and other frontline  
 17 professionals engaged in the SAR response are sceptical  
 18 about the veracity of the distress calls and jump to  
 19 premature conclusions.  
 20 Second, we know that this stereotype, not just  
 21 infected, but affected, the authority's SAR responses.  
 22 We know it had a material effect on the way in which the  
 23 state authorities fulfilled, or failed to fulfil, their  
 24 duty to protect life. Witnesses repeatedly bore out  
 25 that by November 2021, there was, in effect, a two-tier

1 system in place, whereby small boats were subject to  
 2 lesser SAR standards, which put the lives of migrants at  
 3 risk.  
 4 We know, from the evidence, that small boats were  
 5 not treated in the same way that other vessels in  
 6 distress were. George Papadopoulos, Small Boats  
 7 Tactical Commander, told the Inquiry that if a fishing  
 8 boat makes a distress call to the coastguard, they will,  
 9 "throw all available resources at it". In stark  
 10 contrast, Mr Gibson, the SAR Mission Co-ordinator on  
 11 shift on Dover on the night, with over 10 years'  
 12 experience in the coastguard, told us that he would seek  
 13 to corroborate information before making a tasking  
 14 decision because of the assumptions that those on small  
 15 boats will exaggerate their situation.  
 16 Thomas Willows of Border Force was clear that those  
 17 responding did not believe or treat small boats as  
 18 genuinely in distress. And in a candid moment of  
 19 evidence, Dominic Golden, the Commander responsible for  
 20 the air response, was unable to maintain the fiction  
 21 that the belief that migrant calls were exaggerated had  
 22 no effect on SAR responses.  
 23 He accepted: there is at the back of your mind  
 24 a nervousness about how significant is that incident, in  
 25 terms of distress? And a specific consideration for him

1 was: if I allocate a resource to a call that has said  
 2 that they are sinking, that that asset is now tied into  
 3 something that could be a false alarm, a cry wolf, when  
 4 I now have a real incident 10 miles along the coast.  
 5 Neal Gibson, whose evidence is — and conduct is so  
 6 central to this Inquiry, said that senior mission  
 7 commanders and SAR professionals questioned: can we take  
 8 what we are told at face value? He said this led to the  
 9 need to verify, assess and analyse the information  
 10 provided from distress calls. He wanted visual  
 11 confirmation or 'eyes on' to observe the callers were  
 12 not, in fact, all sat there quite happy.  
 13 That wasn't enough for Mubin Rizghar to say to him  
 14 repeatedly, and in English, on the first call at  
 15 01:48 am: we are finished. Or on a second call,  
 16 48 minutes later, at 02:31 am, that there were  
 17 40 people: we are dying and two are children.  
 18 Neal Gibson said he was left unaware of the nature  
 19 of the distress of Incident Charlie, that the occupants  
 20 hadn't satisfied him of whether the boat was just full  
 21 of water or whether it was, in fact, sinking.  
 22 He even went so far as to ask the Inquiry to accept  
 23 that: "we are all going to die" unfortunately, is not  
 24 very specific in what's actually going on in  
 25 a situation.

1 These are marks of a SAR response so heavily  
 2 infected by prejudicial stereotypical views as to render  
 3 it ineffectual. Shockingly, Neal Gibson's evidence was  
 4 that he used a Mayday Relay, the highest alert available  
 5 to mariners, which, by law, conveys a grave and imminent  
 6 danger, requiring immediate assistance, merely to get  
 7 some sort of visual confirmation of what the level of  
 8 distress was.  
 9 The Mayday was then terminated on no adequate basis  
 10 before the Valiant had even rescued a single boat. It  
 11 cannot seriously be maintained that any other craft,  
 12 other than a migrant small boat, would have been subject  
 13 to such incredulity, second-guessing and doubt by the  
 14 coastguard.  
 15 The third way in which discrimination emerged in the  
 16 evidence is the authorities' failure to take positive  
 17 steps to address the different challenges that small  
 18 migrant boats presented, when compared with conventional  
 19 SAR taskings. That long-term systemic failing allowed  
 20 the discriminatory attitudes and conduct, just referred  
 21 to, to fester and endure. November 2021 was three years  
 22 after Savid Javid, as Home Secretary, had declared  
 23 a critical incident in Parliament in relation to small  
 24 boat crossings.  
 25 But despite this, the authorities failed, over

1 an extended period, to provide any specific training to  
 2 those charged with responding to small boat crossings in  
 3 the Dover Straits. Informal and flawed practices  
 4 developed without assurance testing, which were not  
 5 reflected in operational policies. Operators were given  
 6 no guidance or training on how to assess information  
 7 from small boat callers. Operators had no specific  
 8 training on language barriers and call handling. And  
 9 even where the level of English spoken was  
 10 understandable and conversable, what was said was not  
 11 taken at face value.  
 12 So the fear, the urgency and the sheer terror  
 13 conveyed directly to him by Mubin and the occupants of  
 14 Charlie by telephone should have been enough, on any  
 15 view, to mandate an urgent, persistent and comprehensive  
 16 response.  
 17 Turning to the State failings, the Inquiry has  
 18 heard, over four weeks, that bears out a litany of  
 19 failures on the night from the evidence. The families  
 20 were particularly shocked to hear on Monday, from  
 21 Matthew Leat, that several of the failures are not  
 22 accepted on a corporate level by the coastguard.  
 23 Mr Leat, however, is not a witness of fact. The facts,  
 24 sir, are for you — a matter for you alone and the  
 25 evidence of his employees on the ground who had to work

1 in the system tells a very different story.  
 2 And the full extent of those failures will be  
 3 detailed in our written closing. Some, I have referred  
 4 to already, but we will just list a few here.  
 5 The chronic understaffing at MRCC Dover; the  
 6 exhausted, fatigued and overwhelmed coastguard and  
 7 Home Office staff; the failure to ask the French  
 8 coastguard for their tracker, resulting in hours of lost  
 9 preparation time; the failure to have contingency plans  
 10 in place for air cover; failure to gather basic  
 11 information from distress calls and to use translation  
 12 services; a Mayday Relay, the gravest of maritime  
 13 warnings, being cancelled without any justification  
 14 whatsoever; the failure to task an RNLI specialist SAR  
 15 boat that could have reached the scene earlier; the use  
 16 of a single informal mobile phone manned by a trainee,  
 17 which wasn't even connected to the ViSION log system and  
 18 which staff had not been trained to use.  
 19 The desperate calls to the mobile phone which were  
 20 missed; the updated co-ordinates which were never  
 21 recorded or passed on to the Valiant; the failure to  
 22 directly request that the French authorities task the  
 23 Flamant to assist, that Neal Gibson said was due to  
 24 political sensitivities. An astounding admission, given  
 25 the situation in the Channel at the time, and the duty

1 on states to co-operate with SAR.  
 2 And finally, and most fundamentally, the decision to  
 3 abandon the search for Charlie at 07:03 am, when none of  
 4 the boats found by 06:30 am, came anywhere near the  
 5 levels of distress conveyed on the calls to the  
 6 coastguard and the French authorities.

7 As to the recommendations and lessons learnt, the  
 8 families wish to reflect on the evidence before making  
 9 detailed submissions to you in writing, sir. But the  
 10 simple point we make here today is that it's clear that  
 11 there are vital lessons to be learnt from this tragedy,  
 12 but in order to learn the lessons, the relevant State  
 13 agencies and Government departments must accept that  
 14 there were failings and why they occurred.

15 The families and survivor were shocked to hear  
 16 Matthew Leat's evidence that the coastguard's corporate  
 17 position is that little or nothing would have been done  
 18 differently today, even with the benefit of hindsight.  
 19 That's quite an astonishing conclusion and, we say,  
 20 a hubristic one for a learning organisation, as  
 21 Matthew Leat repeatedly referred to. The coastguard, as  
 22 an organisation, does not appear to have been willing to  
 23 learn or reflect at all.

24 The families and survivor were equally shocked to  
 25 hear that the Home Office has never even undertaken

1 an internal review of its actions and systems, some  
 2 three and a half years after the disaster.

3 We submit that those are, frankly, arrogant  
 4 responses to the clear failings that occurred in the  
 5 run-up to the 24 November 2021. And the families and  
 6 survivor trust that any recommendations you make will be  
 7 fully implemented and that the State authorities will  
 8 demonstrate a willingness to learn lessons for the  
 9 future.

10 In conclusion, sir, we wish to emphasise again to  
 11 you that this Inquiry — your Inquiry matters and why it  
 12 matters. First, it matters to our clients and earlier  
 13 this week, several of the bereaved families boarded  
 14 a boat across the Dover Straits and visited the area  
 15 around the Sandettie Lightvessel. They gave the captain  
 16 Charlie's last known co-ordinates and, in silence, paid  
 17 their respects at the location where their loved ones  
 18 lost their lives. Some of our clients' loved ones'  
 19 bodies, as you know, have never been found and their  
 20 suffering is unimaginable.

21 Others have been unable to bring their loved ones'  
 22 bodies home. And Issa Mohamed, he will be forever  
 23 scarred by the trauma of what happened to him that  
 24 night.

25 Everyone in this room has seen the photos of the

1 missing and the dead on the screens over the past  
 2 four weeks. Over the past two days, everyone in this  
 3 room has been moved by the words of the families,  
 4 including in their own languages. And the families and  
 5 survivors will always be grateful to you and your team  
 6 for the way in which you have conveyed their voices,  
 7 their grief, their anger and their dignity.

8 But second, your Inquiry matters because it presents  
 9 an opportunity to emphasise the vital importance of  
 10 placing equal value on the lives and safety of those who  
 11 cross the Channel in small boats. One cannot escape the  
 12 political context in which this tragedy occurred. The  
 13 fixation on stopping the small boats at all costs and  
 14 extension of the hostile environment on land, created by  
 15 the Home Office over the last decade, to the sea,  
 16 contributed to an environment which permits and  
 17 sanctions discriminatory treatment.

18 The daily diet of negative stereotypes in the media  
 19 of migrants in this country breeds a pervasive and  
 20 dehumanising culture. Against that background, we heard  
 21 Mr O'Mahoney tell the Inquiry that the decision not to  
 22 deploy an emergency rescue vehicle in the Channel, which  
 23 would have freed up other assets to rescue more people,  
 24 was abandoned because ministers felt it would  
 25 effectively act as a magnet for migrants. That it

1 might, in fact, encourage migrants to cross the Channel  
 2 rather than deter them.

3 For the reasons given here, we ask you to consider  
 4 whether our clients were treated by the State  
 5 authorities as deserving of equal respect and dignity by  
 6 those responsible, both institutionally and  
 7 individually.

8 And third, sir, your Inquiry matters because we know  
 9 that small boat crossings do and will continue and that  
 10 since these hearings began on 3 March alone, at least  
 11 four more lives have been lost.

12 So, increased securitisation and enforcement  
 13 measures in the absence of other adequate, safe and  
 14 viable routes, have failed to stop the crossings. We  
 15 know that smuggling gangs adapt their tactics in  
 16 response and ultimately, place people at increased risk.  
 17 Your Inquiry matters because it provides an opportunity  
 18 to learn lessons and protect lives in the future from  
 19 risks that remain acute today.

20 And this is all in keeping with the purpose of an  
 21 inquisitorial process, whose purpose is the protection  
 22 of life, as you know, sir. And again, in the resonant  
 23 words of Lord Bingham in Ameen that includes: ensuring,  
 24 so far as possible, that the full facts are brought to  
 25 light; that culpable and discreditable conduct is

1 exposed and brought to public notice; that dangerous  
 2 practices and procedures are rectified ; and that those  
 3 who have lost their relatives , may at least have the  
 4 satisfaction of knowing that lessons learned from his  
 5 death may save the lives of others.  
 6 The bereaved families and the survivor have every  
 7 faith that you will hold fast to that purpose.  
 8 Thank you very much.  
 9 SIR ROSS CRANSTON: Yes. Well, thank you very much. I am  
 10 now going to call on Mr Maxwell—Scott King's Counsel,  
 11 who represents the Maritime Coastguard Agency.  
 12 Closing submissions by MR MAXWELL—SCOTT  
 13 MR MAXWELL—SCOTT: Thank you. Sir, the evidence that you  
 14 have heard over the last four weeks and in particular  
 15 the last one and a half days has been a powerful  
 16 reminder that this Inquiry is , above all , about people.  
 17 It is an Inquiry into a human tragedy, in which at  
 18 least 27 people lost their lives . On behalf of the MCA,  
 19 I offer our sympathies to everyone affected and our  
 20 thanks to you and your team for the thorough, focused  
 21 and efficient way in which the hearings have been  
 22 conducted.  
 23 During the hearings, you have heard from the  
 24 commander of the Valiant, the captain of R163, and the  
 25 RNLI's head of lifeboats. Their crews are on the

1 frontline , rescuing people from the wholly unsuitable  
 2 and unsafe small boats provided by the criminal gangs.  
 3 Carrying out those rescues is challenging, and sometimes  
 4 dangerous.  
 5 A clear theme running through the evidence of those  
 6 three witnesses was their abiding respect for the  
 7 principle of saving lives at sea.  
 8 You also heard from 10 current and former officers  
 9 of His Majesty's Coastguard. Their work did not put  
 10 them in physical danger, but the actions of the criminal  
 11 gangs also took its toll on them. Christopher Barnett's  
 12 evidence was that driving to work on a sunny evening, he  
 13 would be filled with dread, knowing that there were  
 14 desperate people putting themselves in a small boat in  
 15 one of the busiest waterways in the world. He said: the  
 16 calls are extremely distressing for those of us that  
 17 take them and repeated night after night, this takes its  
 18 toll on you. I feel it will have an impact on me for  
 19 the rest of my life. We do the best we can to get those  
 20 on small boats to a place of safety. We are coastguards  
 21 because we care and want to help anyone that finds  
 22 themselves in difficulty at sea.  
 23 Sir, I invite you to agree with me that the  
 24 witnesses from HM Coastguard who gave evidence were  
 25 professional and helpful. They were committed to the

1 principle that all passengers on migrant small boats in  
 2 the UK search and rescue region need to be rescued,  
 3 whatever their race or nationality . All are classed as  
 4 in distress .  
 5 I have divided my statement today into the following  
 6 seven points: 1) the real causes of this incident were  
 7 a number of factors which were outside the control of  
 8 HM Coastguard. 2) the challenges faced by HM Coastguard  
 9 in November 2021 and which affected the search for small  
 10 boat Charlie did not have quick and easy solutions. 3)  
 11 the best evidence available to the Inquiry about how to  
 12 co—ordinate search and rescue comes from HM Coastguard  
 13 and the US coastguard.  
 14 4) with migrant small boats, the distinction between  
 15 what is reported and what can be verified is important.  
 16 5) co—ordinating the search and rescue of migrant small  
 17 boats inevitably requires difficult judgment calls. 6)  
 18 the need to guard against hindsight. 7) the importance  
 19 of adopting a realistic approach, rather than  
 20 an excessively forensic approach when making your  
 21 judgments about the judgments made by coastguard  
 22 officers .  
 23 Before I turn to my first point, I should say that  
 24 I have reviewed the contents of the MCA's written and  
 25 oral opening statements. I stand by them and they

1 should be regarded as forming part of the MCA's closing  
 2 submissions.  
 3 My first point is that the real causes of this  
 4 incident were a number of factors which were outside the  
 5 control of HM Coastguard. Let me explain why.  
 6 November 2021 was statistically an outlier. There was  
 7 no precedent for the number of crossings that took place  
 8 that month and it still holds the record for the most  
 9 small boat crossings in a single month.  
 10 Dan O'Mahoney told you it was a complete anomaly  
 11 which, in his professional opinion, was not predictable.  
 12 Simon Ling of the RNLI noted that November 2021  
 13 formed part of a period, from September  
 14 to November 2021, in which the spike in rescue demand  
 15 was simply unprecedented. He said that it was a very  
 16 difficult period. However, HM Coastguard and all of its  
 17 search and rescue partners, were under immense strain  
 18 and pressure, with unprecedented increases in rescue  
 19 demand. All of this was outside the control of  
 20 HM Coastguard.  
 21 The 23 and 24 November came towards the end of that  
 22 period of immense pressure. Criminal gangs launched  
 23 many boats that night, not just the one which is the  
 24 focus of this Inquiry. HM Coastguard needed to  
 25 co—ordinate the rescue of each of those boats that

1 entered the UK search and rescue region. Importantly,  
 2 each of those boats would, on average, generate several  
 3 new incidents and each new incident would need to be  
 4 opened, managed, evaluated and closed.  
 5 Disaster struck at the worst possible stage of the  
 6 crossing, when the small boat was essentially in the  
 7 middle of the English Channel, furthest from land,  
 8 furthest from help and in the area where mobile phone  
 9 signal was likely to be at its weakest and least  
 10 reliable. A further factor, obviously the control of  
 11 HM Coastguard, was the weather. The night of 23 and  
 12 24 November was a rare night on which the planes  
 13 contracted to provide the overall maritime picture were  
 14 unable to fly.  
 15 The news that they would not be able to fly came  
 16 very late. It was unexpected. 2Excel had not predicted  
 17 any problems at the red day meeting at 4 pm on  
 18 22 November. It was not until just after 2 am on  
 19 24 November that 2Excel definitively stated that all of  
 20 its planned overnight flights would be cancelled.  
 21 The captain of an aircraft has the final say in  
 22 whether it can fly, and rightly so. Witnesses from  
 23 HM Coastguard and its search and rescue partners  
 24 explained the central importance of aerial surveillance  
 25 in providing a maritime picture. HM Coastguard was

1 deprived of that picture when it needed it.  
 2 A further point about the weather is that one cannot  
 3 view the night of 23 and 24 November in isolation. The  
 4 Operation Deveran forecast predicted that crossing  
 5 attempts were likely that night, but that crossings  
 6 would be highly likely from 6 pm on 24 November.  
 7 As I will explain later, this had implications for  
 8 resource planning.  
 9 Other factors outside HM Coastguard's control were  
 10 the fact that none of the calls linked to  
 11 Incident Charlie yielded any ISEK information; the  
 12 length of time it took Valiant to clear the port of  
 13 Dover and cross the traffic separation scheme; the  
 14 technical problem which delayed the takeoff of R163; the  
 15 response to the Mayday Relay broadcast. Finally,  
 16 HM Coastguard had no control over three crucial  
 17 decisions made by the French coastguard: not tasking the  
 18 Flamant to Charlie; not relaying the report it received  
 19 from the Concerto; not passing on what those on board  
 20 Charlie said to the French coastguard in a 17-minute  
 21 long call which ended at 03:33 am.  
 22 Sir, my second point is that the challenges faced by  
 23 HM Coastguard in November 2021 did not have quick and  
 24 easy solutions. If the planes could not fly, there was  
 25 no like-for-like replacement. Helicopters have

1 different capabilities. Given the technology available  
 2 to 2Excel and the cloud cover present on 24 November, it  
 3 is unlikely that 2Excel would have been able to provide  
 4 a maritime picture, even if their planes had been able  
 5 to fly.  
 6 Technology is not available until it becomes  
 7 available. As Dan O'Mahoney told you, current equipment  
 8 uses technological enhancements, not available at the  
 9 time.  
 10 Putting in place more assets and more staff takes  
 11 time. Even if HM Coastguard had been warned at the  
 12 start of November 2021 that it would be the busiest  
 13 month ever, there are limits to what it could have done.  
 14 HM Coastguard had taken steps, before this incident, to  
 15 increase the headcount at Dover, but it takes months to  
 16 become a fully trained maritime operations officer. And  
 17 it takes several more years to become a qualified SMC.  
 18 Turning to aerial assets. The MCA had, before this  
 19 incident, set out a detailed case for Operation CAESAR,  
 20 which would lead to a significant increase in aerial  
 21 assets in 2022. Such a project inevitably takes time.  
 22 The fact that it led to concrete change as early  
 23 as March 2022 should be regarded as an achievement.  
 24 Finally, surface vessels. The first crew transfer  
 25 vessel had been deployed in July 2021. This was part of

1 a process of Border Force enhancing its fleet, a process  
 2 that, inevitably, took time.  
 3 In November 2021, HM Coastguard had to work with the  
 4 staff and assets available to it and to manage them  
 5 judiciously.  
 6 Crew safety is a vital consideration.  
 7 Captain Trubshaw gave a compelling explanation of the  
 8 nature of fatigue and its dangers. There is a reason  
 9 why working hours in the air and at sea are tightly  
 10 regulated.  
 11 Simon Ling told you that by late November 2021,  
 12 lifeboat crews were under immense pressure. He pointed  
 13 out that you can't mandate volunteers and said that  
 14 crews were experiencing what he called "red day stress".  
 15 At the red day meeting on 19 November, the chief  
 16 coastguard said: if we burn all our assets on Saturday,  
 17 we won't be able to respond on the Sunday.  
 18 This comment captures the need to manage resources  
 19 judiciously. It is a point that came up many times in  
 20 the evidence. Dominic Golden told you that the search  
 21 and rescue helicopter was the Crown Jewel, but because  
 22 it could only fly for a short period of time, he had to  
 23 think very carefully about when best to task it. It  
 24 would have been irresponsible for HM Coastguard to have  
 25 deployed all its assets on an amber night, knowing that

1 it would be followed by a busy day and then a red night.  
 2 If doing so had left it unable to respond to a disaster  
 3 at sea on the red night, it would be criticised and  
 4 rightly so.

5 Point 3. The best evidence available to the Inquiry  
 6 about how to co-ordinate search and rescue comes from  
 7 HM Coastguard and the US Coastguard. Who has the  
 8 Inquiry heard from who has expertise in co-ordinating  
 9 search and rescue? The answer is the eight coastguard  
 10 officers who had gained a qualification in search  
 11 mission co-ordination. The Inquiry did not hear from  
 12 any other witnesses with qualifications or experience in  
 13 the co-ordination of search and rescue.

14 The Inquiry also has the benefit of the report by  
 15 the US Coastguard. There is a reason why it was  
 16 necessary for HM Coastguard to reach out to the  
 17 US Coastguard when it wanted someone to carry out  
 18 an independent case study. It could not have approached  
 19 a peer organisation in the UK because there isn't one.  
 20 HM Coastguard is the national emergency service for  
 21 rescue at sea. No other organisation in the UK has the  
 22 necessary expertise.

23 My fourth point is that with migrant small boats,  
 24 the distinction between what is reported and what can be  
 25 verified is important. There were occasions during the

1 questioning when it was put to witnesses that they knew  
 2 something. Great care needs to be taken with this  
 3 concept. It is reasonable to describe any telephone  
 4 numbers provided by the ISEK system as "known". It is  
 5 reasonable to describe sightings by search and rescue  
 6 assets as "known", but that's it. When you are dealing  
 7 with migrant small boats, every other item of so-called  
 8 knowledge is, in fact, an unverified report which needs  
 9 to be evaluated and ideally, to be verified.

10 A telephone number provided verbally during a call  
 11 can be misheard or misstated. It's not known until it  
 12 is verified. A WhatsApp position can be inaccurate.  
 13 The actual position of the boat is not known until it is  
 14 verified. The reported condition of a boat underway,  
 15 taken on water, sinking, can be inaccurate or out of  
 16 date; it's not known until it is verified.

17 The reported number of men, women and children on  
 18 board can be inaccurate. It's not known until it is  
 19 verified.

20 Coastguard officers emphasised the importance of  
 21 verification in their oral evidence.  
 22 George Papadopoulos spoke of a need for reliable,  
 23 credible evidence. Neal Gibson talked about the  
 24 desirability of corroborating, verifying or confirming  
 25 information. The problem of exaggeration makes reliable

1 information particularly important. The evidence  
 2 suggests that exaggeration is an umbrella term for two  
 3 related problems; 1) innocent overstatement, and 2)  
 4 deliberate exaggeration.

5 Overstatement and exaggeration cause problems for  
 6 HM Coastguard. Not so much at the initial response  
 7 stage, because HM Coastguard took, at face value, that  
 8 the callers were in distress and HM Coastguard's policy  
 9 was to respond to every small boat in order to rescue  
 10 those on board.

11 Where the tendency of migrants to overstate and  
 12 exaggerate caused significant problems was at the stage  
 13 of attempting to reconcile and close incidents. This  
 14 brings me to my fifth point.

15 Co-ordinating the search and rescue of migrant small  
 16 boats inevitably requires coastguards to make difficult  
 17 judgment calls. If a fishing vessel broadcasts a Mayday  
 18 and GPS position in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean,  
 19 the SMC will have regard to what the IAMSAR manual says  
 20 about potential survivability when considering for how  
 21 long to continue active searching.

22 That model could not be directly applied to shifts  
 23 involving migrant small boat activity. Consider a call  
 24 from a boat saying it had 40 people on board and was  
 25 sinking. An element of judgment had to be used when

1 determining whether such a call was a repeat incident of  
 2 a previous call referring to 35 people. If a boat was  
 3 then found which had taken on water and had 33 people on  
 4 board, an element of judgment had to be used when  
 5 determining whether it was a new incident or a repeat.

6 In November 2021, if active searching had continued  
 7 for every incident opened until there was definitive  
 8 evidence that it was a repeat, all available assets  
 9 would have been exhausted very quickly. SMCs had to use  
 10 their had experience and judgment to reconcile incidents  
 11 and determine that everyone involved had been rescued,  
 12 to close incidents as repeats, whilst being willing to  
 13 re-open them if new information came to light. And when  
 14 reconciling incidents, they had to bear in mind their  
 15 awareness, based on personal and institutional  
 16 experience, that persons on board a single small boat  
 17 would make multiple calls and would often overstate or  
 18 exaggerate their predicament.

19 Point 6, the need to guard against hindsight.

20 6,971 migrants would cross to the UK  
 21 in November 2021. But HM Coastguard was not to know  
 22 that earlier that year or even earlier that month. As  
 23 it happened, more small boats were launched on the night  
 24 of the 23rd than on the night of the 24th November, but  
 25 HM Coastguard was not to know that either. The most

1 recent occasion when there had been an amber day  
 2 followed by a red day was 10 and 11 November, when  
 3 22 boats had crossed on the first night, followed by  
 4 a record 36 boats the following night.  
 5 HM Coastguard was not involved in the creation of  
 6 the Operation Deveran forecasts. Its role was to make  
 7 its plans in the light of them, not to attempt to  
 8 second-guess them. At no point did Mr Gibson know how  
 9 many small boats were on their way from France. At no  
 10 point did he know how many small boats were in the  
 11 vicinity of the Sandettie Lightvessel. At no point did  
 12 he know that any boat had capsized, or that there were  
 13 people in the water.  
 14 The fact that HM Coastguard had successfully rescued  
 15 over 35,000 migrants by 23 November 2021 does not mean  
 16 that rescue was guaranteed or that any fatality was  
 17 preventable.  
 18 To reach that conclusion would be to ignore all of  
 19 the evidence about the dangerous nature of small boat  
 20 crossings and the problems that they posed for search  
 21 and rescue services. To ignore the view of the Court of  
 22 Appeal, that migrant small boats pose a serious and  
 23 obvious risk of death, to ignore the very reason why  
 24 they are rightly categorised as in distress, you must  
 25 guard against thinking that someone in addition to the

1 smugglers must be responsible for this tragedy.  
 2 His Majesty's Coastguard should not be regarded as  
 3 the guarantor of the smugglers' dangerous, flawed and  
 4 criminal business model.  
 5 I turn to my final point, the importance of adopting  
 6 a realistic approach, rather than an excessively  
 7 forensic approach when making your judgments about the  
 8 judgments made by coastguard officers. You should  
 9 recognise and respect their expertise, you should also  
 10 recognise and respect the expertise and opinions of  
 11 the US Coastguard.  
 12 Coastguard officers are trained to make  
 13 contemporaneous entries in logs. Such entries give  
 14 an indication of their thinking at the time. Coastguard  
 15 officers are also trained to re-evaluate. The fact that  
 16 Mr Gibson had certain thoughts at 2 am, does not mean  
 17 that he held the same thoughts five hours later, nor  
 18 should it do. He was concerned by his call with Moomin,  
 19 which started at 01:48 am and he took appropriate  
 20 action.  
 21 A Mayday Relay was broadcast, Valiant and R163 were  
 22 tasked. Valiant was tasked to the Mayday Relay  
 23 co-ordinates. Once there, Commander Toy decided to head  
 24 towards the Sandettie Lightvessel. That was a sensible  
 25 decision, based on his maritime experience and the

1 direction of the tide. Turning to the search carried  
 2 out by R163, it illustrates an essential point: rescue  
 3 is not guaranteed.  
 4 The section in the MAIB report on effectiveness of  
 5 search, pattern and detection probabilities has been  
 6 misunderstood, or the MAIB has, itself, misunderstood  
 7 the IAMSAR manual.  
 8 Flying a search pattern with a track spacing of  
 9 0.0 nautical miles means maintaining a permanent hover  
 10 over a single point. But one would only do that if one  
 11 could be absolutely confident in one's choice of point  
 12 over which to hover.  
 13 Nobody with any expertise in search and rescue would  
 14 recommend that R163 should have flown to a set of  
 15 co-ordinates, hovered over them for the duration of its  
 16 mission and then returned to base. Judgment has to be  
 17 exercised. A balance has to be struck between the size  
 18 of the search area and the nature of the search within  
 19 it.  
 20 Using track spacing of 0.2 nautical miles, will  
 21 result in a much smaller search area than using track  
 22 spacing of 0.7 nautical miles. An expanding square  
 23 search with track spacing of 0.7 nautical miles was  
 24 entirely sensible, given that the search was for an  
 25 inflatable boat and approximately 40 persons,

1 irrespective of whether any or all of them were in the  
 2 water.  
 3 It was not a search for one person in the water.  
 4 Captain Trubshaw chose what he considered to be the  
 5 most suitable search pattern, based on his experience  
 6 and the conditions at the time. You should not  
 7 second-guess the correctness of his decision.  
 8 The Inquiry has the benefit of the drift  
 9 calculations and a report of the US coastguard. In the  
 10 light of them, you should find that Valiant and R163  
 11 searched in the right area. You should also find that  
 12 they were able to carry out effective searches. Valiant  
 13 spotted two small boats in the right area, without  
 14 assistance from R163, and R163 spotted several boats  
 15 including one outside the perimeter of its expanding  
 16 square search.  
 17 We will never know why it did not spot Charlie.  
 18 I would encourage you not to engage in  
 19 an excessively forensic analysis of which boat Mr Gibson  
 20 thought was Charlie. By the end of his shift, the  
 21 position was not the same as it had been several hours  
 22 earlier. Both Valiant and R163 had proved capable of  
 23 finding small boats. Several small boats had been found  
 24 and rescued. There had been no further calls link to  
 25 Charlie, and no relevant sightings.

1 Mr Gibson re-evaluated the position and formed the  
 2 view that Charlie had been found. He was right to  
 3 re-evaluate and it was reasonable for him, when doing  
 4 so, to conclude that Charlie had been found.  
 5 This is not a case of a search being suspended in  
 6 the belief people were still missing. Mr Gibson  
 7 finished his night shift believing that those on board  
 8 Charlie had been rescued. Neither he nor any of his  
 9 colleagues had any real doubt about that. Nor did  
 10 anyone who worked the day shift on 24 November.  
 11 The fact that that was not the case is a matter of  
 12 profound sadness for His Majesty's Coastguard. On  
 13 behalf of it and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency,  
 14 I offer our sympathies to all of those bereaved or  
 15 affected as a result of this tragic incident.  
 16 SIR ROSS CRANSTON: Well, thank you very much. I will now  
 17 call on Mr Prashant Popat, King's Counsel, representing  
 18 the Home Office.  
 19 MR POPAT: Sir.  
 20 Closing submissions by MR POPAT  
 21 MR POPAT: Sir, I begin by repeating the heartfelt  
 22 condolences of the Home Office and the Minister for  
 23 Border Security and Asylum, for each loss of life in  
 24 this terrible tragedy, and to the families of the  
 25 deceased. And for the traumatic impact of the incident

1 on the two survivors, Issa Mohamed Omar and  
 2 Mohammed Shekar Ahmed.  
 3 Sir, every one of us in this room and everyone  
 4 following the proceedings at this Inquiry will,  
 5 undoubtedly, have felt a profound sense of distress and  
 6 sorrow reading the incredibly upsetting transcripts of  
 7 calls from the migrant boat, as the tragic events of  
 8 that night unfolded, the deeply moving oral testimony of  
 9 Mr Omar and now, the heart wrenching and impactful  
 10 personal statements from the families of those affected  
 11 by this horrific incident.  
 12 Nothing that I say in the next 30 minutes or so is  
 13 intended in any way to minimise the tragic events that  
 14 occurred on 23 and 24 November 2021. Or to detract from  
 15 those personal accounts and statements.  
 16 Imagining the perilous journey that each of these  
 17 men, women and children took on that freezing November  
 18 night, boarding a criminally unsafe dinghy, with only  
 19 the most rudimentary and entirely insufficient seafaring  
 20 equipment provided to them, to cross a treacherous and,  
 21 indeed, one of the busiest expanses of water in the  
 22 world, naturally fills us all with dread and terror.  
 23 Sir, whilst this Inquiry has rightly focused on the  
 24 actions of the UK authorities in conducting the search  
 25 and rescue for those people, it must, we suggest, not be

1 forgotten that these vulnerable individuals were in that  
 2 boat on that night as victims of ruthless, criminal  
 3 people—smuggling gangs, who did not have any regard or  
 4 concern for the safety of the people they were sending  
 5 into perilous, dangerous conditions, with the odds of  
 6 survival stacked against them.  
 7 Insofar as those gangs had any belief that these  
 8 victims, and thousands more like them, would survive  
 9 this crossing, they were relying on the incredible  
 10 achievements of the UK authorities and agencies who had  
 11 searched for, successfully rescued, and saved the lives  
 12 of almost all of the thousands of people put in  
 13 a similar position before and after this tragic  
 14 incident.  
 15 Many of those people from the UK agencies, whether  
 16 Border Force Maritime crew, aircraft crew or volunteers  
 17 within the RNLI, were, and are frequently, called upon  
 18 to brave treacherous conditions in effecting rescues,  
 19 putting their own lives at risk to try and save  
 20 vulnerable people exploited by criminal gangs, who do  
 21 not care if people live or die, but who are motivated  
 22 solely by monetary greed.  
 23 We know that the responsibility these gangs have for  
 24 causing or contributing to the deaths of possibly  
 25 31 people that night in November 2021 has not been, and

1 cannot be, within the remit of this Inquiry. But  
 2 nonetheless, we observe that notwithstanding the  
 3 admirable and important work of the Inquiry in the  
 4 collection and consideration of extensive evidence, the  
 5 attendance of 22 witnesses at these public hearings, and  
 6 the substantial tasking writing a report, the Inquiry  
 7 has not covered the gross and appalling behaviour of the  
 8 criminal perpetrators principally responsible for these  
 9 deaths.  
 10 In making that observation, I wish to be clear that  
 11 we are not, in any sense, suggesting that the Inquiry  
 12 has not fulfilled its task or that the Inquiry's work is  
 13 not of substantial value. It has, and it is. This is  
 14 an important exercise and those unfortunate individuals  
 15 who lost their lives or loved ones on that night deserve  
 16 it and need it. And the Home Office fully agrees that  
 17 scrutiny must be applied to the actions of all relevant  
 18 UK agencies, particularly to see if lessons need to be  
 19 learnt or changes required to be implemented.  
 20 Holding an Inquiry such as this is an appropriate  
 21 course for any responsible civilised state to take. And  
 22 we, no doubt like everyone else in this room, are  
 23 grateful that you have taken on this substantial task.  
 24 Sir, we are permitted to provide a fairly detailed  
 25 written closing in the coming weeks and so this oral

1 statement will seek to do no more than highlight the  
 2 points that we expect to address in the written  
 3 document. I will begin with two matters of context,  
 4 which we contend are important for the Inquiry to have  
 5 in mind in reaching conclusions about the events leading  
 6 up to and causing this loss of life. And I will move  
 7 on, then, to consider what I hope is a fair overview of  
 8 the conduct of the Home Office and its employees in  
 9 connection with this particular incident.

10 That will be the substantial part of what I have to  
 11 say today.

12 I will conclude by addressing you briefly on actions  
 13 taken and the need for recommendations. Again, only  
 14 from a Home Office perspective.

15 So let me start with the two important points of  
 16 context that we invite the Inquiry to bear in mind. The  
 17 first point is the operational context. This is  
 18 dangerous work, in response to dangerous crossings.  
 19 His Majesty's Coastguard started by reminding this  
 20 Inquiry in its opening statement that the sea is  
 21 dangerous. As we sit here today, far removed in time  
 22 and place from the events in the Channel on 23 and  
 23 24 November 2021, it is a point worth repeating for two  
 24 reasons: first, so that all those here can remind  
 25 themselves, as I have already mentioned, that

1 individuals who are tasked by HM Coastguard to go to the  
 2 assistance of those attempting to cross the Channel in  
 3 small boats, do so at considerable risk to their own  
 4 personal safety.

5 It takes a great deal of courage to go into the  
 6 world's busiest shipping lane, often at night, sometimes  
 7 in extremely poor conditions, to rescue people who have  
 8 undertaken this perilous journey.

9 You heard from Commander Toy, who described in his  
 10 witness statement the mental and physical toll of this  
 11 work. As he explained, he and his team were, I quote:  
 12 working through the night, rescuing people, physically  
 13 pulling them out of the migrant boat, on some occasions,  
 14 the water, and in many cases, literally carrying them on  
 15 board the Valiant.

16 That description, no doubt, applies to the many  
 17 other Border Force crews who conducted the vast majority  
 18 of small boat rescues in the Channel in '21, and to the  
 19 RNLI volunteers who also delivered similar assistance.  
 20 It also applies to the aircrews.

21 Dominic Golden has explained how, on the night in  
 22 question, he was trying to convince Captain Trubshaw,  
 23 the pilot of Rescue 163, to, in his words, "Put his life  
 24 and his crew on the line to go and fly in what I would  
 25 consider extremely marginal conditions."

1 Mr Trubshaw and his crew did so and they, and the  
 2 crew of the Valiant, saved 98 people that night alone.

3 Second, in relation to the operational context  
 4 point, I refer to a passage in the opening statement of  
 5 Mr Phillips King's Counsel, when he referred to the  
 6 small boat in question as one that had, and I quote,  
 7 "A safe capacity of far fewer than the, at least  
 8 30 people who boarded it that fateful night."

9 To be clear, there is no safe capacity for a vessel  
 10 of the kind supplied by these organised criminal gangs.  
 11 Termed "a small boat" only for the sake of consistency,  
 12 they are fundamentally inadequate as seagoing vessels  
 13 and wholly unsafe for any journey, let alone crossing  
 14 the Channel. That applies regardless of the number of  
 15 people on board. All small boats are categorised by  
 16 HM Coastguard as being in distress, in part because of  
 17 this.

18 Using a small boat to attempt to cross the Channel  
 19 represents an inherent risk to the lives of all those on  
 20 board. And as we have heard, these boats are difficult  
 21 to locate and particularly in the dark, whether by naked  
 22 eye or with technology. In inclement weather  
 23 conditions, those challenges are made more difficult  
 24 still. These are not registered boats, they have no  
 25 manifest, they are trying to cross a maritime motorway

1 while largely invisible to the often extremely large  
 2 ships using it.

3 And that is why it is important to remember the sea  
 4 is very dangerous. Those who navigate it are always  
 5 taking a serious risk. Without experience or knowledge  
 6 of the rules of maritime navigation in an inherently  
 7 unsafe vessel without proper equipment and in the dark  
 8 and in poor weather, a risky journey becomes one fraught  
 9 with peril.

10 At the second important overarching point, for  
 11 context, is one which the Inquiry is, of course, aware  
 12 of. The Inquiry has not had access to material  
 13 generated by, or for the purposes of, the French  
 14 criminal investigation, into the actions of the French  
 15 coastguard and the French patrol vessel, the Flamant, on  
 16 the night in question.

17 Flamant did not respond to the Mayday issued by  
 18 HM Coastguard. The reasons for that decision remain  
 19 unknown. But as Mr Phillips said in his opening  
 20 statement: on the face of it, it appears that by failing  
 21 to respond, the Flamant would have breached its  
 22 obligation to render assistance to persons in distress  
 23 at sea under the international convention.

24 French coastguard was also aware that migrant  
 25 vessels had left France late on 23 November 2021.

1 Mr Omar's testimony was that a French coastguard vessel,  
 2 presumably not the Flamant, trailed his boat for between  
 3 one and one and a half hours from about 11 pm French  
 4 time.  
 5 However, as noted in the Inquiry's opening, just  
 6 before 1 o'clock, presumably UK time, in the morning,  
 7 Dover coastguard received the French tracker for the  
 8 first time that night received.  
 9 It was only on the basis of that information, that  
 10 coastguard tasked the Valiant to set sail. It's unclear  
 11 why it took so long for this information to be relayed  
 12 to the UK authorities.  
 13 So with those context—setting points in mind, let me  
 14 turn, please, to the role of the Home Office and what it  
 15 and its employees in Border Force Maritime did and did  
 16 not do on that particular night.  
 17 You have heard from five witnesses who are employed  
 18 by the Home Office. They have produced substantial  
 19 witness statements, have attended this Inquiry  
 20 voluntarily to try and assist it in discharging its  
 21 terms of reference, in relation to events that took  
 22 place several years ago. I have eight subheadings for  
 23 the points I am going to make in relation to this topic  
 24 and the Home Office's role and performance.  
 25 Some of these points will address some of the points

1 made by Ms Naik in closing, but not all. Those  
 2 observations deserve proper consideration and respect  
 3 and we will seek to address them, insofar as possible,  
 4 fully in the written closing.  
 5 Let me turn to the first sub heading and that is the  
 6 role of Home Office and Border Force Maritime. We  
 7 suggest that in considering the evidence you have heard,  
 8 it is important to bear in mind the roles of the  
 9 Home Office and Border Force Maritime. It is, as you  
 10 have heard, the Department of Transport and the Maritime  
 11 and Coastguard Agency who are responsible for civil  
 12 maritime search and rescue. It is HM Coastguard's  
 13 responsibility to co—ordinate those activities and to  
 14 task adequate resources for them.  
 15 The Home Office's role in November 2021 was to make  
 16 its assets available to the coastguard for tasking as  
 17 additional facilities. At the time of the incident, you  
 18 have heard that Border Force's involvement in search and  
 19 rescue was undertaken under the auspices of  
 20 Operation Deveran and crucially, the actions taken that  
 21 night were part of Operation Deveran. You have  
 22 repeatedly heard that the overarching aim of that  
 23 operation was to save lives.  
 24 That was the stated aim of Operation Deveran.  
 25 And that was the objective of the crew of the

1 Valiant and of all Border Force personnel working on  
 2 Operation Deveran on the night in question.  
 3 That aim was realised in respect of some 363 people  
 4 who were recorded by Border Force as crossing the  
 5 Channel by 11 pm on 24 November 2021. The Inquiry has  
 6 briefly heard about other operations, procedures and  
 7 strategies that were deployed before, after and during  
 8 the period of the incident. But it is very important to  
 9 be clear that all the work done by Home Office employees  
 10 that night, to search for and rescue these migrants, was  
 11 done pursuant to Operation Deveran.  
 12 It follows, and it bears repeating, that the primary  
 13 aim at all times was to save lives.  
 14 The next sub heading is Border Force law enforcement  
 15 function. It is right, of course, that Border Force had  
 16 another important function, that of law enforcement.  
 17 However, there has not been any evidence that the  
 18 discharge of that law enforcement function in any way  
 19 compromised or impeded the search and rescue mission on  
 20 the night. In opening, Mr Phillips King's Counsel  
 21 raised the legitimate question of whether the launch of  
 22 the Valiant was delayed while they waited for the  
 23 embedded law enforcement officer to embark the vessel.  
 24 If that had happened, it could, I suppose, have  
 25 possibly been a way in which the law enforcement

1 function adversely impacted the search and rescue  
 2 function that night. However, the clear evidence of  
 3 Commander Toy was that there was no delay to the  
 4 departure of the Valiant by reason of the enforcement  
 5 officer embarking. He was on the cutter within the  
 6 30 minutes it took to get the Valiant ready to set off.  
 7 The next sub heading is available assets. Also in  
 8 opening, Mr Phillips raised the question of whether  
 9 a sufficient number of surface assets were available to  
 10 be deployed on the night of 23 November, considering the  
 11 substantial number of migrants expected to be crossing  
 12 that night. I hope it is now clear that there certainly  
 13 were a sufficient number of assets available to be  
 14 deployed, if requested. You have seen that the plan for  
 15 that night had the Valiant as the primary responder and  
 16 CPV Hunter on standby and able to be deployed in  
 17 addition to the Valiant if requested.  
 18 The CTV Hurricane was also ready to be deployed from  
 19 the morning of 24 November, during the expected period  
 20 of operation. Other surface and drone assets were also  
 21 identified in the plan as available to be deployed  
 22 throughout 24 November. In short, this tragedy did not  
 23 arise because there were insufficient surface assets  
 24 available, or because the assets that were available  
 25 were unable to effect the necessary rescues. There is

1 no suggestion that had Valiant or another vessel  
 2 encountered the small boat in question, that it would  
 3 have been unable to rescue them.  
 4 The next sub heading is causation. And before  
 5 proceeding to the remaining points in this section of my  
 6 closing, I hope it is helpful to make clear the  
 7 Home Office's position on causation. Sir, the people on  
 8 that small boat tragically died because the boat that  
 9 the criminals sent them out in failed. That was the  
 10 primary cause of the incident itself. The search and  
 11 rescue mission did not succeed because of multiple  
 12 contributing factors, including bad weather grounding  
 13 aircraft, delayed communication from France, failure of  
 14 nearby French vessels to respond to the Mayday Relay,  
 15 and HM Coastguard's understandable, but mistaken, belief  
 16 that the migrant boat had it had classified as Charlie  
 17 had been rescued. Had these, and no doubt many other,  
 18 events not happened, the prospects of success of the  
 19 search and rescue mission may have been improved.  
 20 None, on their own, however, could have guaranteed  
 21 success. However, Home Office staff did not do, or not  
 22 do, anything that they were responsible for which could  
 23 fairly be said to have contributed to the search and  
 24 rescue mission not succeeding.  
 25 Let me expand on that a little by reference to some

1 of the events that occurred that night, starting with  
 2 the decisions to task the Valiant and the determination  
 3 that Charlie had been apprehended. And that is the next  
 4 subheading.  
 5 We have heard, from witness after witness, that the  
 6 decision to request surface assets, from Border Force or  
 7 RNLI, to search for small boats is HM Coastguard's  
 8 decision. On that night, as with previous nights,  
 9 coastguard knew which vessels Border Force had available  
 10 and they knew that the Valiant was the primary  
 11 responder. The Border Force staff based at the Maritime  
 12 Command Centre could not unilaterally task assets for  
 13 this purpose. Not only do they not have the statutory  
 14 responsibility or authority to do so, on a practical  
 15 level, they did not have the necessary information to do  
 16 so. Information, such as oversight of non-Border Force  
 17 assets, eg RNLI lifeboats, the coastguard's VISION  
 18 system. They did not hear the very high frequency radio  
 19 Mayday or distress calls, nor the calls passed via  
 20 emergency services. And they had not received the  
 21 training that maritime operations officers or search and  
 22 rescue mission co-ordinators receive to enable them to  
 23 prosum and analyse the information.  
 24 The role of the Border Force MCC staff in relation  
 25 to small boat search and rescue was limited to ensuring

1 that once the assistance of a Border Force asset was  
 2 requested by coastguard, that vessel was tasked as soon  
 3 as it was reasonable to do so. And that they did. As  
 4 you know, sir, the call from coastguard effectively  
 5 asking for Valiant to be tasked was received at 01:24  
 6 and within approximately five minutes of that call,  
 7 Valiant had been tasked.  
 8 As for the responsibility for reconciling small  
 9 boats encountered with the coastguard's incident names,  
 10 again, we have heard from both Border Force and the  
 11 coastguard that responsibility for that task also  
 12 rested, at all times, with coastguard. Border Force did  
 13 not have the information to make that judgment. Again,  
 14 it had not received or managed the information regarding  
 15 each incident, the communications with the French  
 16 authorities, or the calls from the boats themselves.  
 17 Nor did they have the responsibility or authority to  
 18 reach any such conclusion.  
 19 Giving or even sharing responsibility for that  
 20 decision would be unsafe and wholly wrong. It would  
 21 have risked misidentification. It is simply not for the  
 22 Border Force officers, either at sea or in the MCC, to  
 23 make the determination to link Incident Charlie with the  
 24 boats embarked by Valiant or to determine to conclude  
 25 the search and rescue response.

1 And for the avoidance of doubt, although it was  
 2 never suggested, as such, to Ms Whitehouse or  
 3 Mr Willows, that they did do so, we make it very clear  
 4 that they did not mark coastguard's tracker entry for  
 5 migrant boat Charlie as "closed" and they did not  
 6 instruct the Valiant on what to do next. Nor did they,  
 7 in any way, make the decision to stop the search and  
 8 rescue missions on the 24th.  
 9 Let me turn, next, to the Valiant's work and  
 10 performance that night. She was expected to be ready to  
 11 depart within 30 minutes of the tasking and she was.  
 12 In his opening, Mr Phillips mentioned that she took  
 13 over 20 minutes to exit Dover. That is correct. As  
 14 Commander Toy explained, that is also perfectly  
 15 reasonable and to be expected. That was a very busy  
 16 harbour, one of the busiest ports in the world and the  
 17 space within that harbour was controlled, with  
 18 considerable restrictions on the movement of traffic.  
 19 Once a Border Force vessel, in this case Valiant,  
 20 was tasked and on its way, it was, again, as you have  
 21 heard, under the direction of the coastguard. Insofar  
 22 as Valiant's speed and course to reach the co-ordinators  
 23 first given is concerned, there was no challenge to  
 24 Commander Toy's explanation that he proceeded at safe  
 25 speed. That speed was necessarily slowed by the need to

1 avoid numerous other vessels in its path and the need to  
2 approach the intended location sufficiently slowly to  
3 enable migrant boats to be identified and to avoid  
4 a collision with them.

5 Overall, therefore, Valiant was tasked as soon as  
6 required, she was ready to depart as soon as was  
7 practicable and under the expert direction of  
8 Commander Toy, she proceeded as instructed. And that  
9 night, like many others, the crew of that cutter  
10 successfully rescued nearly 100 people.

11 So, the next sub heading under this general topic of  
12 Border Force actions is the call at 03:11. That relates  
13 to the call between Mr Willows and coastguard.  
14 Mr Willows, on that call, was told that the Mayday Relay  
15 was issued because the migrant boat was full of water  
16 and in an attempt to get the nearby French vessel to  
17 attend to it. There was also discussion of the  
18 possibility of two or three craft near the Sandettie,  
19 and an estimate of a nearby French vessel that there  
20 could potential be 110 people in small boats in that  
21 location.

22 In questioning, it appeared to be suggested to  
23 Mr Willows and, indeed to Ms Whitehouse, in relation to  
24 the same call, that receiving that information could  
25 have prompted Border Force MCC to task or suggest

1 tasking another Border Force vessel. If that was the  
2 suggestion, with respect, it was plainly wrong.

3 As I have already said, it was not for Border Force  
4 MCC to make any such decision. That was the decision  
5 entirely for the coastguard. And the information that  
6 was received on that call all came from the coastguard,  
7 but the coastguard was not requesting Border Force to  
8 task another vessel. And whilst that was entirely  
9 a decision for Her Majesty's Coastguard, it may, sir,  
10 seem to you like an understandable decision, in relation  
11 at least, to Home Office surface assets.

12 Coastguard had no certainty as to numbers. They  
13 knew that even if there were 110 people in distress,  
14 that number could be embarked on to the Valiant if  
15 absolutely necessary and crucially, tasking another  
16 Border Force vessel to leave Dover at 03:11 am would not  
17 have led to that vessel getting to the Mayday location  
18 any more quickly than the Valiant.

19 So the final sub heading in this section relates to  
20 trackers and record keeping. I have not taken up my  
21 limited time for this closing to address the questioning  
22 of Border Force employees about recording matters in  
23 trackers or in their daybooks. We will do so in the  
24 written submissions.

25 But for now, I just note that it's clear that any

1 criticisms that might be levelled against any  
2 Home Office employee about record keeping — and we will  
3 have something to say about that in the written  
4 submissions — do not identify any matter which could  
5 properly be said to have caused or contributed to  
6 deaths.

7 So, sir, the overall position, we submit, is that it  
8 is clear on the evidence that nothing that the  
9 Home Office or its employees did, or did not do, caused  
10 or contributed to this tragedy. The Home Office is  
11 rightly proud of the heroic work of all of its  
12 Border Force Maritime staff on that night and more  
13 generally, in the search and rescue of small boats in  
14 this position.

15 They have worked tirelessly in this endeavour and  
16 through their efforts with other agencies involved, as  
17 Mr Whitton explained, they have saved in the region of  
18 130,000 lives.

19 And in the month of November 2021, let me be clear,  
20 they faced an unprecedented and unforeseeable challenge  
21 but they rose to it. As Mr O'Mahoney explained, never  
22 been or since have 209 small boats attempted to cross  
23 the Channel during a single month. Still, and even with  
24 the Covid pandemic raging, crew after crew, staff after  
25 staff, turned up to do all that they could to save the

1 lives of these exploited and vulnerable people.

2 So let me turn briefly, and finally, to the issue of  
3 recommendations. The Home Office did not take any new  
4 steps as a direct result of this tragic incident that  
5 the Inquiry is investigating because, for example,  
6 in November 2021, considerable work was already underway  
7 to improve, most importantly, the intelligence,  
8 surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities available  
9 to detect small boat activity in the Channel. Those  
10 steps were being taken as quickly as reasonably possibly  
11 in challenging circumstances.

12 I will set out now just a very few of the measures  
13 that have been undertaken since the incident, noting  
14 though, that the position continues to evolve. In terms  
15 of co-operation amongst stakeholders, co-location of  
16 relevant search and rescue entities in the joint control  
17 room was in place in November '21. That co-operation  
18 has advanced further, such that Border Force Maritime  
19 directorate effectively now has a 24/7 presence in the  
20 JCR.

21 Perhaps most importantly, intelligence surveillance  
22 and reconnaissance capabilities have evolved  
23 significantly since November '21. This means the  
24 Home Office are able to locate the vast majority of  
25 small boats in the UK search and rescue region in the

1 Dover Straits and that has enabled the elimination of  
 2 uncontrolled beach landings. No small boat has landed  
 3 in the UK undetected since December 2022 and that has  
 4 considerably helped to ensure safety of those in these  
 5 boats.  
 6 Aerial assets are now deployed for our SAR purposes,  
 7 which are significantly more resilient than those  
 8 available in November '21. And landside facilities for  
 9 the reception of migrants rescued from small boats have  
 10 also been improved, with a permanent purpose—built  
 11 facility constructed at the Western Jetfoil. And  
 12 finally, sir, in this regard, you have heard that by the  
 13 time of the department the Home Office was already  
 14 looking to expand its fleet of surface assets, with  
 15 a crew transfer vessel in use by November '21 and the  
 16 Home Office has now procured five CTVs, three RHIBs and  
 17 other assets for use in the search and rescue  
 18 operations.  
 19 The Home Office was invited by you, sir, to identify  
 20 any further changes or improvements to feed into  
 21 recommendations the Inquiry might make. However, the  
 22 Home Office is aware that it is in position to make  
 23 further changes, it has made further changes in this  
 24 context, and therefore, it does not and cannot, identify  
 25 any particular recommendations for its own activities.

1 I make it very clear that that is not an arrogant  
 2 position, as suggested earlier today. It is the best  
 3 assessment of those involved in this process. The  
 4 Home Office is confident that in light of the work that  
 5 commenced before the 23 November, which has continued  
 6 subsequently, the chances of a similar incident  
 7 reoccurring are now as low as they reasonably could be.  
 8 But of course, sir, if you conclude otherwise, the  
 9 Home Office will carefully consider any recommendations  
 10 proposed.  
 11 Sir, that concludes all I have to say today.  
 12 I thank you for the opportunity to deliver this closing.  
 13 And please allow me to say again that the Home Office  
 14 expresses its gratitude to you and the whole Inquiry  
 15 team for taking on this task and performing it so  
 16 diligently and conscientiously. We also say thank you  
 17 to all the witnesses who have attended to give evidence  
 18 and to all the legal representatives of the full  
 19 participants who have worked so hard and co-operatively  
 20 to provide information and materials to this Inquiry.  
 21 And finally, sir, I remember again the lost souls  
 22 who must be at the heart of this process, and again,  
 23 convey to their loved ones our sincere condolences and  
 24 the hope that this Inquiry will have provided them with  
 25 some answers to help ease their grief.

1 Thank you, sir.  
 2 SIR ROSS CRANSTON: Well, thank you. David Blundell,  
 3 King's Counsel, appears for Department for Transport.  
 4 Closing submissions by MR BLUNDELL  
 5 MR BLUNDELL: Sir, thank you. As you know, I represent  
 6 Department for Transport, with Myles Grandison,  
 7 Harriet Wakeman and Claudia Hyde. Over the past  
 8 four weeks, the Inquiry has heard and received detailed  
 9 oral and written evidence from a large number of  
 10 witnesses which the department has also carefully  
 11 listened to and read. The department wishes, in  
 12 particular, to recognise publicly the courage of  
 13 Mr Issa Mohamed Omar and all of the bereaved families  
 14 for their participation in the Inquiry. Their evidence  
 15 was powerful and harrowing.  
 16 They have spoken and their voices have been heard.  
 17 Their experiences have, quite rightly, been at the heart  
 18 of the Inquiry's work and it is their evidence which has  
 19 set the context for everything the Inquiry has done.  
 20 At the conclusion of these public hearings, the  
 21 department wishes to repeat its deepest sympathy to the  
 22 bereaved, to the survivors, and to all others who have  
 23 been affected by the events that took place on  
 24 24 November 2021.  
 25 The department also wishes to thank the Inquiry for

1 its extensive work over the past year and to recognise  
 2 the very real importance of the Inquiry and the public  
 3 interest in seeking to understand both what happened on  
 4 24 November 2021 and what can be learned from it.  
 5 The department has sought to co-operate fully with  
 6 all requests by the Inquiry and will continue to do so  
 7 as the Inquiry prepares to conclude its investigation.  
 8 The department is grateful to the Inquiry for  
 9 providing it with the opportunity to give this oral  
 10 closing statement and, in addition, to submit a written  
 11 closing statement in due course. In the course of this  
 12 statement, I will provide what we hope and intend to be  
 13 a helpful overview of a number of topics which have  
 14 emerged from the evidence and which we consider to be  
 15 relevant to the department's role. We will provide  
 16 a more detailed analysis of the evidence later in the  
 17 department's written closing statement.  
 18 So with that introduction, the areas I intend to  
 19 cover in this closing statement by way of summary, are  
 20 as follows, and there are four of them: first of all,  
 21 the department's role and responsibilities in relation  
 22 to small boats; secondly, the department's awareness of  
 23 and response to the increase in small boat crossings;  
 24 thirdly, the department's relationship with and  
 25 oversight of the Maritime Coastguard Agency, MCA; and

1 fourthly, changes to small boat arrangements  
 2 since November 2021.  
 3 Sir, can I begin with the first of those topics, the  
 4 department's role and responsibilities in relation to  
 5 small boats. Now, as outlined in Mr Driver's evidence,  
 6 the department's core role in response to small boat  
 7 crossings was in its capacity as the parent department  
 8 to the MCA. This primarily manifested itself in two  
 9 ways; first, and most importantly, it oversaw the  
 10 delivery and maintenance of an adequate and effective  
 11 civil maritime and aeronautical search and rescue, SAR,  
 12 service through the MCA, which is, of course,  
 13 an executive agency of the department and by extension,  
 14 His Majesty's Coastguard.  
 15 It is through HM Coastguard that the Secretary of  
 16 State discharges her statutory responsibility to  
 17 initiate and co-ordinate the operational SAR response  
 18 within the UK search and rescue region. As the Inquiry  
 19 has seen, while the department does not, and did not,  
 20 exercise any operational role in relation to small boats  
 21 itself, it retains responsibility for the framework  
 22 within which the MCA operates. And oversees and assures  
 23 its performance, through a variety of formal and  
 24 informal mechanisms.  
 25 As such, throughout the time period of interest to

1 the Inquiry, the department undertook departmental  
 2 sponsorship and governance of the MCA, working closely  
 3 and continuously with the MCA to assure itself that  
 4 an adequate and effective SAR service was in place.  
 5 The steps that the department took in this regard  
 6 will be considered in more detail in turn.  
 7 Secondly, and as an extension of its MCA sponsorship  
 8 duties, the department worked hard to represent  
 9 HM Coastguard's equities and interests in  
 10 cross-Governmental discussions and above all, the  
 11 paramount importance of SOLAS and SAR operations. The  
 12 Inquiry has seen that, following the rapid rise in small  
 13 boat crossings in 2018, work was preceding at pace  
 14 across His Majesty's Government to understand the  
 15 complex causes of, and develop a response to, small boat  
 16 crossings in the Dover Strait.  
 17 Much of this work was done under the auspices of the  
 18 Clandestine Channel Threat Command, as outlined in the  
 19 evidence of Mr O'Mahoney.  
 20 As outlined by Mr Driver, in all cross-Government  
 21 decision-making and policy forums, the department was  
 22 concerned to support the work being led by Home Office  
 23 colleagues on border security and illegal migration,  
 24 while ensuring that the response to small boats did not  
 25 in any way impinge upon the overriding objective of

1 saving lives at sea.  
 2 So, I go next to the second point I wanted to cover,  
 3 the department's awareness of, and response to, the  
 4 increase in small boat crossings. Again, as the Inquiry  
 5 has heard, from autumn 2018 onwards, the number of  
 6 people arriving by small boats across the English  
 7 Channel started to rise very substantially and the  
 8 rising numbers accelerated significantly in 2021, in  
 9 particular. From 2020, to 2021, the number of people  
 10 crossing the Channel in small boats increased by more  
 11 than 230%.  
 12 However, as was recognised by many of the witnesses  
 13 the Inquiry has heard from, even against that backdrop  
 14 of rapidly rising numbers, November 2021 was entirely  
 15 unprecedented for the season with a record number of  
 16 6,971 people crossing.  
 17 As counsel to the Inquiry recognised, in his  
 18 questioning of Mr Leat, November 2021 was a very, very  
 19 heavy month indeed. As Mr Leat explained, although the  
 20 Home Office had been able to predict crossing numbers  
 21 with very good accuracy within a few percent, November  
 22 very much bucked that trend and the increase was huge.  
 23 Mr O'Mahoney who, in his role as Clandestine Channel  
 24 Threat Commander, led on modelling projections of small  
 25 boat crossings for the Government, explained that the

1 increase was neither foreseen nor foreseeable.  
 2 In his statement, he makes clear that it is now  
 3 believed that a new batch of boats and engines entered  
 4 the supply chain at that time, causing a step change in  
 5 the logistical ability of the facilitators, which  
 6 allowed a much greater number of crossings to be mounted  
 7 in a short period of time. This rapid and significant  
 8 increase presented a unique challenge for Government.  
 9 The department and the MCA regularly discussed the  
 10 adequacy of HM Coastguard's response capability, in  
 11 light of the increasing numbers, particularly from  
 12 summer 2021 onwards, when the projections predicted  
 13 a steep increase in 2022.  
 14 The risk of HM Coastguard becoming overwhelmed due  
 15 to the levels of crossings was then formally added to  
 16 the MCA's corporate risk register in November 2021. In  
 17 the same month, and prior to the incident, the  
 18 department's understanding based on the frequent  
 19 communication it had at all levels with the MCA and the  
 20 assurances it had received was that although the high  
 21 numbers of crossings were placing a considerable strain  
 22 on the response capability and difficulties might arise  
 23 if the high levels of crossings were to continue in the  
 24 longer term, HM Coastguard was at that time able to meet  
 25 its SAR responsibilities.

1 In light of the recognition that maritime assets  
 2 were under pressure, and the fact that those pressures  
 3 were expected to increase with the high numbers of  
 4 crossings forecast for 2022, in October 2021, work on  
 5 Project CAESAR commenced.  
 6 Project CAESAR involved a 35 million-pound  
 7 investment over a three-year period, to enable the  
 8 procurement of unmanned aerial vehicles, to increase  
 9 aerial surveillance and situational awareness over the  
 10 Channel.  
 11 It was formally endorsed by the department and  
 12 HM Treasury in February 2022 and mobilised  
 13 in March 2022. As Mr O'Mahoney explained, the  
 14 game-changer is surveillance. In a submission dated  
 15 26 November 2021, ministers were informed that the high  
 16 numbers of small boats crossing the Channel was expected  
 17 to continue and that if they did, that would place  
 18 pressure on HM Coastguard operational staff,  
 19 Border Force, and RNLI maritime surface assets.  
 20 It also noted that work was underway to address this  
 21 challenge. Shortly thereafter, a further ministerial  
 22 submission, dated 14 December 2021, was jointly prepared  
 23 by the department and HM Coastguard. This asked  
 24 ministers to agree to a number of proposals, including  
 25 that HM Coastguard should explore increasing maritime

1 surface SAR assets and developing enhanced situational  
 2 capabilities.  
 3 This was a reference, of course, to the ongoing work  
 4 of Project CAESAR and other potential technological  
 5 developments, to enhance surveillance and the SAR  
 6 response.  
 7 That brings me, sir, to the third of my four topics,  
 8 that is the department's relationship with, and  
 9 oversight of, the MCA. As I have explained, the  
 10 department's role in relation to the issue of small  
 11 boats is defined through its work with the MCA and by  
 12 extension, HM Coastguard. It is important to stress  
 13 that the MCA is an operationally independent executive  
 14 agency, led by senior civil servants and entrusted by  
 15 the Secretary of State to ensure that the  
 16 United Kingdom's international maritime SAR obligations  
 17 are fulfilled.  
 18 Although the department provides appropriate support  
 19 to, and oversight of, the MCA, it is mindful of the  
 20 MCA's unrivalled operational experience and expertise.  
 21 The Inquiry has heard evidence regarding the suite of  
 22 formal and informal mechanisms that have been  
 23 implemented to provide oversight and assurance of the  
 24 MCA and its response to small boats.  
 25 This includes, firstly, the MCA sponsorship board,

1 chaired by the agency owner, which ensures sufficient  
 2 oversight of the MCA strategic direction, as well as the  
 3 risks it is managing, whilst also providing a senior  
 4 forum in which the MCA can raise its concerns.  
 5 Secondly, since July 2021, the weekly small boats  
 6 huddles, attended by members of the department,  
 7 colleagues at HM Coastguard and DFT legal advisers, have  
 8 provided a focused and regular informal oversight  
 9 mechanism. Although the original purpose of these  
 10 meetings was to provide additional support to  
 11 HM Coastguard, as well as co-ordinating responses to  
 12 policies introduced by other Government departments, the  
 13 meetings had the added advantage of providing the  
 14 department with greater visibility of HMCG small boat  
 15 operations, thereby ensuring that the department was  
 16 aware of emerging issues.  
 17 Thirdly, the department retains responsibility for  
 18 the framework within which the MCA operates and of which  
 19 Her Majesty's Coastguard — His Majesty's Coastguard  
 20 forms part. The framework confirms that key performance  
 21 indicators will be used and agreed with the department's  
 22 ministers. As Mr Driver explained in his evidence, KPIs  
 23 are a system used across Government. There are three  
 24 KPIs specifically relating to SAR, but these KPIs are  
 25 just one tool that the department uses to judge the

1 adequacy of the SAR provision of HM Coastguard.  
 2 Fourthly, tailored reviews of the MCA are also used  
 3 by the department to oversee the MCA. Whilst the most  
 4 recent review did not provide a full assessment of the  
 5 effectiveness and efficiency of the MCA, it was still  
 6 able to provide valuable recommendations, some of which,  
 7 despite the disclaimer, clearly illustrate the MCA's  
 8 effectiveness.  
 9 Fifthly, a further level of oversight is provided by  
 10 the IMO member state audit scheme. Such audits became  
 11 mandatory in January 2016. Its most recent review,  
 12 conducted over eight days in October 2021, was  
 13 undertaken by a four-person team drawn from the  
 14 United States of America, Thailand and the IMO  
 15 secretariate. Although the audit was conducted  
 16 remotely, it was undertaken using, fully, the principles  
 17 established under the framework and procedures for the  
 18 IMO member state audit scheme and the III code.  
 19 Sixthly, oversight is also provided by the Marine  
 20 Accident Investigation Branch, MAIB, which has  
 21 a statutory responsibility for undertaking  
 22 investigations to determine the causes of accidents at  
 23 sea.  
 24 Seventhly, the department takes additional assurance  
 25 from the MCA's commitment to continuous improvement of

1 its SAR provision, illustrated by its thorough internal  
2 reviews in conjunction with its willingness to  
3 commission peer reviews conducted by other subject  
4 matter experts, such as the US Coastguard.

5 In terms of support provided to the MCA by the  
6 department, this includes: first of all, ensuring that  
7 the MCA's role and obligations are fully understood by  
8 other Government departments; secondly, supporting the  
9 escalation of concerns to ministers; and thirdly,  
10 supporting the procurement of additional SAR assets.

11 In relation to the first of those matters, the  
12 department ensured that policies that had been proposed  
13 by other Government departments did not impact on the  
14 UK's obligations to safeguard lives at sea. Following  
15 the announcement of both Operation Sommen and  
16 Operation Isotrope, the department ensured that  
17 HM Coastguard's responsibilities for SAR were both  
18 understood by the Ministry of Defence and reflected in  
19 the terms of the operations.

20 Secondly, following the record number of crossings  
21 on 11 November 2021, and the projections for numbers  
22 in 2022, the department co-authored the submission to  
23 DfT ministers, submissions dated 26 November and  
24 14 December, to which I have already referred.

25 And, thirdly, and allied to this last point, the

1 department supported the MCA in its procurement of  
2 various SAR assets. Most notably, of course,  
3 Project CAESAR, to which, again, I have already  
4 referred. The department supported the funding, by the  
5 MCA, of a modification to the contract with  
6 Bristow Helicopters, thereby increasing their coverage  
7 to meet the rise in demand.

8 Furthermore, where concerns were raised but did not  
9 materialise, as to the possibility of Border Force  
10 withdrawing its assets from SAR operations, the  
11 department assisted with the strategic outline business  
12 case for the purpose of seeking approval in principle,  
13 to develop a requirement and commercial framework to  
14 procure surface rescue assets in the English Channel.

15 Sir, I will turn finally, if I may, to my fourth  
16 topic, which is changes to sub arrangements  
17 since November 2021. Now in addition to the  
18 developments I have already outlined, there have been  
19 further significant changes and improvements in Channel  
20 operations since November 2021.

21 For instance, through Operation Isotrope, the  
22 department worked with the MCA, the MoD, and Home Office  
23 colleagues to deliver improvements in assets and  
24 capabilities to support SAR operations. As the Inquiry  
25 has heard, Operation Isotrope, which entered into effect

1 in April 2022, was a directive from the Prime Minister  
2 to the MoD to assume primacy over all aspects of the  
3 Government's operational response to illegal migration  
4 by small boats.

5 The Inquiry has heard evidence that prior to the  
6 Prime Minister's directive, work was proceeding at pace  
7 to respond to Home Office predictions that small boat  
8 crossing numbers would rise further in 2022.

9 As I mentioned earlier, ministers were asked in  
10 a submission on 14 December 2021, to agree that  
11 HM Coastguard should explore increasing additional  
12 maritime surface SAR assets. It was under the auspices  
13 of Operation Isotrope that this increase was delivered.

14 The Inquiry has seen that Operation Isotrope  
15 provided a significant uplift in infrastructure and  
16 capabilities available to respond to small boat  
17 crossings. This included the provision of five crew  
18 transfer vessels, and a further three fast  
19 reconnaissance vessels. It also further strengthened  
20 the inter-agency co-operation arrangements in the  
21 Channel, such as the joint control room, arrangements  
22 which are still in place today.

23 As outlined in the witness statement of  
24 Jennifer Armstrong, the result was tangible improvements  
25 that took place against a particularly challenging

1 backdrop. Thus, as a result of the uplifts delivered  
2 during Operation Isotrope, Project CAESAR and the  
3 modification to HM Coastguard's contract with  
4 Bristow Helicopters, the SAR asset ecosystem in the  
5 Channel today is very different from that in place  
6 in November 2021.

7 One of the issues that the Inquiry has explored  
8 during the hearings is whether, following the changes  
9 that took place during Operation Isotrope, there would  
10 be any benefit to HM Coastguard procuring its own  
11 surface assets for search and rescue taskings. Although  
12 a draft outline business case was prepared to this  
13 effect after Operation Isotrope came to an end, as  
14 Mr Driver explained, that proposal was not ultimately  
15 taken forward following Border Force's commitment to  
16 continue the contract.

17 As Mr Driver told the Inquiry, there would be some  
18 benefits to HM Coastguard procuring its own surface  
19 assets because it would be an opportunity to reposition  
20 and refine the search and rescue provision. However, it  
21 would also potentially lead to inefficient duplication  
22 in the number of vessels used, given that Border Force  
23 would still need its own vessels in the Channel given  
24 ongoing border security concerns, even if it were not  
25 carrying out SAR taskings. Whether assets are procured

1 by HM Coastguard or Border Force, the most important  
 2 consideration is that the current level of SAR assets in  
 3 the Channel is maintained. As Mr Driver explained in  
 4 his evidence, the most important thing being there is no  
 5 interruption of that contract.  
 6 HM Coastguard has continued to learn lessons and  
 7 drive improvements in its Channel operations since the  
 8 incident, which the department has, in its role as  
 9 parent department of the MCA, overseen.  
 10 Since the period of time of interest to the Inquiry,  
 11 the department is aware that HM Coastguard has continued  
 12 to develop its capability, through including increases  
 13 to staffing numbers, first of all; secondly, the  
 14 development of further training, standard operating  
 15 procedures and specialist technology; thirdly, the  
 16 improvement of its working relationship and liaison  
 17 systems with the French authorities; fourthly, the  
 18 implementation of the recommendations of the Marine  
 19 Accident Investigation Branch's report into the  
 20 incident; and fifthly, the implementation of many of the  
 21 recommendations of the US Coastguard following its peer  
 22 review of HM Coastguard's response to the incident.  
 23 As an organisation, the department continuously  
 24 seeks to identify areas of improvement and looks forward  
 25 to considering this Inquiry's recommendations with

105

1 interest in due course.  
 2 Sir, in conclusion, the events of 24 November 2021  
 3 were acutely significant and tragic. The evidence given  
 4 by Mr Mohamed Omar about what happened that night in the  
 5 Channel was harrowing. And the testimony of all those  
 6 whose loved ones died in this incident, and which the  
 7 Inquiry has heard this week, was powerful and uniquely  
 8 poignant.  
 9 No one who has heard it will ever forget it. At the  
 10 close of these hearings, the department wishes to offer  
 11 its deepest and sincere condolences to the bereaved, to  
 12 the survivors, and to all others who have been affected  
 13 by what happened.  
 14 It is of the utmost importance that any lessons that  
 15 can be learned are now identified, to ensure that  
 16 history does not repeat itself. The department  
 17 continues to stand ready to provide the Inquiry with all  
 18 and any assistance it may require as it prepares to  
 19 conclude its investigation.  
 20 Sir, thank you.  
 21 SIR ROSS CRANSTON: Well, thank you. That brings us to the  
 22 end of these full hearings. I want to thank everyone  
 23 who has taken part in them. I want to thank those who  
 24 have given evidence, in particular, as Mr Blundell has  
 25 mentioned, Omar Issa, and of course, also the family

106

1 members who have given evidence over the last day and  
 2 a half.  
 3 I should also thank the counsellors who have been in  
 4 attendance, the translators and interpreters, the Opus  
 5 team, who have been responsible for the cameras and the  
 6 streaming, as well the ushers and, of course, the staff  
 7 at the International Dispute Resolution Centre.  
 8 My team and I now have to review all the evidence  
 9 that we have received, together with the other material.  
 10 We, of course, have already started to analyse that, but  
 11 I need to produce a report. I can't give an estimate  
 12 today as to when it will be produced. However, over the  
 13 last 15 months, my team and I have worked at pace and  
 14 with commitment, and we will continue to do so.  
 15 So, thank you very much.  
 16 (2.57 pm)

(The Inquiry concluded)

107

1 I N D E X

2

3 Statement of MR ANDARGACHEW SHIFERAW .....1  
 read (in Amharic)

4 Statement of MRS EMEBET KEFYALEW read .....4  
 (in Amharic)

5 Statement of MR FEREDE YESHIWENDIM NADEW .....10  
 read (in Amharic)

6 Statement of .....13  
 MRS FREWEYNI HAYIEMARIAM GITET

7 read (in Amharic)

8 Statement of MR MORRIS SLESHI TEWELDE .....16  
 read (in Amharic)

9 Statement of MR HENOK HAILU GEBREHIWOT .....19  
 read (in Amharic)

10 Statement of .....22  
 MR TESFAHUN HAILU GEBREHIWOT

11 Statement of MR HAILU GEBREHIWOT read .....26  
 (in Amharic)

12 Closing submissions by MS NAIK .....31  
 Closing submissions by MR MAXWELL—SCOTT .....53

13 Closing submissions by MR POPAT .....69  
 Closing submissions by MR BLUNDELL .....91

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

A	affected (11)	amongst (1)	assurance (3)	bears (2)	55:1,14,17 56:23,25 57:2	64:1,2 66:18 69:17 83:4,6
ababa (18) 2:2,10,23 3:24	32:24 43:21 53:19 55:9	amount (2) 41:13,21	100:24	beautiful (4) 9:21 10:2 22:25	61:23 62:7 63:16 64:23	85:12,13,14,24 86:6
4:25 5:3,8 8:9 11:14 13:23	69:15 70:10 91:23 106:12	analyse (3) 45:9 82:23	assurances (1) 96:20	29:18	65:3,4,9,10,22	called (7) 9:15 11:25 17:24
17:4,11 20:2 21:8 23:1,2	afford (4) 3:25 8:6 30:5	107:10	assure (1) 94:3	became (4) 5:1 8:2 24:21	68:13,14,23,23 74:3	21:7,10 60:14 71:17
26:15,18	37:14	analysis (3) 38:23 68:19	assures (1) 93:22	100:10	75:15,20,24 82:7	caller (1) 42:20
abandon (1) 49:3	afraid (2) 5:10 27:14	92:16	astonishing (1) 49:19	become (4) 11:5 13:15	83:9,16,24 85:3,20	callers (5) 42:15,15 45:11
abandoned (3) 34:25 35:22	after (50) 2:20 3:1,10,15	andargachew (5) 1:20,22	astounding (1) 48:24	59:16,17	87:13,22 88:25 89:5,9	47:7 63:8
51:24	5:15,20,20 6:16,19 7:2,4,8	6:14 7:24 108:3	asylum (1) 69:23	becomes (2) 59:6 76:8	92:22 93:5,20 94:24	calling (1) 4:7
abiding (1) 54:6	8:2 9:17 11:13,25 12:15	anger (5) 34:7,7,10,23 51:7	atlantic (1) 63:18	becoming (2) 13:21 96:14	95:6,10 96:3 97:16	calls (21) 16:2,5 17:22 37:7
ability (2) 27:21 96:5	13:13 15:11 16:6	announcement (1) 101:15	attachment (1) 14:8	before (36) 1:12 2:2 5:6,7	98:11,24 99:5 103:4	43:4,18 44:21 45:10
able (33) 2:11 3:12 4:18 8:3	17:2,5,18,20,25 20:16	anomaly (1) 56:10	attempt (3) 65:7 75:18	11:7,10 12:5 13:23 16:24	83:1,10,12,22 84:19	48:11,19 49:5 54:16 55:17
11:12,15,21 12:11,14 15:7	21:15 23:7 24:17,20 25:2	another (5) 79:16 81:1	85:16	17:15,16,19 18:14,15	body (12) 12:5,11 16:12,14	58:10 63:17 64:17 68:24
16:4,6,9,17 18:12,19,22	27:23 28:22 29:11 32:1,1	86:1,8,15	attempted (1) 87:22	19:18 22:24 24:18	21:7,18,21,25 25:6	70:7 82:19 83:16
25:22,25 28:15 29:25 34:5	35:15,19,25 36:1 46:22	answer (1) 61:9	attempting (2) 63:13 74:2	26:20,24 27:1 29:8 34:24	29:21,23 30:4	came (15) 2:18 4:7 6:15
38:12 57:15 59:3,4 60:17	50:2 54:17 57:18 71:13	answering (1) 17:22	attempts (1) 58:5	36:4 38:8 39:4 44:13 46:10	bombing (1) 27:11	15:14 18:15 23:1 28:22
68:12 80:16 88:24 95:20	79:7 82:5 87:24,24 104:13	answers (2) 25:24 90:25	attend (2) 26:17 85:17	49:8 55:23 59:14,18 71:13	bond (3) 9:21 22:4,2,3	29:2 49:4 56:21 57:15
96:24 100:6	afternoon (4) 5:22 20:18	anyone (4) 3:8 7:23 8:6	attendance (2) 72:5 107:4	77:6 79:7 81:4 90:5	books (1) 9:12	60:19 64:13 86:6 104:13
above (3) 15:4 53:16 94:10	21:1 35:25	25:9	attended (5) 12:8 39:11	77:19 90:17 99:6	border (46) 28:13,20 35:17	cameras (1) 107:5
absence (2) 25:10 52:13	again (15) 16:5,18 25:21	anyone (8) 2:9 10:7,13 15:23	attitude (1) 43:1	77:19 90:17 99:6	36:14 38:11,23 39:9 41:19	cancelled (2) 44:13 57:20
absolutely (2) 67:11 86:15	72:73 50:10 52:22 73:13	20:12 28:9 54:21 69:10	attitudes (3) 32:23 34:9	93:3	44:16 60:1 69:23 71:16	48:18
accelerated (1) 95:8	83:10,13 84:20	anything (3) 12:18 19:23	46:20	beginning (1) 43:4	79:1,4,14,15 82:6,9,11,24	candid (1) 41:19
accept (4) 8:14 42:24 45:22	90:13,21,22 95:4 102:3	81:22	audio (8) 1:21 4:23 10:18	behalf (3) 28:16 53:18 69:13	83:1,10,12,22 84:19	cannot (16) 3:8 4:3 5:23
49:13	against (8) 5:120 55:18	anywhere (2) 23:23 49:4	13:7 16:22 19:12 22:16	behaviour (1) 72:7	85:1,10,12,22 84:19	10:22 18:21 24:25
accepted (4) 38:10 41:11	64:19 65:25 71:6 87:1	apart (1) 3:15	26:5	behind (2) 33:20,24	74:17 77:15 78:6,9,18	25:8,8,10,14 30:5 46:11
44:23 47:22	95:13 103:25	appalling (1) 72:7	audit (3) 100:10,15,18	being (18) 17:7,8 18:12,19	87:12 88:18 94:23 97:19	51:11 58:2 72:1 89:24
access (2) 15:16 76:12	age (1) 14:1	appeal (1) 65:22	audits (1) 100:10	19:19 23:5 30:14 32:19	102:9 104:15,22,24 105:1	cant (2) 60:13 107:11
accident (3) 2:25 100:20	agencies (5) 49:13 71:10,15	appear (1) 49:22	august (4) 38:7 39:19	37:22 39:10 40:12 48:13	borders (2) 39:12 40:8	capabilities (6) 59:1 88:8,22
105:19	72:18 87:16	appeared (1) 85:22	40:11,23	64:12 69:5 75:16 88:10	bore (1) 43:24	98:2 102:24 103:16
accidents (1) 100:22	agency (7) 53:11 69:13	appears (2) 76:20 91:3	auspices (3) 78:19 94:17	94:22 105:4	born (6) 1:19 5:7 10:16	capability (4) 36:23 96:10,22
accountable (1) 4:15	78:11 92:25 93:13 98:14	applied (2) 63:22 72:17	103:12	beings (1) 33:17	13:10 19:10 22:19	105:12
accounts (1) 70:15	99:1	applies (3) 74:16,20 75:14	authorities (16) 33:4 34:19	belief (9) 42:17,19,22,25	both (14) 17:1 27:4 29:13,15	capable (1) 68:22
accuracy (1) 95:21	ago (1) 77:22	approached (1) 82:3	37:10 42:9 43:23 46:16,25	43:1 44:21 69:6 71:7 81:15	32:25 36:23 38:6 42:3 52:6	capacity (3) 75:7,9 93:7
accurate (1) 42:25	agreed (1) 99:21	approach (5) 55:19,20 66:6,7	48:22 49:6 50:7 52:5 70:24	beliefs (1) 9:2	68:22 83:10 92:3	capsized (1) 65:12
achieve (1) 15:5	agreement (1) 15:25	85:2	71:10 77:12 83:16 105:17	believe (5) 22:11 24:25	101:15,17	captain (6) 50:15 53:24
achievement (1) 59:23	agrees (1) 72:16	approached (1) 61:18	authority (3) 37:14 82:14	28:25 30:14 44:17	bottom (1) 36:16	57:21 60:7 68:4 74:22
achievements (1) 71:10	ahmed (1) 70:2	appropriate (3) 66:19 72:20	83:17	believed (2) 21:17 96:3	bound (1) 40:17	captures (1) 60:18
acknowledged (1) 41:2	aim (4) 78:22,24 79:3,13	98:18	authorities (1) 43:21	believing (1) 69:7	branch (1) 100:20	care (12) 2:9 1:9 9:6,20,22
across (6) 32:12 41:23 50:14	air (3) 44:20 48:10 60:9	approval (1) 102:12	autumn (1) 95:5	beloved (1) 9:17	branches (1) 105:19	20:18 23:25 27:3 29:5
94:14 95:6 99:23	aircraft (3) 57:21 71:16	approximately (4) 11:25	available (21) 44:9 46:4	benefit (4) 49:18 61:14 68:8	brave (1) 71:18	54:21 62:2 71:21
action (1) 66:20	81:13	21:15 67:25 83:6	55:11 59:1,6,7,8 60:4 61:5	104:10	breached (1) 76:21	care4calais (1) 17:23
actions (8) 50:1 54:10 70:24	aircrews (1) 74:20	april (2) 13:9 103:1	64:8 78:16	benefits (1) 104:18	breadwinner (1) 3:6	care (1) 14:5
72:17 73:12 76:14 78:20	alarm (1) 45:3	area (8) 3:23 35:11 50:14	80:7,9,13,21,24,24 82:9	bereaved (8) 31:19,22 50:13	break (3) 19:1,5 31:11	carefully (3) 60:23 90:9
85:12	alert (1) 46:4	57:8 67:18,21 68:11,13	88:8 89:8 103:16	53:6 69:14 91:13,22	breeds (1) 51:19	91:10
active (3) 11:14 63:21 64:6	alive (9) 2:7 7:18 20:14	areas (2) 92:18 105:24	average (1) 57:2	106:11	briefly (4) 32:25 73:12 79:6	carer (2) 3:21 8:5
activities (2) 78:13 89:25	21:17 34:6 35:15,23,25	arise (2) 80:23 96:22	avoid (2) 85:1,3	best (14) 5:1 7:10,17	88:2	carried (2) 2:5 67:1
activity (3) 40:23 63:23 88:9	36:3	armed (1) 29:22	avoidance (1) 84:1	9:8,13,14,23 10:6 20:21	bring (4) 10:3,5,6 50:21	carry (4) 4:18 18:18 61:17
acts (1) 3:20	allied (1) 101:25	armstrong (1) 103:24	avoided (1) 25:1	54:19 55:11 60:23 61:5	bringing (1) 30:4	68:12
actual (1) 62:13	allocate (1) 45:1	around (18) 3:19 5:7,9 6:13	awake (1) 24:5	90:2	brings (3) 63:14 98:7 106:21	carrying (4) 20:23 54:3
actually (1) 45:24	allow (1) 90:13	8:3 11:11 12:15 13:13,16	aware (8) 24:21 35:3 39:9	7:10 9:8,13,14,23 10:6 20:21	bristow (2) 102:6 104:4	74:14 104:25
acute (1) 52:19	allowed (3) 12:5 46:19 96:6	14:9 15:12 16:4 19:25	76:11,24 89:22 99:16	54:19 55:11 60:23 61:5	broadcast (2) 58:15 66:21	cars (1) 24:8
acutely (1) 106:3	allweather (1) 35:8	20:17 23:21 24:18 28:23	105:11	90:2	broadcasts (1) 63:17	cases (2) 1:11 74:14
adapt (2) 8:11 52:15	almost (5) 6:8 17:17 20:16	50:15	awareness (5) 38:15 64:15	94:10	broke (6) 12:7 14:25 16:24	catalogue (3) 34:8 36:11
added (2) 96:15 99:13	21:2 71:12	arrange (1) 16:16	92:22 95:3 97:9	106:11	23:14,15 27:9	43:4
addis (21) 2:2,10,23 3:24	75:2,13	arrangements (4) 93:1	big (1) 26:25	92:22 95:3 97:9	broken (2) 9:17 17:14	catastrophic (1) 3:11
4:25 5:3,6,8 8:9 11:14	alone (4) 47:24 52:10	102:16 103:20,21	bill (3) 39:20 40:11,21	10:14 15:19 23:6	brother (12) 1:18,22 2:2,13	categorised (2) 65:24 75:15
13:23 17:3,4,11 20:2	75:2,13	arrested (2) 17:7,10	bills (2) 2:15 3:8	24:18,20,21 29:7	7:24 10:15 16:20,23 19:13	caution (2) 81:4,7
21:8,9 23:1,2 26:15,18	along (1) 45:4	arrivals (1) 38:21	22:14,17 23:16	24:18,20,21 29:7	22:14,17 23:16	caused (2) 63:5 81:10
addition (4) 65:25 80:17	alongside (1) 29:14	arrived (1) 17:11	birth (1) 5:9	24:18,20,21 29:7	brothers (2) 11:3 19:9	caused (4) 37:21 63:12
92:10 102:17	already (11) 6:2 39:18 48:4	arriving (1) 95:6	bit (1) 18:13	24:18,20,21 29:7	brought (6) 3:16 16:12,14	87:5,9
additional (5) 78:17 99:10	73:25 86:3 88:6 89:13	arrogant (2) 50:3 90:1	black (1) 20:10	22:23 52:24 53:1	22:23 52:24 53:1	causes (4) 55:6 56:3 94:15
100:24 101:10 103:11	101:24 102:3,18 107:10	aside (1) 14:16	blue (1) 15:14	brutal (1) 33:20	brutal (1) 33:20	100:22
address (7) 42:2 46:17 73:2	also (35) 7:6 15:3 20:9 29:15	ask (3) 45:22 48:7 52:3	blundell (5) 91:2,4,5 106:24	bucked (1) 95:22	buckled (1) 95:22	causing (3) 71:24 73:6 96:4
77:25 78:3 86:21 97:20	30:5,25 34:6 41:1 54:8,11	asked (3) 20:18 97:23 103:9	108:13	build (2) 14:4 26:21	build (2) 14:4 26:21	central (3) 31:7 45:6 57:24
addressing (1) 73:12	61:14 66:9,15 68:11	asking (2) 9:8 83:5	board (12) 33:18 58:19	buildings (1) 24:6	buildings (1) 24:6	centrality (1) 32:18
adequacy (4) 32:5 39:2	74:19,20 76:24 80:7,18,20	aspect (2) 34:2 38:9	62:18 63:10,24 64:4,16	bullets (2) 24:9 33:19	bullets (2) 24:9 33:19	centre (3) 22:22 82:12 107:7
96:10 100:1	83:11 84:14 85:17 89:10	aspects (1) 103:2	69:7 74:15 75:15,20 98:25	burial (3) 12:5,8,19	burial (3) 12:5,8,19	certain (1) 66:16
adequate (5) 46:9 52:13	90:16 91:10,25 97:20 99:3	assess (2) 45:9 47:6	77:2 81:2,8,16 82:25	buried (8) 12:10 18:1 25:4	buried (8) 12:10 18:1 25:4	certainty (2) 34:3 86:12
78:14 93:10 94:4	100:2,19 103:19 104:21	assessed (1) 38:23	64:15 66:25 68:5 82:11	29:20,24 30:3,12 36:20	29:20,24 30:3,12 36:20	chain (1) 96:4
adigrat (13) 19:15,25 20:9	106:25 107:3	assessment (2) 90:3 100:4	96:18	burn (1) 60:16	burn (1) 60:16	chaired (1) 99:1
22:19,20 23:8,17,18	although (11) 10:20 19:22	asset (3) 45:2 83:1 104:4	balance (1) 67:17	bus (1) 17:3	bus (1) 17:3	challenge (4) 84:23 87:20
26:8,14 27:11,12 28:1	24:11 35:12 84:1 95:19	assets (38) 37:25 39:7 51:23	bar (2) 23:10 27:7	busiest (5) 5:41,5 19:12	busiest (5) 5:41,5 19:12	96:8 97:21
admirable (1) 72:3	96:20 98:18 99:9 100:15	59:10,18,21 60:4,16,25	barely (1) 12:14	70:21 74:6 84:16	70:21 74:6 84:16	challenges (5) 15:2 46:17
admiration (1) 9:24	104:11	62:6 64:8 78:16	barnetts (1) 54:11	45:20 46:10,12,24 47:2,7	45:20 46:10,12,24 47:2,7	55:8 58:22 75:23
admission (1) 48:24	always (10) 7:12 8:23,25	80:7,9,13,20,23,24	base (2) 35:21 67:16	48:15 50:14 52:9 54:14	48:15 50:14 52:9 54:14	challenging (4) 42:1 54:3
adopting (2) 55:19 66:5	9:7,15 22:23 29:4,8 51:5	82:6,12,17 86:11	based (8) 9:2 16:25 22:4	55:10 56:9 57:6 62:13,14	55:10 56:9 57:6 62:13,14	88:11 103:25
adored (1) 9:16	76:4	89:6,14,17 97:1,19 98:1	64:15 66:25 68:5 82:11	63:9,23,24 64:2,16	63:9,23,24 64:2,16	chances (1) 90:6
advance (2) 38:11 39:10	amazing (2) 26:13 39:17	101:10 102:2,10,14,23	96:18	65:12,19 67:25 68:19 70:7	65:12,19 67:25 68:19 70:7	change (2) 59:22 96:4
advanced (1) 88:18	amber (4) 39:6,6 6					

<p>95:7,10,23 97:10,16 102:14,19 103:21 104:5,23 105:3,7 106:5 <b>charge</b> (1) 41:11 <b>charged</b> (1) 47:2 <b>charity</b> (1) 9:4 <b>charlie</b> (22) 34:25 29:10,16,18 30:11 49:3 55:10 58:11,18,20 68:17,20,25 69:2,4,8 81:16 82:3 83:23 84:5 <b>charlies</b> (1) 50:16 <b>chief</b> (3) 39:5,20 60:15 <b>child</b> (7) 22:10 26:9,16 29:10,16,18 30:11 <b>childhood</b> (1) 11:1 <b>children</b> (16) 2:10 3:9 4:16 5:6 6:19 7:25 12:15 13:11 22:20 26:8 27:10,25 28:4 45:17 62:17 70:17 <b>choice</b> (1) 67:11 <b>chose</b> (1) 68:4 <b>christopher</b> (1) 54:11 <b>chronic</b> (1) 48:5 <b>church</b> (1) 9:7 <b>churches</b> (1) 14:7 <b>circumstances</b> (2) 33:12 88:11 <b>city</b> (2) 2:22 11:10 <b>civil</b> (4) 33:20 78:11 93:11 98:14 <b>civilised</b> (1) 72:21 <b>clandestine</b> (2) 94:18 95:23 <b>classed</b> (1) 55:3 <b>classic</b> (1) 43:5 <b>classified</b> (1) 81:16 <b>claudia</b> (1) 91:7 <b>clear</b> (17) 44:16 49:10 50:4 54:5 58:12 72:10 75:9 79:9 80:2,12 81:6 84:3 86:25 87:8,19 90:1 96:2 <b>clearly</b> (2) 33:23 100:7 <b>clients</b> (12) 32:9,17,19 33:7,8 34:1,16,23 36:7 50:12,18 52:4 <b>close</b> (9) 1:24 12:22 19:17 22:3 29:5 30:3 63:13 64:12 106:10 <b>closed</b> (3) 23:7 57:4 84:5 <b>closely</b> (1) 94:2 <b>closing</b> (23) 31:9,13,17,25 48:3 53:12 56:1 69:20 72:25 78:1,4 81:6 86:21 90:12 91:4 92:10,11,17,19 108:12,12,13,13 <b>closure</b> (5) 18:21 25:18,25 32:1 34:4 <b>clothes</b> (1) 29:7 <b>cloud</b> (1) 59:2 <b>coast</b> (1) 45:4 <b>coastguard</b> (108) 4:9 35:3 36:20 38:25 39:5,9,20 41:24 42:21 44:8,12 46:14 47:22 48:6,8 49:6,21 53:11 54:9,24 55:8,8,12,13,21 56:5,16,20,24 57:11,23,25 58:16,17,20,23 59:11,14 60:3,16,24 61:7,9,15,16,17,20 62:20 63:6,7 64:21,25 65:5,14 66:2,8,11,12,14 68:9 69:12,13 73:19 74:1 75:16 76:15,18,24 77:1,7,10 78:11,16 82:9 83:2,4,11,12 84:21 85:13 86:5,6,7,9,12 92:25 93:14,15 96:14,24 97:18,23,25 98:12 99:7,11,19,19 100:1 101:4 103:11 104:10,18 105:16,11,21 <b>coastguards</b> (16) 49:16 54:20 58:9 63:8,16 78:12 81:15 82:7,17 83:9 84:4 94:9 96:10 101:17 104:3 105:22 <b>coauthored</b> (1) 101:22</p>	<p><b>code</b> (1) 100:18 <b>colle</b> (1) 37:13 <b>colleagues</b> (5) 9:14 69:9 94:23 99:7 102:23 <b>collection</b> (2) 33:17 72:4 <b>college</b> (1) 13:14 <b>collision</b> (1) 85:4 <b>colocation</b> (1) 88:15 <b>come</b> (3) 7:25 21:25 31:13 <b>comes</b> (3) 7:24 55:12 61:6 <b>comfortable</b> (1) 11:8 <b>coming</b> (3) 31:8 43:8 72:25 <b>command</b> (4) 41:19,23 82:12 94:18 <b>commander</b> (13) 39:19 41:11 43:3 44:7,19 53:24 66:23 74:9 80:3 84:14,24 85:8 95:24 <b>commanders</b> (1) 45:7 <b>commenced</b> (2) 90:5 97:5 <b>comment</b> (1) 60:18 <b>commented</b> (1) 39:5 <b>commercial</b> (1) 102:13 <b>commission</b> (1) 101:3 <b>commitment</b> (3) 100:25 104:15 107:14 <b>committed</b> (3) 8:21 27:1 54:25 <b>common</b> (1) 33:23 <b>communicate</b> (4) 11:16,19 16:7 27:21 <b>communication</b> (10) 15:8,15 16:1,18 20:10 27:19 28:15 37:24 81:13 96:19 <b>communications</b> (2) 12:16 83:15 <b>community</b> (2) 14:22 30:7 <b>companion</b> (1) 9:5 <b>compared</b> (2) 14:19 46:18 <b>compelling</b> (1) 60:7 <b>complete</b> (3) 4:4 7:7 56:10 <b>completely</b> (3) 7:8 15:14 24:7 <b>complex</b> (1) 94:15 <b>comprehensive</b> (1) 47:15 <b>compromised</b> (1) 79:19 <b>computer</b> (1) 23:2 <b>concentrated</b> (1) 38:22 <b>concept</b> (1) 62:3 <b>concern</b> (1) 71:4 <b>concerned</b> (4) 40:2 66:18 84:23 94:22 <b>concerns</b> (5) 39:2 99:4 101:9 102:8 104:24 <b>concerto</b> (1) 58:19 <b>conclude</b> (6) 69:4 73:12 83:24 90:8 92:7 106:19 <b>concluded</b> (1) 107:17 <b>concludes</b> (3) 30:22,25 90:11 <b>conclusion</b> (6) 49:19 50:10 65:18 83:18 91:20 106:2 <b>conclusions</b> (2) 43:19 73:5 <b>concrete</b> (1) 59:22 <b>condition</b> (1) 62:14 <b>conditions</b> (7) 38:22 68:6 71:5,18 74:7,25 75:23 <b>condolences</b> (3) 69:22 90:23 106:11 <b>conduct</b> (6) 40:10 41:9 45:5 46:20 52:25 73:8 <b>conducted</b> (6) 31:24 53:22 74:17 100:12,15 101:3 <b>conducting</b> (1) 70:24 <b>confided</b> (1) 1:25 <b>confident</b> (2) 67:11 90:4 <b>confirmation</b> (4) 11:20 34:18 45:11 46:7 <b>confirming</b> (1) 62:24 <b>confirms</b> (1) 99:20 <b>conflict</b> (6) 11:10,15 21:17 22:24 25:3 29:22 <b>conjunction</b> (1) 101:2 <b>connected</b> (1) 48:17 <b>connection</b> (3) 14:7,9 73:9 <b>connections</b> (1) 17:9 <b>conscientiously</b> (1) 90:16</p>	<p><b>consciousness</b> (1) 6:16 <b>consequences</b> (2) 3:11 42:10 <b>consider</b> (6) 52:3 63:23 73:7 74:25 90:9 92:14 <b>considerable</b> (5) 41:12 74:3 84:18 88:6 96:21 <b>considerably</b> (1) 89:4 <b>consideration</b> (5) 44:25 60:6 72:4 78:2 105:2 <b>considered</b> (3) 14:17 68:4 94:6 <b>considering</b> (4) 63:20 78:7 80:10 105:25 <b>consistency</b> (1) 75:11 <b>constant</b> (2) 3:18 24:8 <b>constantly</b> (2) 14:10 28:6 <b>constructed</b> (1) 89:11 <b>contact</b> (7) 2:21 5:15 6:6 12:14 15:10 17:18 20:9 <b>contemporaneous</b> (1) 66:13 <b>contend</b> (1) 73:4 <b>contention</b> (1) 41:17 <b>contents</b> (1) 55:24 <b>context</b> (8) 51:12 73:3,16,17 75:3 76:11 89:24 91:19 <b>contextsetting</b> (1) 77:13 <b>contingency</b> (1) 48:9 <b>continue</b> (13) 1:4,8 25:23,25 28:9 32:11 52:9 63:21 92:6 96:23 97:17 104:16 107:14 <b>continued</b> (7) 15:2 23:13 34:25 64:6 90:5 105:6,11 <b>continues</b> (4) 4:2 22:9 88:14 106:17 <b>continuous</b> (1) 100:25 <b>continuously</b> (2) 94:3 105:23 <b>contract</b> (4) 102:5 104:3,16 105:5 <b>contracted</b> (1) 57:13 <b>contrast</b> (1) 44:10 <b>contributed</b> (5) 36:12 51:16 81:23 87:5,10 <b>contributing</b> (2) 71:24 81:12 <b>control</b> (10) 25:1 40:7 55:7 56:5,19 57:10 58:9,16 88:16 103:21 <b>controlled</b> (1) 84:17 <b>convenient</b> (1) 18:25 <b>convention</b> (3) 42:4,5 76:23 <b>conventional</b> (1) 46:18 <b>conversible</b> (1) 47:10 <b>conversation</b> (1) 2:23 <b>convey</b> (1) 90:23 <b>conveyed</b> (3) 47:13 49:5 51:6 <b>conveys</b> (1) 46:5 <b>convince</b> (1) 74:22 <b>cook</b> (1) 9:13 <b>cooking</b> (1) 9:12 <b>cooperate</b> (2) 49:1 92:5 <b>cooperation</b> (3) 88:15,17 103:20 <b>cooperatively</b> (1) 90:19 <b>coordinate</b> (5) 55:12 56:25 61:6 78:13 93:17 <b>coordinates</b> (6) 35:18 48:20 50:16 66:23 67:15 84:22 <b>coordinating</b> (4) 55:16 61:8 63:15 99:11 <b>coordination</b> (2) 61:11,13 <b>coordinator</b> (1) 44:10 <b>coordinators</b> (1) 82:22 <b>cope</b> (2) 25:8,14 <b>copied</b> (1) 7:15 <b>core</b> (4) 36:6 37:21 43:1 93:6 <b>corellary</b> (1) 35:23 <b>corporate</b> (6) 36:20 37:5 39:13 47:22 49:16 96:16 <b>correct</b> (1) 84:13 <b>correctness</b> (1) 68:7 <b>corroborate</b> (1) 44:13 <b>corroborating</b> (1) 62:24 <b>costs</b> (2) 2:15 51:13 <b>counsel</b> (7) 31:15 53:10 69:17 75:5 79:20 91:3 95:17 <b>counsellors</b> (1) 107:3</p>	<p><b>country</b> (4) 8:22 17:7 29:1 51:19 <b>courage</b> (2) 74:5 91:12 <b>course</b> (17) 30:23 35:23 41:4 72:21 76:11 79:15 84:22 90:8 92:11,11 93:12 98:3 102:2 106:1,25 107:6,10 <b>cousin</b> (3) 21:3,6,21 <b>cousins</b> (2) 6:15 21:9 <b>cover</b> (4) 48:10 59:2 92:19 95:2 <b>coverage</b> (1) 102:6 <b>covered</b> (1) 72:7 <b>covoid</b> (1) 87:24 <b>cpv</b> (1) 80:16 <b>craft</b> (2) 46:11 85:18 <b>cranston</b> (9) 1:3 19:2,7 31:2,13 53:9 69:16 91:2 106:21 <b>crashing</b> (1) 2:18 <b>created</b> (1) 51:14 <b>creation</b> (1) 65:5 <b>credible</b> (1) 62:23 <b>crew</b> (13) 59:24 60:6 71:16,16 74:24 75:1,2 78:25 85:9 87:24,24 89:15 103:17 <b>crews</b> (4) 53:25 60:12,14 74:17 <b>cried</b> (1) 27:15 <b>cries</b> (1) 25:12 <b>criminal</b> (9) 54:2,10 56:22 66:4 71:2,20 72:8 75:10 76:14 <b>criminally</b> (1) 70:18 <b>criminals</b> (1) 81:9 <b>crisis</b> (1) 39:16 <b>critical</b> (2) 40:25 46:23 <b>criticised</b> (1) 61:3 <b>criticisms</b> (1) 87:1 <b>cross</b> (9) 51:11 52:1 58:13 64:20 70:20 74:2 75:18,25 87:22 <b>crossed</b> (2) 38:5 65:3 <b>crossgovernment</b> (1) 94:20 <b>crossgovernmental</b> (1) 94:10 <b>crossing</b> (16) 36:18 38:4 39:22 40:6 41:23 57:6 58:4 71:9 75:13 79:4 80:11 95:10,16,20 97:16 103:8 <b>crossings</b> (25) 32:12 37:4 40:15 46:24 47:2 52:9,14 56:7,9 58:5 65:20 73:18 92:23 93:7 94:13,16 95:4,25 96:6,15,21,23 97:4 101:20 103:17 <b>crowd</b> (1) 60:21 <b>crucial</b> (3) 32:14 40:19 58:16 <b>crucially</b> (2) 78:20 86:15 <b>cry</b> (2) 22:9 45:3 <b>crying</b> (1) 24:9 <b>ctv</b> (1) 80:18 <b>ctvs</b> (1) 89:16 <b>culpable</b> (1) 52:25 <b>current</b> (1) 51:20 <b>current</b> (3) 54:8 59:7 105:2 <b>currently</b> (1) 7:8 <b>customs</b> (1) 4:12 <b>cut</b> (3) 12:16 15:15 27:19 <b>cutler</b> (2) 80:5 85:9</p>	<p><b>date</b> (2) 28:24 62:16 <b>dated</b> (3) 97:14,22 101:23 <b>daughter</b> (15) 5:24 6:23 7:10 9:5 10:8,20 11:12 12:20 13:1,25 15:19 26:10,13 29:3 30:11 <b>dauid</b> (1) 91:2 <b>day</b> (25) 4:16 9:8 14:4 15:5 17:17,18 20:16 21:2,21 22:5 25:11,12,15 31:3 34:5 38:22 39:4 57:17 60:14,15 61:1 65:1,2 69:10 107:1 <b>daybooks</b> (1) 86:23 <b>days</b> (14) 3:2 11:25 17:19,20,22,25 33:8 38:8 39:1,6,22 51:2 53:15 100:12 <b>dead</b> (3) 21:12 28:23 51:1 <b>deal</b> (1) 74:5 <b>dealing</b> (2) 43:9 62:6 <b>dearly</b> (1) 33:25 <b>death</b> (12) 3:18 4:15 7:8 8:5,10 9:20 10:1 11:24 29:12 30:16 53:5 65:23 <b>deaths</b> (4) 32:20 71:24 72:9 87:6 <b>debrief</b> (1) 40:23 <b>decade</b> (1) 51:15 <b>deceased</b> (2) 33:7 69:25 <b>december</b> (10) 6:12 12:9 15:12 18:2 28:23 38:19 89:3 97:22 101:24 103:10 <b>decent</b> (1) 3:12 <b>decided</b> (7) 5:2 12:12 17:12 18:14 20:15 23:9 66:23 <b>decision</b> (15) 40:9 44:14 49:2 51:21 66:25 68:7 76:18 82:6,8 83:20 84:7 86:4,9,10 <b>decisionmaking</b> (1) 94:21 <b>decisions</b> (2) 58:17 82:2 <b>declaration</b> (1) 40:24 <b>declare</b> (1) 41:1 <b>declared</b> (3) 40:12,16 46:22 <b>declaring</b> (1) 39:23 <b>dedication</b> (1) 31:24 <b>deep</b> (1) 28:6 <b>deeper</b> (2) 91:21 106:11 <b>deeply</b> (8) 14:6 24:1 29:6 30:13 31:3,6,22 70:8 <b>defined</b> (1) 98:11 <b>definition</b> (1) 39:22 <b>definitive</b> (1) 64:7 <b>definitively</b> (1) 57:19 <b>degree</b> (1) 7:7 <b>dehumanising</b> (1) 51:20 <b>delay</b> (1) 80:3 <b>delayed</b> (3) 58:14 79:22 81:13 <b>deliberate</b> (1) 63:4 <b>deliver</b> (2) 90:12 102:23 <b>delivered</b> (3) 74:19 103:13 104:1 <b>delivery</b> (1) 93:10 <b>demand</b> (3) 56:14,19 102:7 <b>demonstrate</b> (1) 50:8 <b>depart</b> (2) 84:11 85:6 <b>department</b> (42) 78:10 89:13 91:3,6,10,11,21,25 92:5,8 93:7,13,19 94:1,5,8,21 96:9 97:11,23 98:18 99:6,14,15,17,25 100:3,24 101:6,12,16,22 102:1,4,11,22 105:8,9,11,23 106:10,16 <b>departmental</b> (1) 94:1 <b>departments</b> (16) 49:13 92:15,17,21,22,24 93:4,6 95:3 96:18 98:8,10 99:12,21 101:8,13 <b>departure</b> (1) 80:4 <b>dependent</b> (3) 3:21 7:9 8:13 <b>depends</b> (1) 38:3 <b>deploy</b> (1) 51:22 <b>deployed</b> (9) 59:25 60:25 79:7 80:10,14,16,18,21</p>	<p>89:6 <b>depressed</b> (1) 28:7 <b>deprived</b> (1) 58:1 <b>describe</b> (3) 15:21 62:3,5 <b>described</b> (5) 14:15 17:1 39:15 43:10 74:9 <b>description</b> (1) 74:16 <b>deserve</b> (3) 32:10 72:15 78:2 <b>deserves</b> (4) 9:23 10:8 30:11,11 <b>deserving</b> (1) 52:5 <b>desirability</b> (1) 62:24 <b>desire</b> (2) 25:19 26:23 <b>desperate</b> (2) 48:19 54:14 <b>desperately</b> (3) 21:24 30:3 33:25 <b>despite</b> (3) 15:1 46:25 100:7 <b>destroyed</b> (1) 24:7 <b>destruction</b> (1) 24:6 <b>detail</b> (2) 10:21 94:6 <b>detailed</b> (6) 48:3 49:9 59:19 72:24 91:8 92:16 <b>details</b> (1) 5:17 <b>detained</b> (2) 17:8,11 <b>detect</b> (1) 88:9 <b>detection</b> (1) 67:5 <b>deter</b> (1) 52:2 <b>determination</b> (3) 34:16 82:2 83:23 <b>determine</b> (3) 64:11 83:24 100:22 <b>determined</b> (1) 11:5 <b>determining</b> (2) 64:1,5 <b>deterrents</b> (1) 36:21 <b>detract</b> (2) 41:16 70:14 <b>detriment</b> (1) 36:22 <b>detrimental</b> (2) 38:14 41:20 <b>devastated</b> (3) 10:23 12:8 29:12 <b>devastating</b> (1) 18:6 <b>develop</b> (4) 41:21 94:15 102:13 105:12 <b>developed</b> (1) 47:4 <b>developing</b> (2) 36:22 98:1 <b>development</b> (1) 105:14 <b>developments</b> (2) 98:5 102:18 <b>deveran</b> (8) 38:17 58:4 65:6 78:20,21,24 79:2,11 <b>devote</b> (1) 11:6 <b>devoted</b> (1) 26:13 <b>dft</b> (2) 99:7 101:23 <b>didit</b> (3) 40:15,22 41:16 <b>die</b> (2) 45:23 71:21 <b>died</b> (19) 1:5 2:18 3:2,15 4:5,10 7:19 8:2 12:3 15:13 16:15 17:19 20:24 28:21 30:24 35:13,22 81:8 106:6 <b>diet</b> (1) 51:18 <b>differ</b> (6) 12:23 23:21 46:17 48:1 59:1 104:5 <b>differently</b> (2) 7:16 49:18 <b>difficult</b> (10) 6:25 10:25 19:21 24:3 30:9 55:17 56:16 63:16 75:20,23 <b>difficulties</b> (1) 96:22 <b>difficulty</b> (1) 54:22 <b>dignity</b> (3) 30:15 51:7 52:5 <b>diligently</b> (1) 90:16 <b>dinghy</b> (1) 70:18 <b>direct</b> (2) 15:10 88:4 <b>directed</b> (2) 35:19 41:14 <b>direction</b> (4) 67:1 84:21 85:7 99:2 <b>directive</b> (2) 103:1,6 <b>directly</b> (4) 5:20 47:13 48:22 63:22 <b>director</b> (1) 39:12 <b>director</b> (1) 88:19 <b>disappear</b> (1) 2:6 <b>disaster</b> (10) 32:21 33:1 34:9,19 36:12 37:21 38:9 50:2 57:5 61:2 <b>disbelief</b> (1) 4:4 <b>discharge</b> (1) 79:18 <b>discharged</b> (1) 42:6</p>	<p><b>discharges</b> (1) 93:16 <b>discharging</b> (1) 77:20 <b>disclaimer</b> (1) 100:7 <b>disclosure</b> (1) 34:21 <b>discreditable</b> (1) 52:25 <b>discrimination</b> (4) 40:4 42:3,6 46:15 <b>discriminatory</b> (5) 32:22 34:9 43:14 46:20 51:17 <b>discussed</b> (1) 96:9 <b>discussion</b> (1) 85:17 <b>discussions</b> (1) 94:10 <b>dismissive</b> (1) 43:1 <b>displacement</b> (1) 24:3 <b>dispute</b> (1) 107:7 <b>disrupted</b> (1) 28:10 <b>distinction</b> (2) 55:14 61:24 <b>distraught</b> (1) 4:8 <b>distress</b> (21) 42:16,23 43:9,18 44:6,8,18,25 45:10,19 46:8 48:11 49:5 55:4 63:8 65:24 70:5 75:16 76:22 82:19 86:13 <b>distressing</b> (2) 1:14 54:16 <b>divided</b> (1) 55:5 <b>divisional</b> (1) 39:19 <b>document</b> (1) 73:3 <b>documents</b> (1) 34:21 <b>does</b> (11) 7:18,22 9:9 10:7 41:17 49:22 65:15 66:16 89:24 93:19 106:16 <b>doesnt</b> (1) 40:7 <b>doing</b> (5) 2:11 9:4 28:4 61:2 69:3 <b>dominic</b> (4) 43:3 44:19 60:20 74:21 <b>done</b> (6) 49:17 59:13 79:9,11 91:19 94:17 <b>dont</b> (1) 41:1 <b>doomed</b> (1) 41:9 <b>doubt</b> (8) 37:2,6 46:13 69:9 72:22 74:16 81:17 84:1 <b>dover</b> (11) 44:11 47:3 48:5 50:14 58:13 59:15 77:7 84:13 86:16 89:1 94:16 <b>down</b> (8) 2:18 12:7 15:9 17:6 20:12 24:24 27:2 36:10 <b>downs</b> (1) 42:21 <b>draft</b> (1) 104:12 <b>drawn</b> (1) 100:13 <b>draw</b> (2) 54:13 70:22 <b>dream</b> (1) 14:4 <b>dreams</b> (1) 15:5 <b>drift</b> (1) 68:8 <b>drive</b> (1) 105:7 <b>driven</b> (1) 14:8 <b>driver</b> (6) 39:15 94:20 99:22 104:14,17 105:3 <b>drivers</b> (1) 93:5 <b>driving</b> (1) 54:12 <b>drone</b> (1) 80:20 <b>drowned</b> (2) 6:13 12:1 <b>dubai</b> (1) 12:4 <b>due</b> (7) 21:17 25:3 38:13 48:23 92:11 96:14 106:1 <b>duplication</b> (1) 104:21 <b>duration</b> (1) 67:15 <b>during</b> (16) 1:13 11:21 20:10 21:16 27:11,19 38:25 53:23 61:25 62:10 79:7 80:19 87:23 104:2,8,9 <b>duties</b> (1) 94:8 <b>duty</b> (5) 14:14 37:11 42:4 43:24 48:25 <b>dying</b> (2) 43:8 45:17 <b>dysfunction</b> (1) 32:7</p>
---	--	---	--	--	--	---

easily (1) 8:3  
 easy (2) 55:10 58:24  
 eat (1) 14:18  
 ecosystem (1) 104:4  
 edge (1) 3:23  
 effect (7) 20:6 43:22,25  
 44:22 80:25 102:25 104:13  
 effecting (1) 71:18  
 effective (4) 36:22 68:12  
 93:10 94:4  
 effectively (3) 51:25 83:4  
 88:19  
 effectiveness (3) 67:4  
 100:5,8  
 efficiency (1) 100:5  
 efficient (1) 53:21  
 efforts (1) 87:16  
 eg (1) 82:17  
 eight (5) 1:9 37:19 61:9  
 77:22 100:12  
 eighth (1) 41:6  
 eightyyearold (1) 23:20  
 either (4) 17:5 27:21 64:25  
 83:22  
 elderly (3) 14:3,8 15:3  
 elders (1) 14:9  
 element (2) 63:25 64:4  
 elicited (1) 37:18  
 elimination (1) 89:1  
 else (3) 10:7,13 72:22  
 email (3) 39:20 40:11,19  
 embark (1) 79:23  
 embarked (2) 83:24 86:14  
 embarking (1) 80:5  
 embedded (1) 79:23  
 embed (5) 3:9 4:21,22,24  
 108:4  
 emerged (3) 42:11 46:15  
 92:14  
 emergency (3) 51:22 61:20  
 82:20  
 emerging (1) 99:16  
 emotional (2) 3:3 12:7  
 emotionally (1) 27:5  
 emphasise (5) 32:18,19 33:2  
 50:10 51:9  
 emphasised (2) 37:11 62:20  
 employed (1) 77:17  
 employee (1) 87:2  
 employees (6) 47:25 73:8  
 77:15 79:9 86:22 87:9  
 enable (3) 82:22 85:3 97:7  
 enabled (1) 89:1  
 encountered (2) 81:2 83:9  
 encourage (2) 52:1 68:18  
 end (5) 28:12 56:21 68:20  
 104:13 106:22  
 endeavour (1) 87:15  
 ended (1) 58:21  
 endorsed (1) 97:11  
 endure (3) 10:8 30:10 46:21  
 enforcement (7) 52:12  
 79:14,16,18,23,25 80:4  
 engage (1) 68:18  
 engaged (2) 34:19 43:17  
 engines (1) 96:3  
 english (6) 32:13 45:14 47:9  
 57:7 95:6 102:14  
 enhance (1) 98:5  
 enhanced (1) 98:1  
 enhancements (1) 59:8  
 enhancing (1) 60:1  
 enjoyed (1) 9:6  
 enough (6) 7:5,6 14:20  
 18:11 45:13 47:14  
 enquiries (2) 37:16,17  
 enquiry (1) 41:3  
 ensure (5) 18:23 42:5 89:4  
 98:15 106:15  
 ensued (2) 101:12,16  
 ensures (1) 99:1  
 ensuring (5) 52:23 82:25  
 94:24 99:15 101:6  
 entered (3) 57:1 96:3 102:25  
 entering (1) 35:13  
 entire (2) 3:3 14:21

entirely (6) 3:21 67:24 70:19  
 86:5,8 95:14  
 entities (1) 88:16  
 entries (2) 66:13,13  
 entrusted (1) 98:14  
 entry (2) 35:14 84:4  
 environment (3) 40:3  
 51:14,16  
 equal (2) 51:10 52:5  
 equally (1) 49:24  
 equipment (3) 59:7 70:20  
 76:7  
 equities (1) 94:9  
 escalation (1) 101:9  
 escape (3) 13:25 33:19 51:11  
 especially (4) 8:23 14:3 25:5  
 29:18  
 essential (1) 67:2  
 essentially (1) 57:6  
 establish (1) 18:22  
 established (2) 34:16 100:17  
 estimate (2) 85:19 107:11  
 etc (1) 43:6  
 ethiopia (19) 2:20 5:11,16  
 8:21 12:16 13:10 16:12  
 17:13,14,17 19:18 20:5,16  
 21:24 24:14,16 25:6 26:23  
 27:9  
 ethiopian (3) 1:10 6:2 13:17  
 europa (2) 12:21 18:16  
 european (1) 42:4  
 evaluated (2) 57:4 62:9  
 even (24) 9:11 14:13 18:15  
 25:15 26:11 27:4 29:1,25  
 36:5 40:22 45:22 46:10  
 47:9 48:17 49:18,25  
 59:4,11 64:22 83:19 86:13  
 87:23 95:13 104:24  
 evening (1) 54:12  
 events (11) 36:10 37:7  
 70:7,13 73:5,22 77:21  
 81:18 82:1 91:23 106:2  
 eventually (1) 15:4  
 ever (4) 22:12 30:10 59:13  
 106:9  
 every (22) 4:16 7:25 9:8,24  
 10:21 17:16,17 20:16  
 21:2 22:5 25:11,12,15,19  
 30:14 33:24 53:6 62:7 63:9  
 64:7 70:3  
 everyone (14) 1:3 2:5,17,19  
 10:23 25:7 27:12 50:25  
 51:2 53:19 64:11 70:3  
 72:22 106:22  
 everything (6) 3:14 8:16  
 10:22 14:10 18:10 91:19  
 everywhere (2) 7:11 17:7  
 evidence (59) 1:4 30:22,25  
 31:7 32:1,3 34:24 35:12,20  
 36:2 40:13 41:12,19  
 42:7,11,18,24 44:4,19 45:5  
 46:3,16 47:19,25 49:8,16  
 53:13 54:5,12,24 55:11  
 60:20 61:5 62:21,23 63:1  
 64:8 65:19 72:4 78:7 79:17  
 80:2 87:8 90:17 91:9,14,18  
 92:14,16 93:5 94:19 98:21  
 99:22 103:5 105:4  
 106:3,24 107:1,8  
 evidenced (1) 43:2  
 evident (1) 14:10  
 evolve (1) 88:14  
 evolved (1) 88:22  
 exact (2) 5:23 28:24  
 exactly (1) 6:17  
 exaggerate (6) 42:16,20,23  
 44:15 63:12 64:18  
 exaggerated (1) 44:21  
 exaggeration (4) 62:25  
 63:2,4,5  
 examine (1) 32:5  
 example (1) 88:5  
 exceeded (2) 38:6,7  
 except (2) 23:16 26:15  
 exceptional (1) 14:1  
 excessively (3) 55:20 66:6

68:19  
 excited (1) 13:20  
 excuse (1) 37:14  
 executive (2) 93:13 98:13  
 exercise (2) 72:14 93:20  
 exercised (1) 67:17  
 exhausted (2) 48:6 64:9  
 exit (1) 84:13  
 expand (2) 81:25 89:14  
 expanding (2) 67:22 68:15  
 expanses (1) 70:21  
 expect (1) 73:2  
 expected (6) 80:11,19  
 84:10,15 97:3,16  
 expensive (3) 6:22 29:23  
 30:4  
 experience (10) 12:7 25:18  
 44:12 61:12 64:10,16  
 66:25 68:5 76:5 98:20  
 experienced (1) 17:10  
 experiences (1) 91:17  
 experiencing (1) 60:14  
 expert (1) 85:7  
 expertise (6) 61:8,22 66:9,10  
 67:13 98:20  
 experts (1) 101:4  
 explain (2) 56:5 58:7  
 explained (14) 3:14 57:24  
 74:11,21 84:14 87:17,21  
 95:19,25 97:13 98:9 99:22  
 104:14 105:3  
 explanation (2) 60:7 84:24  
 explicitly (1) 24:11  
 exploited (3) 34:10 71:20  
 88:1  
 explore (2) 97:25 103:11  
 explored (1) 104:7  
 exponentially (1) 36:19  
 expose (1) 32:6  
 exposed (1) 53:1  
 expresses (1) 90:14  
 extended (1) 47:1  
 extension (4) 51:14 93:13  
 94:7 98:12  
 extensive (2) 72:4 92:1  
 extent (1) 48:2  
 extraordinary (3) 11:2 26:12  
 29:3  
 extremely (10) 12:6 24:3  
 26:10 28:8 29:6,17 54:16  
 74:7,25 76:1  
 eye (1) 75:22  
 eyes (2) 29:14 45:11

F

face (5) 6:10 45:8 47:11 63:7  
 76:20  
 faced (5) 15:2 42:9 55:8  
 58:22 87:20  
 facilities (1) 96:5  
 facilities (2) 78:17 89:8  
 facility (1) 89:11  
 facing (1) 6:20  
 factor (1) 57:10  
 factors (4) 55:7 56:4 58:9  
 81:12  
 failed (7) 8:25 9:20 36:23  
 43:23 46:25 52:14 81:9  
 failing (2) 46:19 76:20  
 failings (5) 32:25 33:5 47:17  
 49:14 50:4  
 failure (8) 34:2 46:16  
 48:7,9,10,14,21 81:13  
 failures (6) 34:8 36:7,11  
 47:19,21 48:2  
 fair (1) 73:7  
 fairly (2) 72:24 81:23  
 faith (2) 14:9 53:7  
 falling (1) 43:6  
 false (1) 45:3  
 families (15) 31:16,19,22  
 47:19 49:8,15,24 50:5,13  
 51:3,4 53:6 69:24 70:10  
 91:13  
 family (62) 1:25 2:3,8,12  
 3:3,6 6:14 7:9,25

8:13,20,22 9:3,4,13 10:24  
 11:3,7,18 12:22 15:2  
 18:3,7,7,17,20,23 19:20,22  
 20:9,19 21:13,14,22,23  
 22:1,3,4,9,21,23 23:16,17  
 24:1,15 25:1,5,7,9,13,17  
 26:14 27:6,11 28:11 29:2  
 30:12,19 32:2 33:24 34:13  
 106:25  
 far (5) 4:10 45:22 52:24  
 73:21 75:7  
 fast (2) 53:7 103:18  
 faster (1) 18:13  
 fatality (1) 65:16  
 fatally (1) 32:24  
 fateful (1) 75:8  
 father (15) 3:8,17 7:19,23  
 8:2 10:5,9,15,19 17:1 19:9  
 20:20 22:19 26:3,6  
 fathers (1) 34:4  
 fatigue (1) 60:8  
 fatigued (1) 48:6  
 favourable (1) 38:22  
 favourite (1) 9:5  
 fear (3) 19:19 28:7 47:12  
 february (1) 97:12  
 federal (2) 13:17 15:8  
 feed (1) 89:20  
 feel (10) 3:25 7:5 14:5 16:10  
 18:11 22:5 25:9 27:13 29:5  
 54:18  
 feeling (4) 4:3 25:7,22 29:2  
 feelings (1) 28:7  
 feels (1) 25:16  
 fell (2) 3:15 5:2  
 felt (11) 5:10 8:21,22 18:9  
 19:19 20:3 23:17,24 28:6  
 51:24 70:5  
 fere (7) 10:16,17,19,20  
 13:9 16:24 108:5  
 fester (1) 46:21  
 fevre (3) 1:22 4:20,24  
 few (8) 2:1 17:25 24:20 25:2  
 33:8 48:4 88:12 95:21  
 fewer (1) 75:7  
 fiction (1) 44:20  
 fifth (3) 33:1 38:25 63:14  
 fifthly (2) 100:9 105:20  
 fighting (1) 11:8  
 fikiru (28) 1:18,23,24  
 2:1,7,20 3:2,2,5  
 4:10,14,19,25,25 5:5,7,10  
 6:6,12,21 7:1,10,21  
 8:2,7,14,18,21  
 fikirus (10) 3:18 4:21 6:14  
 7:8,24 8:1,2,4,5,10  
 filled (1) 54:13  
 fills (1) 70:22  
 final (5) 19:8 26:2 57:21  
 66:5 86:19  
 finally (9) 34:11 36:4 49:2  
 58:15 59:24 88:2 89:12  
 90:21 102:15  
 financial (2) 3:4 6:20  
 financially (3) 2:11 8:7 27:5  
 find (14) 2:24 4:17 5:17 13:2  
 15:23 18:20 20:1 25:18  
 26:10 28:14 30:9 34:2  
 68:10,11  
 finding (4) 8:12 18:13 33:18  
 68:23  
 finds (1) 54:21  
 finished (3) 13:13 45:15 69:7  
 first (31) 1:12,17 2:25 7:14  
 16:2 17:19 23:1 32:17  
 33:6,10 35:3 36:1 37:21  
 42:12 45:14 50:12 55:23  
 56:3 59:24 65:3 73:17,24  
 77:8 78:5 84:23 92:20  
 93:9,9 101:6,11 105:13  
 firstly (1) 98:25  
 fishing (2) 44:7 63:17  
 fit (2) 38:1 40:7  
 five (7) 17:18 38:7 66:17  
 77:17 83:6 89:16 103:17  
 fixation (1) 51:13

flamant (6) 48:23 58:18  
 76:15,17,21 77:2  
 flawed (2) 47:3 66:3  
 fled (3) 15:4 27:23 33:19  
 flies (3) 19:25 20:15 23:17  
 fleet (2) 60:1 89:14  
 flew (1) 12:3  
 flights (2) 21:19 57:20  
 flippant (1) 43:10  
 flown (1) 67:14  
 fly (8) 29:23 57:14,15,22  
 58:24 59:5 60:22 74:24  
 flying (1) 67:8  
 focus (6) 32:16,17,22 36:14  
 41:7 56:24  
 focused (4) 36:21 53:20  
 70:23 99:8  
 followed (3) 61:1 65:2,3  
 following (12) 1:15 8:5 22:8  
 55:5 65:4 70:4 94:12  
 101:14,20 104:8,15 105:21  
 follows (2) 79:12 92:20  
 food (3) 14:18,20 23:6  
 force (39) 35:17 38:11,23  
 39:9 41:19 44:16 60:1  
 71:16 74:17 77:15 78:6,9  
 79:1,4,14,15  
 82:6,9,11,16,24  
 83:1,10,12,22 84:19  
 85:12,25 86:1,3,7,16,22  
 87:12 88:18 97:19 102:9  
 104:22 105:1  
 forced (1) 42:24  
 forces (3) 17:5 78:18 104:15  
 forcible (1) 41:9  
 forecast (2) 58:4 97:4  
 forecasts (1) 65:6  
 foreigners (1) 42:8  
 forensic (3) 55:20 66:7 68:19  
 foreseeable (1) 96:1  
 foreseen (1) 96:1  
 forever (4) 8:10 14:23 30:20  
 50:22  
 forewarned (1) 40:19  
 forget (2) 6:17 106:9  
 forgotten (3) 30:20,21 71:1  
 formal (2) 93:23 98:22  
 formally (2) 96:15 97:11  
 formed (2) 56:13 69:1  
 former (1) 54:8  
 forming (1) 56:1  
 forms (1) 99:20  
 forum (1) 99:4  
 forums (1) 94:21  
 forward (2) 104:15 105:24  
 found (13) 2:25 6:12 7:14  
 11:24 17:23 34:1,6 49:4  
 50:19 64:3 68:23 69:2,4  
 four (10) 13:11 32:1,16  
 47:18 51:2 52:11 53:14  
 91:8 92:20 98:7  
 fourperson (1) 100:13  
 fourth (4) 32:24 38:17 61:23  
 102:15  
 fourthly (3) 93:1 100:2  
 105:17  
 fouryearold (1) 23:20  
 framework (5) 93:21  
 99:18,20 100:17 102:13  
 france (11) 12:3,4,13 15:15  
 16:9 21:6 25:4 29:24 65:9  
 76:25 81:13  
 frankly (1) 50:3  
 fraught (1) 76:8  
 freed (1) 51:23  
 freeing (1) 70:17  
 french (18) 17:25 48:7,22  
 49:6 58:17,20  
 76:13,14,15,24 77:1,3,7  
 81:14 83:15 85:16,19  
 105:17  
 frequency (1) 82:18  
 frequent (2) 5:15 96:18  
 frequently (1) 71:17  
 fresh (2) 23:11 25:16  
 freweyni (4) 13:4,5,8 108:6

friends (8) 5:1 7:10 9:14  
 14:15,21 24:20 24 33:24  
 frightening (1) 19:21  
 front (1) 13:18  
 frontline (2) 43:16 54:1  
 fruit (1) 23:11  
 fulfill (1) 43:23  
 fulfilled (3) 43:23 72:12  
 98:17  
 full (10) 3:20 30:25 37:2  
 45:20 48:2 52:24 85:15  
 90:18 100:4 106:22  
 fulltime (1) 8:5  
 fully (7) 50:7 59:16 72:16  
 78:4 92:5 100:16 101:7  
 function (5) 79:15,16,18  
 80:1,2  
 fundamental (2) 33:6 36:24  
 fundamentally (2) 49:2  
 75:12  
 funding (1) 102:4  
 funeral (1) 6:19  
 further (21) 1:9 8:8 32:15  
 34:2,12 37:16,17 57:10  
 58:2 68:24 88:18  
 89:20,23,23 97:21 100:9  
 102:19 103:8,18,19 105:14  
 furthermore (1) 102:8  
 furthest (2) 57:7,8  
 future (5) 10:11 33:21 34:14  
 50:9 52:18  
 futures (1) 33:3

G

gained (1) 61:10  
 gamechanger (1) 97:14  
 gangs (9) 52:15 54:2,11  
 56:22 71:3,7,20,23 75:10  
 gather (1) 48:10  
 gave (6) 10:1 31:5 41:19  
 50:15 54:24 60:7  
 gebrehwiwot (16)  
 19:10,11,13,14  
 22:14,15,17,18  
 26:3,3,4,6,7 108:8,10,11  
 general (2) 39:12 85:11  
 generally (2) 19:24 87:13  
 generate (1) 57:2  
 generated (1) 76:13  
 generosity (2) 14:2 29:9  
 generous (1) 29:6  
 genuinely (1) 44:18  
 george (2) 44:6 62:22  
 get (11) 10:10 11:19 15:16  
 16:1 21:24 27:2 28:17 46:6  
 54:19 80:6 85:16  
 getting (2) 42:1 86:17  
 gibson (10) 44:10 45:5,18  
 48:23 62:23 65:8 66:16  
 68:19 69:1,6  
 gibsons (1) 46:3  
 girl (4) 7:11 11:2 13:12 29:10  
 gitet (3) 13:5,8 108:6  
 give (8) 1:13 25:24 28:14  
 29:6 66:13 90:17 92:9  
 107:11  
 given (13) 8:12 30:12 47:5  
 48:24 52:3 59:1 67:24  
 84:23 104:22,23 106:3,24  
 107:1  
 giving (2) 33:7 83:19  
 gmt (1) 6:13  
 god (1) 7:20  
 gods (1) 9:2  
 going (11) 1:4 2:24 5:13,14  
 13:23 15:22 31:14  
 45:23,24 53:10 77:23  
 golden (5) 43:3,10 44:19  
 60:20 74:21  
 gone (3) 12:19 15:15 18:24  
 good (8) 1:3 2:10 11:7 17:15  
 23:12 26:16,24 95:21  
 goodbye (1) 27:16  
 goodnight (1) 6:4  
 governance (1) 94:2

H

hadnt (1) 45:20  
 hailu (16) 19:10,11,13,14  
 22:14,15,17,18  
 26:3,3,4,6,7 108:8,10,11  
 half (5) 31:3 50:2 53:15 77:3  
 107:2  
 handed (1) 42:22  
 handful (1) 36:19  
 formally (2) 96:15 97:11  
 handling (1) 10:7 39:16  
 happen (2) 10:7 39:16  
 happened (21) 3:1 4:14  
 6:8,18 7:5 15:24 16:3,8  
 17:20 18:17 25:20 29:12  
 34:17 36:17 50:23 64:23  
 79:24 81:18 92:3 106:4,13  
 happening (1) 27:25  
 happy (5) 11:1 22:24  
 26:16,25 45:12  
 harbour (2) 84:16,17  
 hard (8) 5:17 7:14 8:13 26:11  
 28:24 29:17 90:19 94:8  
 harriet (1) 91:7  
 harrowing (2) 91:15 106:5  
 have (1) 39:17  
 having (5) 17:8 19:25 20:7  
 24:4 27:24  
 hayimeriam (3) 13:5,8  
 108:6  
 head (4) 36:20 41:18 53:25  
 66:23  
 headcount (1) 59:15  
 heading (6) 78:5 79:14 80:7  
 81:4 85:11 86:19  
 health (5) 19:23 20:21 28:4  
 29:13,15  
 hear (15) 1:8,13,18 4:20  
 10:15 11:23 13:3 16:19  
 19:9 27:23 47:20 49:15,25  
 61:11 82:18  
 heard (46) 3:2,17 4:5,6  
 17:19,21 20:25 28:20 31:2  
 32:2,11,19 33:9,23 35:7  
 37:1 39:14 42:7,18 47:18  
 51:20 53:14,23 54:8 61:8  
 74:9 75:20 77:17  
 78:7,10,18,22 79:6 82:5  
 83:10 84:21 89:12 91:8,16

95:5,13 98:21 102:25  
103:5 106:7,9  
**hearings (12)** 30:23  
31.1,9,25 52:10 53:21,23  
72:5 91:20 104:8  
106:10,22  
**heart (5)** 8:19 9:2 70:0 90:22  
91:17  
**heartbreaking (1)** 25:17  
**heartfelt (1)** 69:21  
**heavily (1)** 46:1  
**heavy (1)** 95:19  
**held (3)** 42:19 43:12 66:17  
**helicopter (1)** 60:21  
**helicopters (3)** 58:25 102:6  
104:4  
**help (11)** 2:9 4:7,13 8:23,25  
14:16 15:2 18:23 54:21  
57:8 90:25  
**helped (3)** 14:2 17:16 89:4  
**helpful (3)** 54:25 81:6 92:13  
**helping (4)** 2:14 11:6 27:1,5  
**henok (6)** 19:11,13 23:16  
28:2,20 108:8  
**here (7)** 9:10 16:13 48:4  
49:10 52:3 73:21,24  
**heroic (1)** 87:11  
**herself (2)** 26:22 29:8  
**high (9)** 13:13 38:24 39:21  
40:14 82:18 96:20,23  
97:3,15  
**highest (2)** 39:8 46:4  
**highlight (1)** 73:1  
**highly (1)** 58:6  
**himself (2)** 9:1 39:5  
**hindsight (5)** 37:7,8 49:18  
55:18 64:19  
**historic (1)** 32:4  
**history (1)** 106:16  
**hit (1)** 40:17  
**hm (56)** 54:24 55:8,8,12  
56:5,16,20,24 57:11,23,25  
58:9,16,23 59:11,14  
60:3,24 61:7,16,20  
63:6,7,8 64:21,25 65:5,14  
74:1 75:16 76:18 78:12  
81:15 82:7 93:15 94:9  
96:10,14,24  
97:12,18,23,25 98:12  
99:7,11 100:1 101:17  
103:11 104:3,10,18  
105:1,6,11,22  
**hmcg (1)** 99:14  
**hobbies (1)** 9:12  
**hold (2)** 30:6 53:7  
**holding (2)** 4:14 72:20  
**holds (1)** 56:8  
**home (63)** 3:7 4:11 5:6  
6:15,19,21 8:6 9:9 11:4  
14:12 19:25 21:25 25:13  
26:14,23 28:22 29:21,23  
30:3,4,12 33:16 36:21  
38:17,20 41:6,15 46:22  
48:7 49:25 50:22 51:15  
69:18,22 72:16 73:8,14  
77:14,18,24 78:6,9,15 79:9  
81:7,21 86:11 87:2,9,10  
88:3,24 89:13,16,19,22  
90:4,9,13 94:22 95:20  
102:22 103:7  
**homes (2)** 24:6 33:19  
**homogeneous (1)** 33:15  
**hope (16)** 4:13 10:7,10,11  
18:22 25:18,24 30:16,20  
33:21 34:5 73:7 80:12 81:6  
90:24 92:12  
**hoped (1)** 12:21  
**hoping (2)** 15:5 28:19  
**horrible (1)** 28:25  
**horrific (3)** 23:24 33:13  
70:11  
**hostile (1)** 51:14  
**hostility (1)** 40:3  
**hour (2)** 35:5,9  
**hours (6)** 36:1 48:8 60:9  
66:17 68:21 77:3

**house (3)** 14:18 21:12 37:12  
**housing (1)** 14:20  
**hover (2)** 67:9,12  
**hovered (1)** 67:15  
**however (13)** 3:16 39:23  
47:23 56:16 77:5 79:17  
80:2 81:20,21 89:21 95:12  
104:20 107:12  
**hubristic (1)** 49:20  
**huddles (1)** 99:6  
**huge (4)** 3:6 24:13 41:21  
95:22  
**hugely (1)** 42:1  
**human (5)** 30:14 33:17  
36:14 42:4 53:17  
**humanitarian (1)** 39:16  
**humanity (1)** 31:23  
**humans (1)** 10:13  
**humble (3)** 8:18 14:22 27:8  
**hunted (1)** 17:6  
**hunter (1)** 80:16  
**hurricane (1)** 80:18  
**husband (4)** 9:19,23 13:9  
15:19  
**hussein (1)** 36:3  
**hyde (1)** 91:7

---

**iamsar (2)** 63:19 67:7  
**idea (3)** 15:14 20:14 27:17  
**ideally (1)** 62:9  
**identification (1)** 37:23  
**identified (5)** 12:6 21:21  
80:21 85:3 106:15  
**identify (5)** 21:7 87:4  
89:19,24 105:24  
**identities (1)** 42:8  
**identity (1)** 20:8  
**ignore (4)** 4:9 65:18,21,23  
**ignores (2)** 36:10,12  
**iii (1)** 100:18  
**ill (1)** 8:2  
**illegal (2)** 94:23 103:3  
**illegals (1)** 100:7  
**illustrate (1)** 101:1  
**illustrates (1)** 67:2  
**imagination (1)** 37:13  
**imagining (1)** 70:16  
**immediate (2)** 15:18 46:6  
**immense (4)** 26:9 56:17,22  
60:12  
**imminent (1)** 46:5  
**imo (3)** 100:10,14,18  
**impact (9)** 3:7 30:23 32:2  
38:14 40:2 41:20 54:18  
69:25 101:13  
**impacted (2)** 20:6 80:1  
**impactful (1)** 70:9  
**impeded (1)** 79:19  
**imping (1)** 94:25  
**implementation (2)**  
105:18,20  
**implemented (3)** 50:7 72:19  
98:23  
**implications (1)** 58:7  
**importance (8)** 51:9 55:18  
57:24 62:20 66:5 92:2  
94:11 106:14  
**important (17)** 11:20 31:5  
55:15 61:25 63:1 72:3,14  
73:4,15 76:3,10 78:8  
79:8,16 98:12 105:1,4  
**importantly (4)** 57:1 88:7,21  
93:9  
**impossible (1)** 20:12  
**improve (1)** 88:7  
**improved (3)** 41:17 81:19  
89:10  
**improvement (3)** 100:25  
105:16,24  
**improvements (5)** 89:20  
102:19,23 103:24 105:7  
**inaccurate (3)** 62:12,15,18  
**inadequate (3)** 37:23,24  
75:12

**incident (44)** 5:20 11:24 12:1  
16:6 24:20 35:4,14 39:5,23  
40:12,16,25 44:24 45:4,19  
46:23 55:6 56:4 57:3 58:11  
59:14,19 64:1,5,7 69:15,25  
70:11 71:14 73:9 78:17  
79:8 81:10 83:9,15,23  
88:4,13 90:6 96:17  
105:8,20,22 106:6  
**incidents (5)** 57:3 63:13  
64:10,12,14  
**inclement (1)** 75:22  
**included (1)** 103:17  
**includes (5)** 33:10 34:6  
52:23 98:25 101:6  
**including (10)** 6:14 27:5  
38:13 39:14 41:24 51:4  
68:15 81:12 92:24 105:12  
**increase (15)** 37:3  
38:18,21,24 59:15,20  
92:23 95:4,22 96:1,8,13  
97:3,8 103:13  
**increased (4)** 39:7 52:12,16  
95:10  
**increases (2)** 56:18 105:12  
**increasing (4)** 96:11 97:25  
102:6 103:11  
**incredible (1)** 71:9  
**incredibly (3)** 2:8 18:5 70:6  
**incredulity (1)** 46:13  
**independent (2)** 61:18 98:13  
**independently (1)** 3:19  
**indescribable (2)** 15:18 29:3  
**indication (1)** 66:14  
**indicators (1)** 99:21  
**individual (1)** 33:17  
**individually (2)** 32:25 52:7  
**individuals (3)** 71:1 72:14  
74:1  
**ineffectual (1)** 46:3  
**inefficient (1)** 104:21  
**inertia (1)** 37:13  
**inevitably (4)** 55:17 59:21  
60:2 63:16  
**infected (3)** 42:13 43:21 46:2  
**inflatable (1)** 67:25  
**informal (5)** 47:3 48:16  
93:24 98:22 99:8  
**information (22)** 6:8 15:23  
28:14,17 44:13 45:9 47:6  
48:11 58:11 62:25 63:1  
64:13 77:9,11 82:15,16,23  
83:13,14 85:24 86:5 90:20  
**informed (1)** 97:15  
**infrastructure (1)** 103:15  
**inherent (1)** 75:19  
**inherently (1)** 76:6  
**initial (2)** 34:18 63:6  
**initiate (1)** 93:17  
**initiating (1)** 40:2  
**innocent (1)** 63:3  
**inquiry (85)** 1:21 4:13,23  
10:18 13:7 16:22 18:22  
19:12 22:16 25:24 26:5  
30:16 31:25 32:2,4,13,18  
33:6 34:15,24 39:13 41:12  
42:18 44:7 45:6,22 47:17  
50:11,11 51:8,21 52:8,17  
53:16,17 55:11 56:24  
89:21 90:14,20,24  
91:8,14,19,25 92:2,6,7,8  
93:18 94:1,12 95:4,13,17  
98:21 102:24 103:5,14  
104:7,17 105:10 106:7,17  
107:17  
**inquirys (4)** 72:12 77:5 91:18  
105:25  
**inquisitorial (1)** 52:21  
**insofar (3)** 71:7 78:3 84:21  
**instance (1)** 102:21  
**institutional (1)** 64:15  
**institutionally (2)** 33:1 52:6  
**instruct (1)** 84:6

**instructed (1)** 85:8  
**instructing (1)** 42:23  
**insufficient (4)** 37:22,24  
70:19 80:23  
**intelligence (3)** 38:23  
88:7,21  
**intelligent (1)** 14:23  
**intend (2)** 92:12,18  
**intended (2)** 70:13 85:2  
**intensity (1)** 39:22  
**interagency (1)** 103:20  
**interest (5)** 13:22 92:3 93:25  
105:10 106:1  
**interested (1)** 23:4  
**interests (1)** 94:9  
**internal (2)** 50:1 101:1  
**international (5)** 16:5,18  
76:23 98:16 107:7  
**internet (4)** 2:22 15:9 20:11  
27:20  
**interpreters (1)** 107:4  
**interruption (1)** 105:5  
**into (14)** 13:16 23:9 24:25  
35:14 41:8 45:2 53:17 55:5  
71:5 74:5 76:14 89:20  
102:25 105:19  
**introduced (1)** 99:12  
**introduction (1)** 92:18  
**investigation (2)** 30:16 88:5  
**investigative (7)** 18:1 30:18  
76:14 92:7 100:20 105:19  
106:19  
**investigations (3)** 37:16,18  
100:22  
**investment (1)** 97:7  
**invisible (1)** 76:1  
**invite (2)** 54:23 73:16  
**invited (1)** 89:19  
**involved (6)** 43:12 64:11  
65:5 87:16 90:3 97:6  
**involvement (1)** 78:18  
**involving (1)** 63:23  
**irrespective (1)** 68:1  
**irresponsible (1)** 60:24  
**isek (2)** 58:11 62:4  
**isnt (1)** 61:19  
**isolation (1)** 58:3  
**isotope (8)** 101:16  
102:21,25 103:13,14  
104:2,9,13  
**issa (8)** 31:20 33:12 36:2,4  
50:22 70:1 91:13 106:25  
**issued (2)** 76:17 85:15  
**issues (3)** 29:15 99:16 104:7  
**item (1)** 62:7  
**its (63)** 33:6 36:20 37:21  
49:10 50:1 54:11,17 56:16  
57:9,20,23 60:1,8,25  
62:11,16,18 65:6,7 67:15  
68:15 72:12 73:8,20 76:21  
77:10,15,20 78:16 84:20  
85:1 86:25 87:9,11  
89:14,25 90:14 91:21  
92:1,7 93:7,23 94:7 96:25  
98:11,24 99:4 100:11  
101:1,1,2 102:1,10  
104:10,18,23  
105:7,8,12,16,21  
106:11,19  
**itself (6)** 67:6 81:10 93:8,21  
94:3 106:16

---

**James (1)** 39:15  
**January (2)** 16:4 100:11  
**Javid (1)** 46:22  
**Jcr (1)** 88:20  
**Jennifer (1)** 103:24  
**Jettoli (1)** 89:11  
**Jewel (1)** 60:21  
**joint (2)** 88:16 103:21  
**jointly (1)** 97:22  
**Journey (4)** 70:16 74:8 75:13  
76:8  
**Juba (1)** 24:21  
**Judge (1)** 99:25

**judgment (7)** 55:17 63:17,25  
64:4,10 67:16 83:13  
**judgments (4)** 55:21,21  
66:7,8  
**judiciously (2)** 60:5,19  
**juice (4)** 23:10,11,13 27:7  
**July (2)** 59:25 99:5  
**jump (1)** 43:18  
**June (4)** 13:10 17:6 39:11  
40:5  
**justification (1)** 48:13  
**justified (1)** 34:7

---

**K**

**katalit (1)** 17:12  
**keep (2)** 7:18 18:10  
**keeping (3)** 52:20 86:20 87:2  
**kefalew (3)** 4:22,24 108:4  
**kept (2)** 17:18 22:3  
**key (6)** 3:4 32:16 38:9  
39:13,20 99:20  
**kids (1)** 10:2  
**killings (1)** 27:15  
**kind (7)** 8:18,19 26:12 27:8  
29:9,18 75:10  
**kindhearted (1)** 14:22  
**kindness (2)** 14:2 30:15  
**kingdoms (1)** 98:16  
**kings (6)** 31:15 53:10 69:17  
75:5 79:20 91:3  
**kiosk (1)** 3:16  
**knees (1)** 41:25  
**knew (11)** 2:1,18,19 9:22  
12:18 27:16 37:15 62:1  
82:9,10 86:13  
**know (33)** 3:24 6:9 7:19 9:13  
10:3 12:20 16:3 18:21  
19:17,21 24:16 28:3 29:1  
31:18 35:17 42:6  
43:5,20,22 44:4 50:19  
52:8,15,22 64:21,25  
33:20 36:24 37:12  
65:8,10,12 68:17 71:23  
83:4 91:5  
**knowing (4)** 37:17 53:4  
54:13 60:25  
**knowledge (2)** 62:8 76:5  
**known (11)** 14:1,23 37:9  
38:11 50:16  
62:4,6,11,13,16,18  
**kpis (3)** 99:22,24,24

---

**L**

**lack (3)** 36:13 37:13 38:9  
**laid (1)** 12:13  
**land (2)** 51:14 57:7  
**landed (1)** 89:2  
**landings (1)** 89:2  
**landside (1)** 89:8  
**lane (1)** 74:6  
**language (4)** 1:10 4:11 43:2  
47:8  
**languages (1)** 51:4  
**large (3)** 38:3 76:1 91:9  
**largely (1)** 76:1  
**lasers (1)** 43:7  
**last (13)** 11:12 20:16 27:18  
31:2 35:4,15 50:16 51:15  
53:14,15 101:25 107:1,13  
**late (3)** 57:16 60:11 76:25  
**later (9)** 5:2,12 6:1 11:4 35:5  
45:16 58:7 66:17 92:16  
**launch (1)** 79:21  
**launched (2)** 56:22 64:23  
**le (3)** 1:22 4:20,24  
**lead (3)** 3:12 59:20 104:21  
**leading (1)** 73:5  
**leaflets (1)** 42:22  
**learn (6)** 33:4 49:12,23 50:8  
52:18 105:6  
**learned (3)** 53:4 92:4 106:15  
**learning (1)** 49:20  
**learnt (4)** 24:19 49:7,11  
72:19  
**least (8)** 16:12 42:11 52:10  
53:3,18 57:9 75:7 86:11

**leat (5)** 47:21,23 49:21  
95:18,19  
**leats (1)** 49:16  
**leave (8)** 1:15 5:11 6:21  
17:13 20:4 26:23 33:24  
86:16  
**led (8)** 33:1 34:9 45:8 59:22  
86:17 94:22 95:24 98:14  
**left (34)** 2:2,20 5:6,7,12,15  
7:21 8:20 9:9 11:11,13  
12:15 13:19 15:11  
17:3,13,17,18 19:18  
20:16,21 23:3,5,18  
24:13,16,17 26:17 27:15  
29:1 33:20 45:18 61:2  
76:25  
**legal (4)** 34:20 36:24 90:18  
99:7  
**legally (1)** 43:8  
**legitimate (1)** 79:21  
**length (1)** 58:12  
**less (1)** 8:24  
**lesser (1)** 44:2  
**lessons (9)** 49:7,11,12 50:8  
52:18 53:4 72:18 105:6  
106:14  
**let (10)** 34:5 56:5 73:15  
75:13 77:13 78:5 81:25  
84:8 87:19 88:2  
**level (8)** 39:8 42:16 46:7  
47:9,22 82:15 100:9 105:2  
**levelled (1)** 87:1  
**levels (6)** 39:3 42:23 49:5  
96:15,19,23  
**liable (1)** 38:24  
**liaison (1)** 105:16  
**liberation (1)** 13:18  
**life (32)** 2:10 3:12 5:11  
8:11,14,16 9:23 11:6,8  
14:17,19 20:4 22:25 23:24  
26:15,16,21,24 32:8,15  
33:20 36:24 37:12  
38:18,24 42:3 43:24 52:22  
54:19 69:23 73:6 74:23  
**lifeboat (2)** 35:8 60:12  
**lifeboats (2)** 53:25 82:17  
**lifesaver (1)** 8:15  
**lifetime (8)** 37:15 52:25 64:13  
65:7 68:10 90:4 96:11 97:1  
66:24  
**lightvessel (3)** 50:15 65:11  
66:24  
**like (9)** 2:17 17:2 25:16  
30:15 40:17 71:8 72:22  
85:9 86:10  
**likeforlike (1)** 58:25  
**likely (5)** 38:2,21 57:9 58:5,6  
**lille (4)** 12:10 16:10 18:2  
25:4  
**limited (3)** 21:19 82:25 86:21  
**limits (1)** 59:13  
**line (3)** 27:21 36:16 74:24  
**lines (1)** 20:11  
**ling (3)** 35:7 56:12 60:11  
**link (2)** 68:24 83:23  
**linked (1)** 58:10  
**list (1)** 48:4  
**listened (2)** 33:10 91:11  
**listening (2)** 34:7,11  
**litany (1)** 47:18  
**literally (1)** 74:14  
**little (5)** 2:20 18:6,19 49:17  
81:25  
**live (4)** 6:23 8:8 14:24 71:21  
**lived (4)** 10:24 22:20  
26:14,15  
**lives (39)** 2:19 3:15 4:18  
8:10 14:24 17:15 21:3,8,9  
24:2,7 25:23,25 29:16  
32:12 33:3 36:15,18 39:17  
40:21 41:7 44:2 50:18  
51:10 52:11,18 53:5,18  
54:7 71:11,19 72:15 75:19  
78:23 79:13 87:18 88:1  
95:1 101:14  
**livestream (1)** 1:15  
**living (5)** 2:9 5:8 11 22:24

25:23  
**local (1)** 16:2  
**locate (2)** 75:21 88:24  
**location (5)** 35:9 50:17  
85:2,21 86:17  
**log (1)** 48:17  
**logistical (1)** 96:5  
**logs (1)** 66:13  
**lonely (1)** 3:25  
**long (5)** 10:23 23:23 58:21  
63:21 77:11  
**longer (4)** 3:19 7:20 28:1  
96:24  
**longterm (1)** 46:19  
**look (4)** 1:16 3:10 5:14 39:6  
**looking (2)** 7:2 89:14  
**looks (1)** 105:24  
**lords (1)** 37:12  
**lose (2)** 29:16 32:11  
**losing (4)** 3:6 19:17 18:6  
33:11  
**loss (12)** 3:4 4:2 7:15 22:5,8  
25:8 29:5 30:10,19 32:15  
69:23 73:6  
**lost (20)** 3:4 6:16 8:14 12:19  
13:1,24 15:19 22:11 25:11  
26:10 32:9 39:17 43:5 48:8  
50:18 52:11 53:3,18 72:15  
90:21  
**lot (12)** 4:2 5:25 12:23  
19:18,19,24 22:10 23:25  
27:16,24 29:16,19  
**lots (1)** 23:21  
**love (4)** 5:2 9:20,25 22:4  
**loved (24)** 1:5 8:15,19  
9:13,21 12:25 14:21 18:5  
27:22 30:24 32:17,20  
33:11,25 34:1,11 35:1 36:7  
50:17,18,21 72:15 90:23  
106:6  
**loving (2)** 10:5 11:2  
**low (1)** 90:7  
**lunch (1)** 31:11

---

**M**

**magnet (1)** 51:25  
**magnified (1)** 34:23  
**mail (3)** 67:4,6 100:20  
**maintain (1)** 44:20  
**maintained (3)** 41:16 46:11  
105:3  
**maintaining (1)** 67:9  
**maintenance (1)** 93:10  
**majestys (9)** 54:9 66:2 69:12  
73:19 86:9 93:14 94:14  
99:19,19  
**major (4)** 39:22 40:12,16,24  
**majority (4)** 12:17 35:13  
74:17 88:24  
**makes (3)** 44:8 62:25 96:2  
**making (9)** 6:25 16:5 23:12  
32:12 44:13 49:8 55:20  
66:7 72:10  
**man (6)** 2:8 8:15,22 9:3,25  
23:25  
**manage (2)** 60:4,18  
**managed (3)** 15:16 57:4  
83:14  
**managing (1)** 99:3  
**mandate (2)** 47:15 60:13  
**mandatory (1)** 100:11  
**manifest (1)** 75:25  
**manifested (1)** 93:8  
**manned (1)** 48:16  
**manual (2)** 63:19 67:7  
**many (15)** 4:6 8:12 29:13  
31:19 56:23 60:19 65:9,10  
71:15 74:14,16 81:17 85:9  
95:12 105:20  
**march (5)** 1:1 16:9 52:10  
59:23 97:13  
**marginal (1)** 74:25  
**marine (2)** 100:19 105:18  
**mariners (1)** 46:5  
**maritime (28)** 41:19 48:12  
53:11 57:13,25 59:4,16

66:25 69:13 71:16 75:25  
 76:6 77:15 78:6 9,10,12  
 82:11,21 87:12 88:18  
 92:25 93:11 97:1,19,25  
 98:16 103:12  
**mark (1)** 84:4  
**masks (1)** 46:1  
**married (3)** 5:3 13:9 27:2  
**mass (1)** 27:14  
**masters (1)** 7:7  
**material (3)** 43:22 76:12  
 107:9  
**materialise (1)** 102:9  
**materials (1)** 90:20  
**matter (4)** 47:24 69:11 87:4  
 101:4  
**matters (13)** 32:8,10,13  
 50:11,12,12 51:8 52:8,17  
 73:3 86:22 101:11  
**matthew (3)** 47:21 49:16,21  
**maturity (1)** 14:14  
**maxwellscott (4)**  
 53:10,12,13 108:12  
**maybe (1)** 6:17  
**mayday (12)** 46:4,9 48:12  
 58:15 63:17 66:21,22  
 76:17 81:14 82:19 85:14  
 86:17  
**mca (28)** 53:18 59:18 92:25  
 93:8,12,22 94:2,3,7  
 96:9,19  
 98:9,11,13,19,24,25  
 99:2,4,18 100:2,3,5 101:5  
 102:1,5,22 105:9  
**mcas (7)** 55:24 56:1 96:16  
 98:20 100:7,25 101:7  
**mcc (4)** 82:24 83:22 85:25  
 86:4  
**mean (3)** 40:18 65:15 66:16  
**means (6)** 15:8 34:11 35:24  
 38:6 67:9 88:23  
**meant (4)** 12:13 20:11 27:20  
 29:24  
**measures (2)** 52:13 88:12  
**mechanism (1)** 99:9  
**mechanisms (2)** 93:24 98:22  
**media (3)** 17:24 21:6 51:18  
**medical (3)** 2:14,15 3:8  
**meet (4)** 36:23 39:22 96:24  
 102:7  
**meeting (4)** 39:11 40:5  
 57:17 60:15  
**meetings (3)** 39:1 99:10,13  
**mekelle (14)** 11:5,6,8,9,11  
 13:10,14,19,22 16:17,25  
 17:6,15 18:3  
**member (4)** 2:3 21:22  
 100:10,18  
**members (4)** 6:14 7:9 99:6  
 107:1  
**memories (1)** 32:9  
**memory (4)** 5:18 7:18 14:23  
 28:25  
**men (2)** 62:17 70:17  
**mental (3)** 19:23 24:12 74:10  
**mentioned (5)** 20:20 73:25  
 84:12 103:9 106:25  
**merely (1)** 46:6  
**meron (53)** 18:1  
 19:10,14,16,17,22 20:1,25  
 21:5,12  
 22:2,4,10,14,18,19,22  
 23:1,7,9,12,19  
 24:1,4,10,13,16,17,19  
 25:3,12,14  
 26:3,7,8,12,13,17  
 27:10,15,16,23  
 28:1,19,21,22  
 29:3,4,6,18,20 30:16,19  
**merons (6)** 21:7,18,25 25:9  
 29:11,11  
**messages (2)** 6:7 28:16  
**met (3)** 4:25 5:1 12:4  
**middle (3)** 29:22 57:7 63:18  
**middlefebruary (1)** 20:2  
**midnovember (2)** 11:23

23:18  
**might (5)** 28:19 52:1 87:1  
 89:21 96:22  
**migrant (22)** 39:1 40:15,23  
 41:9 44:21 46:12,18  
 55:1,14,16 61:23 62:7  
 63:15,23 65:22 70:7 74:13  
 76:24 81:16 84:5 85:3,15  
**migrants (17)** 20:23 32:23  
 33:15 40:4 42:8,12,22 44:2  
 51:19,25 52:1 63:11 64:20  
 65:15 79:10 80:11 89:9  
**migration (3)** 39:12 94:23  
 103:3  
**mike (3)** 39:20 40:11,21  
**miles (5)** 45:4 67:9,20,22,23  
**mill (1)** 23:11  
**millionpound (1)** 97:6  
**mind (8)** 28:2 37:19 44:23  
 64:14 73:5,16 77:13 78:8  
**mindful (1)** 98:19  
**minimise (1)** 70:13  
**minister (3)** 41:15 69:22  
 103:1  
**ministerial (1)** 97:21  
**ministers (9)** 40:5 51:24  
 97:15,24 99:22 101:9,23  
 103:6,9  
**ministry (1)** 101:18  
**minutes (12)** 19:2  
 35:5,10,15,19 36:3 45:16  
 70:12 80:6 83:6 84:11,13  
**misery (1)** 25:11  
**misheard (1)** 62:11  
**misidentification (1)** 83:21  
**miss (5)** 10:20 22:5 27:17  
 29:9 33:25  
**missed (2)** 5:25 48:20  
**missing (4)** 5:25 7:15 51:1  
 69:6  
**mission (9)** 44:10 45:6 61:11  
 67:16 79:19 81:11,19,24  
 82:22  
**missions (1)** 84:8  
**misstated (1)** 62:11  
**mistaken (1)** 81:15  
**misunderstood (2)** 67:6,6  
**mobile (3)** 48:16,19 57:8  
**mobilised (1)** 97:12  
**mod (2)** 102:22 103:2  
**model (2)** 63:22 66:4  
**modelling (1)** 95:24  
**modification (2)** 102:5 104:3  
**mohamed (6)** 31:20 36:2  
 50:22 70:1 91:13 106:4  
**mohammeds (1)** 33:12  
**mohammed (2)** 36:3 70:2  
**mohammedie (1)** 36:3  
**moment (2)** 18:25 44:18  
**monasteries (1)** 14:7  
**monday (1)** 47:20  
**monetary (1)** 71:22  
**money (3)** 3:16 27:6 41:8  
**monks (1)** 14:8  
**month (11)** 5:7,12 7:21  
 56:8,9 59:13 64:22  
 87:19,23 95:19 96:17  
**months (4)** 38:25 39:9 59:15  
 107:13  
**moomin (1)** 66:18  
**more (27)** 2:25 10:10  
 15:20,23 23:4 27:14 33:21  
 35:24 36:22 39:6,17 43:11  
 51:23 52:11 59:10,10,17  
 64:23 71:8 73:1 75:23  
 86:18 87:12 89:7 92:16  
 94:6 95:10  
**morning (6)** 1:3,14 6:5 32:3  
 77:6 80:19  
**morris (10)** 11:25 12:4,6  
 15:13,17 16:7,20,21,23  
 108:7  
**most (22)** 14:22 33:6 35:2  
 36:5,7,23 42:13 43:2,15  
 49:2 56:8 64:25 68:5 70:19  
 88:7,21 93:9 100:3,11

102:2 105:1,4  
**mother (18)** 3:15,20 4:2 8:4  
 9:14 10:9,15 13:4,8 15:18  
 17:1 22:20 23:19  
 25:5,11,14 27:3 29:11  
**mothers (3)** 21:3 34:4 43:6  
**motivated (1)** 71:21  
**motorway (1)** 75:25  
**mounted (1)** 96:6  
**mourned (1)** 30:17  
**mourning (2)** 10:22 22:8  
**mouth (1)** 28:17  
**move (6)** 3:7,19 8:3 19:25  
 33:22 73:6  
**moved (4)** 3:23 20:1 23:7  
 51:3  
**movement (1)** 84:18  
**moves (1)** 7:17  
**moving (2)** 31:4 70:8  
**mrcc (1)** 48:5  
**ms (19)** 1:22 4:20,24 10:19  
 13:3,8 16:19,23 19:13  
 22:13,17 26:2,6 31:17,18  
 78:1 84:2 85:23 108:12  
**mubin (2)** 45:13 47:13  
**much (26)** 7:12,15 8:1,8,20  
 9:16 10:13 12:25,25 14:6  
 16:3 18:8,18 29:11 31:9,18  
 33:21 53:8,9 63:6 67:21  
 69:16 94:17 95:22 96:6  
 107:15  
**multiple (2)** 64:17 81:11  
**must (8)** 18:16 42:6 49:13  
 65:24 66:1 70:25 72:17  
 90:22  
**mutual (1)** 5:1  
**myles (1)** 91:6  
**myself (1)** 20:18

**N**

**n (1)** 108:1  
**nadew (3)** 10:17,19 108:5  
**naik (5)** 31:14,17,18 78:1  
 108:12  
**naked (1)** 75:21  
**name (1)** 9:16  
**nameless (1)** 33:15  
**names (1)** 83:9  
**narrative (1)** 40:7  
**national (2)** 37:14 61:20  
**nationality (1)** 55:3  
**naturally (1)** 70:22  
**nature (6)** 29:7 42:17 45:18  
 60:8 65:19 67:18  
**nautical (4)** 67:9,20,22,23  
**navigate (1)** 76:4  
**navigation (1)** 76:6  
**nal (5)** 45:5,18 46:3 48:23  
 62:23  
**near (3)** 16:10 49:4 85:18  
**nearby (3)** 81:14 85:16,19  
**nearly (3)** 20:12 25:16 85:10  
**necessarily (2)** 42:25 84:25  
**necessary (5)** 61:16,22 80:25  
 82:15 86:15  
**need (20)** 4:17 18:17,20  
 25:22,25 33:14 45:9  
 55:2,18 57:3 60:18 62:22  
 64:19 72:16,18 73:13  
 84:25 85:1 104:23 107:11  
**needed (9)** 2:9 3:18 11:22  
 20:4,15 23:17 28:3 56:24  
 58:1  
**needs (4)** 14:16 15:4 62:2,8  
**needy (1)** 29:7  
**negative (1)** 51:18  
**negligently (1)** 35:1  
**neighbourhood (2)** 4:1 15:3  
**neighbours (2)** 3:24 14:3  
**neither (2)** 69:8 96:1  
**nervousness (1)** 44:24  
**never (18)** 8:20,25 9:20  
 13:19 17:13 18:15 22:7  
 24:11 30:20 34:1,4 36:17  
 48:20 49:25 50:19 68:17  
 84:2 87:21

**news (12)** 3:17 4:6 6:10,15  
 20:19,22 21:16 28:19,25  
 40:16,17 57:15  
**next (4)** 4:20 10:14 13:3  
 16:19 22:13 70:12 79:14  
 80:7 81:4 82:3 84:6,9  
 85:11 95:2  
**ngo (1)** 15:17  
**night (49)** 6:1 33:19 34:18  
 36:6 44:11 47:19 50:24  
 54:17,17 56:23 57:11,12  
 58:3,5 60:25 61:1,3  
 64:23,24 65:3,4 69:7  
 70:8,18 71:2,25 72:15  
 74:6,12,21 75:2,8 76:16  
 77:8,16 78:21 79:2,10,20  
 80:2,10,12,15 82:1,8 84:10  
 85:9 87:12 106:4  
**nightmares (2)** 24:4 27:24  
**nights (2)** 10:5 82:8  
**nine (1)** 42:19  
**niyat (33)** 10:16,20  
 11:1,13,21 12:3,6,10,19,25  
 13:9,10,13,19 14:6,21,25  
 15:7,10,13,24 16:4,24  
 17:3,13,16,21  
 18:1,5,8,9,15,18  
**niyats (5)** 11:24 12:8 13:4  
 16:10,20  
**nobody (1)** 67:13  
**nonborder (1)** 82:16  
**none (4)** 17:14 49:3 58:10  
 81:20  
**nonetheless (1)** 72:2  
**nor (7)** 66:17 69:8,9 82:19  
 83:17 84:6 96:1  
**normal (2)** 15:7 22:8  
**notably (1)** 102:2  
**note (2)** 6:1 86:25  
**noted (3)** 56:12 77:5 97:20  
**nothing (6)** 10:3,3,5 49:17  
 70:12 87:8  
**notice (1)** 53:1  
**noting (1)** 88:13  
**notwithstanding (1)** 72:2  
**november (79)** 5:4,21,23 6:7  
 11:11 13:16 15:25 16:25  
 17:3 20:17,22 21:1 23:14  
 27:9,12 31:21 32:6 36:16  
 37:4 38:5,16 39:1,4 43:25  
 46:21 50:5 55:9  
 56:6,12,14,21 57:12,18,19  
 58:3,6,23 59:2,12  
 60:3,11,15 64:6,21,24  
 65:2,15 69:10 70:14,17  
 71:25 73:23 76:25 78:15  
 79:5 80:10,19,22 87:19  
 88:6,17,23 89:8,15 90:5  
 91:24 92:4 93:2  
 95:14,18,21 96:16 97:15  
 101:21,23 102:17,20 104:6  
 106:2  
**number (20)** 17:23 55:7  
 56:4,7 62:10,17 75:14  
 80:9,11,13 86:14 91:9  
 92:13 95:5,9,15 96:6 97:24  
 101:20 104:22  
**numbers (17)** 33:16 36:18  
 38:3,5 40:6 62:4 86:12  
 95:8,14,20 96:11,21  
 97:3,16 101:21 103:8  
 105:13  
**numerous (1)** 85:1

**O**

**objective (2)** 78:25 94:25  
**obligation (1)** 76:22  
**obligations (4)** 36:24 98:16  
 101:7,14  
**observation (1)** 72:10  
**observations (1)** 78:2  
**observe (2)** 45:11 72:2  
**obviously (2)** 43:15 65:23  
**obviously (2)** 42:14 57:10  
**occasion (1)** 65:1

**occasions (3)** 31:5 61:25  
 74:13  
**occupants (4)** 35:14 43:13  
 45:19 47:13  
**occurred (5)** 49:14 50:4  
 51:12 70:14 82:1  
**ocean (1)** 63:18  
**oclock (2)** 31:8 77:6  
**october (4)** 5:9 24:14 97:4  
 100:12  
**odds (1)** 71:5  
**offer (3)** 53:19 69:14 106:10  
**office (34)** 33:16 36:21 41:6  
 48:7 49:25 51:15 69:18,22  
 72:16 73:8,14 77:14,18  
 78:6,9 79:9 81:21 86:11  
 87:2,9,10 88:3,24  
 89:13,16,19,22 90:4,9,13  
 94:22 95:20 102:22 103:7  
**officer (3)** 59:16 79:23 80:5  
**officers (9)** 54:8 55:22 61:10  
 62:20 66:8,12,15 82:21  
 83:22  
**offices (4)** 38:17 77:24 78:15  
 81:7  
**officials (3)** 39:8,25 40:1  
**often (9)** 11:22 14:2,18 20:3  
 28:2,8 64:17 74:6 76:1  
**old (2)** 4:1 7:21  
**older (3)** 7:24 18:9 29:15  
**oldest (1)** 28:12  
**omahoney (11)** 38:10,20  
 39:14 41:10 51:21 56:10  
 59:7 87:21 94:19 95:23  
 97:13  
**omar (5)** 70:1,9 91:13  
 106:4,25  
**omars (1)** 77:1  
**onabanjo (5)** 10:19 13:3,8  
 16:19,23  
**once (4)** 25:18 66:23 83:1  
 84:19  
**ones (17)** 1:5 27:22 30:24  
 32:17,20 33:11 34:1,11  
 35:1 36:7 50:17,18,21  
 67:11 72:15 90:23 106:6  
**ongoing (2)** 98:3 104:24  
**online (1)** 24:22  
**onwards (2)** 95:5 96:12  
**open (1)** 25:21  
**opened (4)** 23:6,10 57:4 64:7  
**opening (8)** 55:25 73:20  
 75:4 76:19 77:5 79:20 80:8  
 84:12  
**operated (1)** 42:21  
**operates (2)** 93:22 99:18  
**operating (1)** 105:14  
**operation (21)** 38:17 41:14  
 58:4 59:19 65:6  
 78:20,21,23,24 79:2,11  
 80:20 101:15,16 102:21,25  
 103:13,14 104:2,9,13  
**operational (9)** 36:11 47:5  
 73:17 75:3 93:17,20 97:18  
 98:20 103:3  
**operationally (1)** 98:13  
**operations (12)** 41:22 59:16  
 79:6 82:21 89:18 94:11  
 99:15 101:19 102:10,20,24  
 105:7  
**operators (3)** 43:16 47:5,7  
**opinion (1)** 56:11  
**opinions (1)** 66:10  
**opportunity (8)** 32:5,14  
 40:20 51:9 52:17 90:12  
 92:9 104:19  
**opus (1)** 107:4  
**oral (9)** 31:25 32:16 42:24  
 55:25 62:21 70:8 72:25  
 91:9 92:9  
**ordeal (1)** 33:13  
**order (3)** 33:2 49:12 63:9  
**organisation (5)** 49:20,22  
 61:19,21 105:23  
**organisations (1)** 41:24  
**organised (1)** 75:10

**original (3)** 1:10 35:18 99:9  
**others (13)** 8:23,25 9:1  
 14:11,16 28:16 29:8 33:20  
 50:21 53:5 85:9 91:22  
 106:12  
**otherwise (1)** 90:8  
**ought (1)** 37:15  
**ourselves (1)** 8:12  
**outcomes (1)** 42:9  
**outlier (1)** 56:6  
**outline (2)** 102:11 104:12  
**outlined (5)** 93:5 94:18,20  
 102:18 103:23  
**outside (1)** 2:22 27:22 55:7  
 56:4,19 58:9 68:15  
**outsirts (2)** 8:8 11:9  
**over (29)** 16:6 22:9 29:2  
 31:2 33:8 36:14 38:18 43:6  
 44:11 46:25 47:18  
 51:1,2,15 53:14 58:16  
 65:15 67:10,12,15 84:13  
 91:7 92:1 97:7,9 100:12  
 103:2 107:1,12  
**overall (3)** 57:13 85:5 87:7  
**overarching (2)** 76:10 78:22  
**overnight (1)** 57:20  
**overriding (1)** 94:25  
**oversaw (1)** 93:9  
**oversee (1)** 100:3  
**overseen (1)** 105:9  
**oversees (1)** 93:22  
**oversight (9)** 82:16 92:25  
 98:9,19,23 99:2,8 100:9,19  
**overstate (2)** 63:11 64:17  
**overstatement (2)** 63:3,5  
**overt (1)** 40:3  
**overturned (1)** 24:8  
**overview (2)** 73:7 92:13  
**overwhelm (2)** 39:21,24  
**overwhelmed (5)** 37:22 38:3  
 39:11 48:6 96:14  
**overwhelming (2)** 16:11  
 18:11  
**own (14)** 5:5 13:21 14:16  
 15:4 33:18 38:17 51:4  
 71:19 74:3 81:20 89:25  
 104:10,18,23  
**owner (2)** 23:5 99:1

**P**

**pace (3)** 94:13 103:6 107:13  
**paid (1)** 50:16  
**pain (8)** 4:4 10:4,8 16:10  
 25:5,20,22 29:20  
**painful (1)** 4:12  
**pandemic (1)** 87:24  
**papadopoulos (2)** 44:6 62:22  
**paramount (1)** 94:11  
**parent (3)** 30:10 93:7 105:9  
**parents (9)** 2:14 3:7,12,14  
 8:1 19:15 22:9 23:8 27:1  
**parliament (1)** 46:23  
**part (9)** 38:3 56:1,13 59:25  
 73:10 75:16 78:21 99:20  
 106:23  
**participants (2)** 37:3 90:19  
**participation (1)** 91:14  
**particular (8)** 41:7 53:14  
 73:9 77:16 89:25 91:12  
 95:9 106:24  
**particularly (7)** 1:24 47:20  
 63:1 72:18 75:21 96:11  
 103:25  
**partner (2)** 9:23,25  
**partners (2)** 56:17 57:23  
**parttime (1)** 7:6  
**pass (1)** 28:16  
**passage (1)** 75:4  
**passed (5)** 7:1 24:18,19  
 48:21 82:19  
**passengers (1)** 55:1  
**passing (1)** 58:19  
**past (5)** 33:8 51:1,2 91:7  
 92:1  
**path (1)** 85:1  
**patrol (1)** 76:15

**pattern (3)** 67:5,8 68:5  
**pay (1)** 3:8  
**paying (1)** 2:13  
**peace (2)** 7:21 28:14  
**peer (3)** 61:19 101:3 105:21  
**people (51)** 1:5 2:1 4:6,10  
 8:17,19 10:10,13 11:6 17:7  
 20:23 28:15 32:11 33:22  
 36:18 38:4 39:17 40:6  
 45:17 51:23 52:16  
 53:16,18 54:1,14 63:24  
 64:2,3 65:13 69:6 70:25  
 71:4,12,15,20,21,25  
 74:7,12 75:2,8,15 79:3  
 81:7 85:10,20 86:13 88:1  
 95:6,9,16  
**peoples (1)** 13:18  
**peoplesmuggling (1)** 71:3  
**percent (1)** 95:21  
**perceptions (1)** 43:12  
**perfect (1)** 9:24  
**perfectly (1)** 84:14  
**performance (4)** 77:24 84:10  
 93:23 99:20  
**performing (1)** 90:15  
**perhaps (1)** 88:21  
**peril (1)**

pleaser (1) 8:19  
 plight (1) 4:10  
 pm (7) 31:12 35:25 57:17  
 58:6 77:3 79:5 107:16  
 poignant (1) 106:8  
 pointed (1) 60:12  
 points (9) 37:19 55:6 73:2,15  
 77:13,23,25,25 81:5  
 policies (3) 47:5 99:12  
 101:12  
 policy (3) 41:11 63:8 94:21  
 political (7) 40:2,6,13,14,18  
 48:24 51:12  
 politically (1) 40:25  
 poor (3) 38:13 74:7 76:8  
 popat (5) 69:17,19,20,21  
 108:13  
 port (1) 58:12  
 ports (1) 84:16  
 pose (1) 65:22  
 posed (1) 65:20  
 position (13) 49:17 62:12,13  
 63:18 68:21 69:1 71:13  
 81:7 87:14 88:14 89:22  
 90:2  
 positive (1) 46:16  
 possibility (2) 85:18 102:9  
 possible (6) 8:1 17:16 35:24  
 52:24 57:5 78:3  
 possibly (4) 40:14 71:24  
 79:25 88:10  
 post (1) 17:24  
 potential (3) 63:20 85:20  
 98:4  
 potentially (1) 104:21  
 powerful (4) 32:2 53:15  
 91:15 106:7  
 practicable (1) 85:7  
 practical (1) 82:14  
 practices (2) 47:3 53:2  
 practice (1) 69:17  
 pray (3) 4:16,17,18  
 prayer (1) 14:7  
 precedent (1) 56:7  
 preceding (1) 94:13  
 predicament (1) 64:18  
 predict (1) 95:20  
 predictability (2) 37:1,20  
 predictable (3) 32:21 37:5  
 56:11  
 predicted (3) 57:16 58:4  
 96:12  
 predictions (2) 38:18 103:7  
 prejudicial (1) 46:2  
 premature (1) 43:19  
 preparation (1) 48:9  
 prepared (2) 97:22 104:12  
 prepares (2) 92:7 106:18  
 prescient (1) 41:5  
 presence (1) 88:19  
 present (1) 59:2  
 presented (3) 32:4 46:18  
 96:8  
 presents (1) 51:8  
 pressure (8) 41:21,23,25  
 56:18,22 60:12 97:2,18  
 pressures (1) 97:2  
 presumably (2) 77:2,6  
 pretext (1) 15:25  
 prevent (2) 32:14 41:22  
 preventability (1) 32:20  
 preventable (2) 36:17 65:17  
 prevented (1) 34:13  
 previous (4) 31:5 38:19 64:2  
 82:8  
 primacy (1) 103:2  
 primarily (1) 93:8  
 primary (4) 79:12 80:15  
 81:10 82:10  
 prime (3) 41:15 103:1,6  
 principally (1) 72:8  
 principle (3) 54:7 55:1  
 102:12  
 principles (1) 100:16  
 prior (2) 96:17 103:5  
 prison (1) 17:12

privileged (1) 14:17  
 probabilities (1) 67:5  
 probably (1) 40:15  
 problem (3) 40:6 58:14 62:25  
 problems (8) 6:20 29:13,13  
 57:17 63:3,5,12 65:20  
 procedures (4) 53:2 79:6  
 100:17 105:15  
 proceed (1) 40:9  
 proceeded (2) 84:24 85:8  
 proceeding (2) 81:5 103:6  
 proceedings (2) 34:20 70:4  
 process (6) 25:22 52:21  
 60:1,1 90:3,22  
 procure (1) 102:14  
 procured (2) 89:16 104:25  
 procurement (3) 97:8 101:10  
 102:1  
 procuring (2) 104:10,18  
 produce (1) 107:11  
 produced (2) 77:18 107:12  
 professional (2) 54:25 56:11  
 professionals (2) 43:17 45:7  
 professor (2) 35:12,20  
 profile (1) 40:14  
 profit (1) 23:12  
 profound (2) 69:12 70:5  
 prohibit (1) 37:8  
 project (6) 59:21 97:5,6 98:4  
 102:3 104:2  
 projections (3) 95:24 96:12  
 101:21  
 prompted (1) 85:25  
 proper (5) 30:6,12 37:8 76:7  
 78:2  
 properly (2) 16:8 87:5  
 proposal (1) 104:14  
 proposals (1) 97:24  
 proposed (2) 90:10 101:12  
 prospects (1) 81:18  
 prosus (1) 82:23  
 protect (8) 18:12,19 24:23  
 33:3 36:24 37:12 43:24  
 52:18  
 protecting (1) 32:8  
 protection (2) 10:10 52:21  
 proud (1) 87:11  
 proved (2) 41:4 68:22  
 provide (12) 47:1 57:13 59:3  
 72:24 90:20 92:12,15  
 98:23 99:10 100:4,6  
 106:17  
 provided (13) 35:9 40:20  
 45:10 54:2 62:4,10 70:20  
 90:24 99:8 100:9,19 101:5  
 103:15  
 provider (1) 3:5  
 provides (3) 32:14 52:17  
 98:18  
 providing (4) 57:25 92:9  
 99:3,13  
 provision (4) 100:1 101:1  
 103:17 104:20  
 psychologically (1) 20:5  
 public (4) 53:1 72:5 91:20  
 92:2  
 publicly (1) 91:12  
 pulling (1) 74:13  
 purpose (7) 38:1 52:20,21  
 53:7 82:13 99:9 102:12  
 purposebuilt (1) 89:10  
 purposes (2) 76:13 89:6  
 pursuant (1) 79:11  
 pushbacks (2) 40:10 41:9  
 putting (4) 15:4 54:14 59:10  
 71:19

Q

qualification (1) 61:10  
 qualifications (1) 61:12  
 qualified (1) 59:17  
 question (7) 74:22 75:6  
 76:16 79:2,21 80:8 81:2  
 questioned (1) 45:7  
 questioning (4) 62:1 85:22  
 86:21 95:18

quick (2) 55:10 58:23  
 quickly (4) 5:2 64:9 86:18  
 88:10  
 quite (4) 23:11 45:12 49:19  
 91:17  
 quote (3) 43:3 74:11 75:6

---

R

r163 (9) 53:24 58:14 66:21  
 67:2,14 68:10,14,14,22  
 race (1) 55:3  
 radio (1) 82:18  
 raging (1) 87:24  
 raise (1) 99:4  
 raised (6) 26:7 39:2,25 79:21  
 80:8 102:8  
 rapid (2) 94:12 96:7  
 rapidly (1) 95:14  
 rare (1) 57:12  
 rarely (1) 2:21  
 rather (3) 52:2 55:19 66:6  
 reach (5) 35:11 61:16 65:18  
 83:18 84:22  
 reached (3) 11:10 35:18  
 48:15  
 reaching (1) 73:5  
 reaction (1) 40:4  
 read (18) 1:20 4:22 10:17  
 13:5 16:21 19:11 22:15  
 24:22 26:4 91:11  
 108:3,4,5,7,8,9,10,11  
 reading (2) 9:12 70:6  
 ready (5) 80:6,18 84:10 85:6  
 106:17  
 real (7) 7:11 34:4 45:4 55:6  
 56:3 69:9 92:2  
 realised (3) 6:20 41:3 79:3  
 realistic (2) 55:19 66:6  
 really (3) 7:22 12:21 22:4  
 reason (7) 29:24 33:18 40:12  
 60:8 61:15 65:23 80:4  
 reasonable (5) 62:3,5 69:3  
 83:3 84:15  
 reasonably (3) 37:15 88:10  
 90:7  
 reasons (4) 39:13 52:3 73:24  
 76:18  
 recall (3) 5:23 10:21 40:22  
 receive (2) 30:23 82:22  
 received (11) 6:1 58:18  
 77:7,8 82:20 83:5,14 86:6  
 91:8 96:20 107:9  
 receiving (2) 40:22 85:24  
 recent (3) 65:1 100:4,11  
 recently (1) 25:13  
 reception (1) 89:9  
 recognise (4) 66:9,10 91:12  
 92:1  
 recognised (4) 33:14 41:1  
 95:12,17  
 recognition (1) 97:1  
 recommend (1) 67:14  
 recommendations (12) 33:2  
 49:7 50:6 73:13 88:3  
 89:21,25 90:9 100:6  
 105:18,21,25  
 reconcile (2) 63:13 64:10  
 reconciling (2) 64:14 83:8  
 reconnaissance (3) 88:8,22  
 103:19  
 record (6) 56:8 65:4 86:20  
 87:2 95:15 101:20  
 recorded (3) 40:24 48:21  
 79:4  
 recording (7) 1:12 4:20 13:3  
 16:19 22:13 26:2 86:22  
 19:8  
 recordings (3) 1:17 10:14  
 19:8  
 recover (1) 22:12  
 rectified (1) 53:2  
 red (8) 38:25 39:6 57:17  
 60:14,15 61:1,3 65:2  
 reevaluate (2) 66:15 69:3  
 reevaluated (1) 69:1  
 refer (1) 75:4

reference (3) 77:21 81:25  
 98:3  
 referred (6) 46:20 48:3 49:21  
 75:5 101:24 102:4  
 referring (1) 64:2  
 refine (1) 104:20  
 reflect (3) 33:4 49:8,23  
 reflected (2) 47:5 101:18  
 refuge (1) 20:1  
 regard (4) 63:19 71:3 89:12  
 94:5  
 regarded (3) 56:1 59:23 66:2  
 regarding (3) 37:11 83:14  
 98:21  
 regardless (1) 75:14  
 region (9) 21:19 24:7 29:22  
 30:7 55:2 57:1 87:17 88:25  
 93:18  
 regions (1) 28:13  
 register (1) 96:16  
 registered (1) 75:24  
 regular (1) 99:8  
 regularly (3) 11:13 16:7 96:9  
 regulated (1) 60:10  
 related (1) 63:3  
 relates (2) 85:12 86:19  
 relating (1) 99:24  
 relation (12) 46:23 75:3  
 77:21,23 82:24 85:23  
 86:10 92:21 93:4,20 98:10  
 101:11  
 relationship (5) 1:24 5:3  
 92:24 98:8 105:16  
 relatives (2) 30:7 53:3  
 relay (7) 46:4 48:12 58:15  
 66:21,22 81:14 85:14  
 relayed (1) 77:11  
 relaying (1) 58:18  
 relevant (5) 49:12 68:25  
 72:17 88:16 92:15  
 reliable (3) 57:10 62:22,25  
 76:17  
 relive (1) 34:13  
 relying (2) 3:9 71:9  
 remain (2) 52:19 76:18  
 remained (1) 19:22  
 remaining (1) 81:5  
 remarkable (1) 15:1  
 remember (5) 5:17 10:22  
 28:24 76:3 90:21  
 remembered (2) 25:21 34:15  
 remembers (1) 7:12  
 remind (1) 73:24  
 reminder (1) 53:16  
 reminding (1) 73:19  
 remit (1) 72:1  
 remotely (1) 100:16  
 removed (2) 25:13 73:21  
 render (2) 46:2 76:22  
 rent (1) 2:15  
 rented (1) 5:5  
 reoccurring (1) 90:7  
 reopen (1) 64:13  
 reopened (1) 17:4  
 repatriate (2) 12:11 21:18  
 repatriated (2) 18:3 29:21  
 repeat (5) 64:1,5,8 91:21  
 106:16  
 repeated (1) 54:17  
 repeatedly (5) 39:2 43:24  
 45:14 49:21 78:22  
 repeating (3) 69:21 73:23  
 79:12  
 repeats (1) 64:12  
 replacement (1) 58:25  
 report (9) 21:16 58:18 61:14  
 62:8 67:4 68:9 72:6 105:19  
 107:11  
 reported (4) 55:15 61:24  
 62:14,17  
 reposition (1) 104:19  
 represent (3) 31:19 91:5 94:8  
 representatives (2) 37:3  
 90:18  
 representing (2) 31:15 69:17  
 represents (2) 53:11 75:19  
 request (2) 48:22 82:6

requested (3) 80:14,17 83:2  
 requesting (1) 86:7  
 requests (1) 92:6  
 require (1) 106:18  
 required (2) 72:19 85:6  
 requirement (1) 102:13  
 requires (2) 55:17 63:16  
 requiring (1) 46:6  
 rescue (50) 32:6 42:5  
 51:22,23 55:2,12,16  
 56:14,17,18,25 57:1,23  
 60:21 61:6,9,13,21 62:5  
 63:9,15 65:16,21 67:2,13  
 70:25 74:7,23 78:12,19  
 79:10,19 80:1  
 81:3,11,19,24 82:22,25  
 83:25 84:8 87:13 88:16,25  
 89:17 93:11,18 102:14  
 104:11,20  
 rescued (15) 12:2 18:18  
 35:24 36:4,9 46:10 55:2  
 64:11 65:14 68:24 69:8  
 71:11 81:17 85:10 89:9  
 rescues (4) 54:3 71:18 74:18  
 80:25  
 rescuing (2) 54:1 74:12  
 resilient (1) 89:7  
 resist (1) 37:7  
 resolution (1) 107:7  
 resolve (2) 34:12,12  
 resonant (1) 52:22  
 resource (3) 41:13 45:1 58:8  
 resources (5) 39:7 41:8 44:9  
 60:18 78:14  
 respect (10) 1:9 10:1 30:17  
 52:5 54:6 66:9,10 78:2  
 79:3 86:2  
 respected (1) 25:21  
 respects (1) 50:17  
 respond (8) 60:17 61:2 63:9  
 76:17,21 81:14 103:7,16  
 responder (2) 80:15 82:11  
 responding (2) 44:17 47:2  
 response (35) 32:6,24  
 39:10,25 40:1,3,22 41:6,17  
 42:9,13,14 43:12,13,17  
 44:20 46:1 47:16 52:16  
 58:15 63:6 73:18 83:25  
 92:23 93:6,17 94:15,24  
 95:3 96:10,22 98:6,24  
 103:3 105:22  
 responses (4) 43:21 44:22  
 50:4 99:11  
 responsibilities (5) 14:13  
 92:21 93:4 96:25 101:17  
 responsibility (15) 4:15  
 18:10 23:25 34:20 71:23  
 78:13 82:14 83:8,11,17,19  
 93:16,21 99:17 100:21  
 responsible (10) 10:11 29:9  
 44:19 52:6 66:1 72:8,21  
 78:11 81:22 107:5  
 rest (4) 11:18 12:13 18:7  
 54:19  
 rested (1) 83:12  
 restrictions (1) 84:18  
 result (10) 4:14 19:24 28:5  
 34:16 38:13 67:21 69:15  
 88:4 103:24 104:1  
 resulting (1) 48:8  
 retains (2) 93:21 99:17  
 retook (1) 17:5  
 returned (3) 25:6 26:19  
 67:16  
 returning (2) 23:22 35:21  
 reveal (1) 43:11  
 review (5) 50:1 100:4,11  
 105:22 107:8  
 reviewed (1) 55:24  
 reviews (3) 100:2 101:2,3  
 rhibs (1) 89:16  
 rightly (6) 57:22 61:4 65:24  
 70:23 87:11 91:17  
 rights (1) 42:4  
 rigour (1) 31:24  
 rips (1) 25:20

rise (4) 94:12 95:7 102:7  
 103:8  
 rising (2) 95:8,14  
 risk (17) 5:11 32:11 38:18,24  
 39:10,21 41:1 43:15 44:3  
 52:16 65:23 71:19 74:3  
 75:19 76:5 96:14,16  
 risked (1) 83:21  
 risking (1) 36:18  
 risks (2) 52:19 99:3  
 risky (1) 76:8  
 rizghar (1) 45:13  
 rnli (8) 35:7 48:14 56:12  
 71:17 74:19 82:7,17 97:19  
 rnliis (1) 53:25  
 roads (1) 17:4  
 rock (2) 2:7 22:2  
 role (15) 65:6 77:14,24  
 78:6,15 82:24 92:15,21  
 93:4,6,20 95:23 98:10  
 101:7 105:8  
 roles (1) 78:8  
 room (9) 1:14,16 33:9 50:25  
 51:3 70:3 72:22 88:17  
 103:21  
 rose (2) 36:19 87:21  
 ross (9) 1:3 19:2,7 31:2,13  
 53:9 69:16 91:2 106:21  
 route (1) 18:14  
 routes (1) 52:14  
 rudimentary (1) 70:19  
 rules (1) 76:6  
 run (2) 3:16 23:13  
 running (1) 54:5  
 runup (1) 50:5  
 ruthless (1) 71:2  
 ruthlessly (1) 34:10

---

S

sad (2) 22:7 28:9  
 sadly (1) 41:4  
 sadness (2) 25:7 69:12  
 safe (16) 2:24 5:14 11:20  
 12:22 13:2 14:5 17:4  
 18:9,10 20:5 23:18 27:13  
 52:13 75:7,9 84:24  
 safeguard (1) 101:14  
 safely (1) 21:18  
 safety (6) 51:10 54:20 60:6  
 71:4 74:4 89:4  
 sail (1) 77:10  
 sake (1) 75:11  
 same (5) 44:5 66:17 68:21  
 85:24 96:17  
 sanctions (1) 51:17  
 sand (1) 36:20  
 sandettie (4) 50:15 65:11  
 66:24 85:18  
 sar (39) 32:24 36:6,22 37:22  
 39:10 41:17,20 42:13  
 43:17,21 44:2,10,22 45:7  
 46:1,19 48:14 49:1 89:6  
 93:11,17 94:4,11 96:25  
 98:1,5,16 99:24 100:1  
 101:1,10,17 102:2,10,24  
 103:12 104:4,25 105:2  
 sat (2) 24:24 45:12  
 satellite (1) 15:17  
 satisfaction (1) 53:4  
 satisfied (1) 45:20  
 saturday (1) 60:16  
 save (7) 10:4 40:21 53:5  
 71:19 78:23 79:13 87:25  
 saved (3) 71:11 75:2 87:17  
 saved (1) 46:22  
 saving (4) 36:14 41:7 54:7  
 95:1  
 saw (6) 11:12 20:22 21:4,15  
 24:6 27:18  
 saying (2) 6:2 63:24  
 scared (2) 20:3,7  
 scarred (1) 50:23  
 scene (1) 48:15  
 sceptical (1) 43:17  
 scheme (3) 58:13 100:10,18

school (4) 6:23 11:4 13:13  
 14:15  
 science (1) 23:2  
 screens (1) 51:1  
 scrutiny (3) 37:8 41:18 72:17  
 sea (21) 18:15 32:8,15 33:12  
 36:15,25 40:10 41:10  
 51:15 54:7,22 60:9 61:3,21  
 73:20 76:3,23 83:22 95:1  
 100:23 101:14  
 seafaring (1) 70:19  
 seagoing (1) 75:12  
 search (55) 32:5 34:25 35:21  
 42:5 49:3 55:2,9,12,16  
 56:17 57:1,23 60:20  
 61:6,9,10,13 62:5 63:15  
 65:20  
 67:1,5,8,13,18,18,21,23,24  
 68:3,5,16 69:5 70:24  
 78:12,18 79:10,19 80:1  
 81:10,19,23 82:7,21,25  
 83:25 84:7 87:13 88:16,25  
 89:17 93:11,18 104:11,20  
 searched (2) 68:11 71:11  
 searches (1) 68:12  
 searching (2) 63:21 64:6  
 season (1) 95:15  
 second (12) 19:16 32:20  
 34:6 37:1 38:2 43:20 45:15  
 51:8 58:22 75:3 76:10 95:2  
 secondguess (2) 65:8 68:7  
 secondguessing (1) 46:13  
 secondly (6) 92:22 94:7 99:5  
 101:8,20 105:13  
 secretariate (1) 100:15  
 secretary (5) 38:20 41:15  
 46:22 93:15 98:15  
 section (3) 67:4 81:5 86:19  
 securitisation (2) 36:14  
 52:12  
 security (4) 36:21 69:23  
 94:23 104:24  
 see (8) 5:24 12:5 20:6 21:10  
 24:12 28:1 38:21 72:18  
 seeing (3) 9:1 24:4 25:15  
 seek (3) 44:12 73:1 78:3  
 seeking (2) 92:3 102:12  
 seeks (1) 105:24  
 seem (1) 86:10  
 seen (10) 18:15 21:22,23  
 29:25 41:2 50:25 80:14  
 93:19 94:12 103:14  
 send (1) 30:12  
 sending (1) 71:4  
 senior (7) 39:11,25 40:1 43:2  
 45:6 98:14 99:3  
 sense (4) 14:14 18:12 70:5  
 72:11  
 sensible (2) 66:24 87:24  
 sensitive (1) 40:25  
 sensitivities (1) 48:24  
 sent (2) 30:2 81:9  
 separation (1) 58:13  
 september (3) 38:7 39:1  
 56:13  
 serious (4) 6:20 10:12 65:22  
 76:5  
 seriously (1) 46:11  
 servants (1) 98:14  
 service (4) 27:20 61:20  
 93:12 94:4  
 services (6) 15:9 16:1 20:11  
 48:12 65:21 82:20  
 serving (1) 23:10  
 set (7) 13:21 59:19 67:14  
 77:10 80:6 88:12 91:19  
 setting (1) 16:17  
 settled (1) 16:17  
 settling (1) 27:2  
 seven (3) 22:20 26:7 55:6  
 seventh (1) 39:24  
 severally (1) 100:24  
 several (9) 17:22 47:21  
 50:13 57:2 59:17  
 68:14,21,23 77:22  
 shakes (1) 23:11

shaped (1) 42:8  
 share (2) 2:11 19:23  
 shared (1) 12:24  
 sharing (2) 9:3 83:19  
 sharks (1) 43:7  
 sheba (1) 13:14  
 sheer (1) 47:12  
 shekar (1) 70:2  
 shelter (1) 14:4  
 shiferaw (6) 1:18,20,22,23  
 4:25 108:3  
 shift (4) 44:11 68:20 69:7,10  
 shifts (1) 63:22  
 shipping (1) 74:6  
 ships (1) 76:2  
 shocked (3) 47:20 49:15,24  
 shockingly (1) 46:3  
 short (4) 19:5 60:22 80:22  
 96:7  
 shortly (2) 28:22 97:21  
 should (28) 1:12,15 17:13  
 30:10,14 34:13,15 36:8,17  
 37:8,9,9 40:16 47:14 55:23  
 56:1 59:23 66:2,8,9,18  
 67:14 68:6,10,11 97:25  
 103:11 107:3  
 show (2) 2:3 13:22  
 showed (1) 15:1  
 shut (1) 15:9  
 sibling (2) 10:9 19:16  
 siblings (4) 3:22 19:16 27:1,4  
 sick (1) 21:10  
 side (2) 21:3 43:6  
 sight (1) 29:14  
 sightings (2) 62:5 68:25  
 signal (3) 2:21 11:15 57:9  
 signed (1) 15:25  
 significance (1) 41:3  
 significant (8) 14:12 44:24  
 59:20 63:12 96:7 102:19  
 103:15 106:3  
 significantly (3) 88:23 89:7  
 95:8  
 silence (1) 50:16  
 similar (3) 71:13 74:19 90:6  
 similarly (1) 40:24  
 simon (3) 35:7 56:12 60:11  
 simple (1) 49:10  
 since (18) 3:2,18 6:6 7:1  
 9:8,24 20:25 52:10 87:22  
 88:13,23 89:3 93:2 99:5  
 102:17,20 105:7,10  
 sincere (2) 90:23 106:11  
 single (7) 38:22 46:10 48:16  
 56:9 64:16 67:10 87:23  
 sinking (5) 43:5 45:2,21  
 62:15 63:25  
 sir (44) 1:3,8 18:25 19:2,7,8  
 30:22,25 31:2,13,18 47:24  
 49:9 50:10 52:8,22 53:9,13  
 54:23 58:22 69:16,19,21  
 70:3,23 72:24 81:7 83:4  
 86:9 87:7 89:12,19  
 90:8,11,21 91:1,2,5 93:3  
 98:7 102:15 106:2,20,21  
 siren (1) 37:7  
 sister (9) 17:10 18:6,19  
 20:15,17 23:9,13,19 26:21  
 sit (1) 73:21  
 situation (7) 17:2 24:13  
 30:13 39:15 44:15 45:25  
 48:25  
 situational (3) 38:14 97:9  
 98:1  
 six (1) 17:19  
 sixth (1) 39:8  
 sixthly (1) 100:19  
 size (1) 67:17  
 sleep (2) 14:18 28:10  
 sleepless (1) 10:4  
 sleshi (3) 16:21,23 108:7  
 slowed (1) 84:25  
 slowly (2) 16:1 85:2  
 small (89) 3:16 20:22  
 32:12,23 35:3 37:4 38:21  
 41:10,22 42:13,14,15,20

43:13 44:1,4,6,14,17  
 46:12,17,23 47:2,7  
 51:11,13 52:9 54:2,14,20  
 55:19,14,16 56:9 57:6  
 61:23 62:7 63:9,15,23  
 64:16,23 65:9,10,19,22  
 68:13,23,23 74:3,18  
 75:6,11,15,18 81:2,8  
 82:7,25 83:8 85:20  
 87:13,22 88:9,25 89:2,9  
 92:22,23 93:1,5,6,20  
 94:12,15,24 95:4,6,10,24  
 97:16 98:10,24 99:5,14  
 103:4,7,16  
 smaller (1) 67:21  
 smc (2) 59:17 63:19  
 smcs (1) 64:9  
 smile (1) 9:1  
 smugglers (3) 34:10 66:1,3  
 smuggling (1) 52:15  
 socalled (1) 62:7  
 social (2) 17:24 21:5  
 solas (1) 94:11  
 solely (1) 71:22  
 solicitor (1) 30:2  
 solution (1) 18:14  
 solutions (2) 55:10 58:24  
 somehow (1) 16:16  
 someone (6) 14:15 17:23  
 28:19,20 61:17 65:25  
 something (3) 45:3 62:2 87:3  
 sometimes (3) 23:22 54:3  
 74:6  
 somewhere (4) 2:24 5:14  
 13:2 20:5  
 sommen (2) 41:14 101:15  
 son (9) 4:3 5:7 7:21 9:17  
 10:6,8 15:13 23:19 28:12  
 sonali (1) 31:14  
 sons (4) 5:9 23:20 28:2 34:5  
 soon (4) 17:3 83:2 85:5,6  
 soothe (1) 24:10  
 sorrow (2) 22:6 70:6  
 sort (2) 18:20 46:7  
 sought (4) 14:10 34:18,21  
 92:5  
 soul (1) 9:1  
 souls (1) 90:21  
 source (2) 25:4 29:20  
 south (1) 24:19  
 space (1) 84:17  
 spacing (4) 67:8,20,22,23  
 speak (11) 4:3,11 11:13,21  
 15:7,17,22 16:7 20:12  
 28:1,9  
 speaking (2) 5:16 25:1  
 special (2) 12:24 18:5  
 specialist (2) 48:14 105:15  
 specific (5) 2:23 44:25 45:24  
 47:17  
 specifically (2) 5:13 99:24  
 speed (3) 84:22,25,25  
 spend (1) 25:8  
 spending (1) 14:6  
 spent (2) 9:3 41:13  
 spike (1) 56:14  
 spirit (1) 29:9  
 spiritual (1) 14:6  
 spoke (9) 5:22 11:22 17:17  
 20:15,16,25 21:2 24:16  
 62:22  
 spoken (2) 47:9 91:16  
 sponsorship (3) 94:2,7 98:25  
 spot (1) 68:17  
 spotted (2) 68:13,14  
 square (2) 67:22 68:16  
 stacked (1) 71:6  
 staff (13) 37:23 48:7,18  
 59:10 60:4 81:21 82:11,24  
 87:12,24,25 97:18 107:6  
 staffing (2) 39:3 105:13  
 stage (3) 57:5 63:7,12  
 stakeholders (1) 88:15  
 stand (2) 55:25 106:17  
 standard (1) 105:14  
 standards (1) 44:2

standby (1) 80:16  
 stark (3) 35:2 42:18 44:9  
 start (4) 16:4 28:3 59:12  
 73:15  
 started (13) 11:8  
 13:14,18,20,23 16:1 17:2  
 26:18,24 66:19 73:19 95:7  
 107:10  
 starting (2) 39:6 82:1  
 stated (3) 39:21 57:19 78:24  
 statement (38) 1:20 4:21,22  
 10:17 12:24 13:3,5  
 16:19,21 19:11 22:13,15  
 26:2,4 31:25 32:16 41:4  
 55:5 73:1,20 74:10 75:4  
 76:20 92:10,11,12,17,19  
 96:2 103:23  
 108:3,4,5,6,7,8,9,11  
 statements (10) 1:9,9,17  
 10:14 19:8 31:14 55:25  
 70:10,15 77:19  
 states (4) 21:4,7 49:1 100:14  
 stating (1) 41:20  
 statistically (1) 56:6  
 statistics (1) 33:16  
 statutory (3) 82:13 93:16  
 100:21  
 stay (4) 3:25 8:6 23:23 30:19  
 steep (1) 96:13  
 step (1) 96:4  
 stephen (2) 39:14 41:18  
 steps (6) 37:9 46:17 59:14  
 88:4,10 94:5  
 stereotype (3) 43:15,16,20  
 stereotypes (3) 32:22 42:12  
 51:18  
 stereotypical (1) 46:2  
 still (23) 2:7 7:12,22 9:9  
 10:23 14:13 15:15,22 16:3  
 23:16 24:15 25:16 28:8  
 29:17 38:15 39:7 56:8 69:6  
 75:24 87:23 100:5 103:22  
 104:23  
 stop (4) 7:7 8:4 52:14 84:7  
 stopped (2) 3:20 9:20  
 stopping (1) 51:13  
 stories (1) 7:13  
 story (1) 48:1  
 strain (2) 56:17 96:21  
 strait (1) 94:16  
 straits (3) 47:3 50:14 89:1  
 strategic (2) 99:2 102:11  
 strategies (1) 79:7  
 streaming (1) 107:6  
 strength (3) 2:17 4:17 15:1  
 strengthened (1) 103:19  
 stress (4) 19:18 28:5 60:14  
 98:12  
 stripped (2) 36:5,10  
 stroke (1) 3:17  
 strong (2) 7:5 24:10  
 strongest (1) 2:3  
 strongly (1) 8:22  
 struck (2) 57:5 67:17  
 struggle (1) 29:14  
 struggled (1) 28:6  
 struggling (7) 2:2 3:13 7:4  
 8:24 26:9 28:8 29:19  
 stuart (1) 42:21  
 studied (1) 23:2  
 studies (2) 13:16,20  
 study (1) 61:18  
 studying (2) 13:14 23:5  
 stupidity (1) 37:13  
 sub (7) 78:5 79:14 80:7 81:4  
 85:11 86:19 102:16  
 subheading (1) 82:4  
 subheadings (1) 77:22  
 subject (3) 44:1 46:12 101:3  
 submit (4) 32:21 50:3 87:7  
 92:10  
 subsequent (2) 40:20 41:3  
 subsequently (1) 90:6  
 substantial (6) 72:6,13,23  
 73:10 77:18 80:11  
 substantially (1) 95:7

succeed (1) 81:11  
 succeeding (1) 81:24  
 success (2) 81:18,21  
 successful (1) 23:12  
 successfully (3) 65:14 71:11  
 85:10  
 sudan (4) 11:14 12:3 15:19  
 24:19  
 suddenly (1) 11:23  
 suffer (1) 4:2  
 suffered (6) 3:3 12:23 15:20  
 19:24 29:11,16  
 suffering (5) 5:19 24:12 28:4  
 34:14 50:20  
 sufficient (3) 80:9,13 99:1  
 sufficiently (1) 85:2  
 suggest (3) 70:25 78:7 85:25  
 suggested (3) 84:2 85:22  
 90:2  
 suggesting (1) 72:11  
 suggestion (2) 81:1 86:2  
 suggests (2) 36:2 63:2  
 suitable (1) 68:5  
 suite (1) 98:21  
 summarise (1) 32:24  
 summary (1) 92:19  
 summer (1) 96:12  
 sunday (3) 6:12 7:25 60:17  
 sundays (1) 9:7  
 sunk (3) 17:19 20:23 21:5  
 sunny (1) 54:12  
 supplied (1) 75:10  
 supply (1) 96:4  
 support (10) 3:13,22 6:21  
 8:12 27:6 94:22 98:18  
 99:10 101:5 102:24  
 supported (3) 8:7 102:1,4  
 supporting (4) 2:13 7:2  
 101:8,10  
 supportive (1) 2:8  
 supports (1) 6:24  
 suppose (1) 79:24  
 sure (1) 21:13  
 surface (14) 37:25 59:24  
 80:9,20,23 82:6 86:11  
 89:14 97:19 98:1 102:14  
 103:12 104:11,18  
 surrounded (1) 21:14  
 surrounding (1) 43:7  
 surveillance (8) 38:10,12  
 57:24 88:8,21 97:9,14 98:5  
 survivability (1) 63:20  
 survival (1) 71:6  
 survive (4) 4:19 13:25 15:5  
 71:8  
 survived (3) 35:2,14 36:8  
 surviving (1) 33:13  
 survivor (6) 31:15,22  
 49:15,24 50:6 53:6  
 survivors (5) 31:20 51:5 70:1  
 91:22 106:12  
 suspended (1) 69:5  
 sweet (1) 29:10  
 sympathies (2) 53:19 69:14  
 sympathy (1) 91:21  
 system (9) 32:7 37:22,25  
 44:1 48:1,17 62:4 82:18  
 99:23  
 systemic (2) 36:11 46:19  
 systems (7) 37:23,24 38:2,15  
 40:21 50:1 105:17

T

tactical (2) 41:11 44:7  
 tactics (2) 41:22 52:15  
 tailored (1) 100:2  
 taken (14) 24:13 37:10  
 47:11 59:14 62:2,15 64:3  
 72:23 73:13 78:20 86:20  
 88:10 104:15 106:23  
 takeoff (1) 58:14  
 takes (7) 54:17  
 59:10,15,17,21 74:5  
 100:24  
 taking (5) 9:6 29:4 40:7 76:5  
 90:15

talk (3) 7:17 26:11 30:9  
 talked (3) 9:16 20:3 62:23  
 tangible (1) 103:24  
 task (13) 32:8 48:14,22  
 60:23 72:12,23 78:14  
 82:2,12 83:11 85:25 86:8  
 90:15  
 tasked (11) 32:7 35:8  
 66:22,22 74:1 77:10  
 83:2,5,7 84:20 85:5  
 tasking (7) 44:13 58:17 72:6  
 78:16 84:11 86:1,15  
 taskings (3) 46:19 104:11,25  
 team (10) 18:1 31:23 51:5  
 53:20 74:11 90:15 100:3  
 107:5,8,13  
 tears (1) 12:7  
 technical (1) 58:14  
 technological (2) 59:8 98:4  
 technology (4) 59:1,6 75:22  
 105:15  
 teenager (1) 14:13  
 telecommunication (1) 15:9  
 telephone (4) 27:21 47:14  
 62:3,10  
 telling (1) 7:13  
 tells (1) 48:1  
 ten (1) 42:19  
 tended (1) 42:16  
 tendency (1) 63:11  
 tensions (1) 16:17  
 term (2) 63:2 96:24  
 termed (1) 75:11  
 terminated (1) 46:9  
 terms (6) 41:25 44:25 77:21  
 88:14 101:5,19  
 terrible (3) 3:3 29:2 69:24  
 terrified (1) 27:12  
 terrifying (1) 18:16  
 terror (2) 47:12 70:22  
 tesfahun (6) 22:14,15,17  
 28:2,20 108:10  
 testimony (3) 70:8 77:1  
 106:5  
 testing (1) 47:4  
 tewelde (3) 16:21,23 108:7  
 thailand (1) 100:14  
 thank (21) 15:25 19:2 30:15  
 31:9,18 53:8,9,13 69:16  
 90:12,16 91:1,2,5,25  
 106:20,21,22,23 107:3,15  
 thanks (1) 53:20  
 thats (3) 40:18 49:19 62:6  
 theme (1) 54:5  
 themselves (6) 33:18 41:15  
 54:14,22 73:25 83:16  
 thereafter (1) 97:21  
 thereby (2) 99:15 102:6  
 therefore (2) 85:5 89:24  
 thing (3) 33:22 43:8 105:4  
 thinking (4) 25:10,12 65:25  
 66:14  
 thinks (1) 36:4  
 third (8) 13:11 23:3 32:22  
 38:9 42:2 46:15 52:8 98:7  
 thirdly (5) 92:24 99:17  
 101:9,25 105:15  
 thomas (1) 44:16  
 thorough (2) 53:20 101:1  
 though (4) 14:13 25:15 27:4  
 88:14  
 thought (1) 68:20  
 thoughtful (1) 11:2  
 thoughts (2) 66:16,17  
 thousands (2) 71:8,12  
 threat (2) 94:18 95:24  
 threatened (2) 8:21 34:20  
 three (15) 1:10 17:20 19:8  
 25:16 34:1 35:19 42:11  
 46:21 50:2 54:6 58:16  
 85:18 89:16 99:23 103:18  
 threeyear (1) 97:7  
 through (21) 3:13 5:1,20  
 9:11 10:24,25 15:7,17  
 17:24 18:8,24,24 54:5  
 74:12 87:16 93:12,15,23

98:11 102:21 105:12  
 throughout (4) 27:24 30:17  
 80:22 93:25  
 throw (1) 44:9  
 thursday (1) 1:11  
 thus (1) 104:1  
 tide (1) 67:1  
 tied (1) 45:2  
 tightly (1) 60:9  
 tigray (44) 11:7,9,17  
 12:12,13,16 13:18,18  
 14:25 15:10,16,20 16:2,25  
 17:2,8 19:15,19,22  
 20:1,2,13,21 21:18,19  
 22:19 23:16,22 24:15,18  
 25:3 26:8,17,19,22,24  
 27:15,19,22,22,23  
 28:13,18 29:21  
 tigrayan (4) 17:5,9 20:8  
 27:13  
 tigrayans (2) 17:5,6  
 time (52) 3:1,21  
 5:9,18,20,23 6:2 7:17 9:3  
 10:23 11:12,15,17,21  
 12:11 14:6 16:15 19:21  
 21:16 23:1,15 25:8,19  
 27:18 28:24 35:10,10  
 37:10 41:8,13 48:9,25  
 58:12 59:9,11,21 60:2,22  
 66:14 68:6 73:21 77:4,6,8  
 78:17 86:21 89:13 93:25  
 96:4,7,24 105:10  
 times (6) 10:25 38:7 42:19  
 60:19 79:13 83:12  
 tiptons (2) 35:12,20  
 tired (1) 28:8  
 tirelessly (1) 87:15  
 today (15) 1:4,9 28:8 37:3  
 49:10,18 52:19 55:5  
 73:11,21 90:2,11 103:22  
 104:5 107:12  
 together (12) 5:5 7:11,14  
 8:1 9:7 12:8 22:24 23:10  
 25:9,10 27:10 107:9  
 told (26) 2:24 5:10 6:16 8:25  
 10:21 12:1,21 15:13 20:18  
 21:8,13 24:24 28:22  
 37:2,6,15 38:20 44:7,12  
 45:8 56:10 59:7 60:11,20  
 85:14 104:17  
 toll (4) 24:13 54:11 18:74 10  
 tomorrow (1) 6:4  
 too (3) 6:22 7:22 9:19 12:25  
 23:23 28:9 29:23 30:7  
 took (18) 10:1 14:12 24:21  
 54:11 56:7 58:12 60:2 63:7  
 66:19 70:17 77:11,21 80:6  
 84:12 91:23 94:5 103:25  
 104:9  
 tool (1) 99:25  
 topic (3) 77:23 85:11 102:16  
 topics (3) 92:13 93:3 98:7  
 total (1) 24:6  
 totally (1) 9:21  
 touch (1) 17:25  
 touched (1) 14:24  
 towards (6) 11:3 28:12 32:23  
 40:4 56:21 66:24  
 towns (1) 23:21  
 toy (5) 66:23 74:9 80:3  
 84:14 85:8  
 toys (1) 84:24  
 track (4) 67:8,20,21,23  
 tracker (3) 48:8 77:7 84:4  
 trackers (2) 86:20,23  
 traffic (2) 58:13 84:18  
 tragedies (2) 34:12 40:20  
 tragedy (17) 1:6 24:21  
 30:21,24 31:6,20 33:14  
 34:3 36:16 38:8 49:11  
 51:12 56:17 66:1 69:24  
 80:22 87:10  
 tragic (7) 42:10 69:15  
 70:7,13 71:13 88:4 106:3  
 tragically (1) 81:8  
 trailed (1) 77:2

trained (4) 48:18 59:16  
 66:12,15  
 trainee (1) 48:16  
 training (6) 36:13 47:1,6,8  
 82:21 105:14  
 transcripts (1) 70:6  
 transfer (3) 59:24 89:15  
 103:18  
 translation (1) 48:11  
 translators (1) 107:4  
 transport (3) 78:10 91:3,6  
 trapped (1) 11:18  
 trauma (4) 19:24 33:11  
 34:14 50:23  
 traumatic (2) 6:11 69:25  
 traumatised (2) 24:2 28:11  
 travel (1) 16:9  
 travelled (3) 12:4 21:6 23:21  
 treacherous (2) 70:20 71:18  
 treasury (1) 97:12  
 treat (1) 44:17  
 treated (5) 30:14,17 37:17  
 44:5 52:4  
 treatment (2) 2:14 51:17  
 trend (1) 95:22  
 trickle (1) 43:4  
 tried (4) 8:23 10:21 13:24  
 24:10  
 trubshaw (4) 60:7 68:4  
 74:22 75:1  
 true (1) 21:11  
 truly (1) 13:25  
 trust (1) 50:6  
 truth (4) 18:21,23 34:17,22  
 try (7) 7:5,17 28:13 41:21,22  
 71:19 77:20  
 trying (7) 7:6 13:1 21:24  
 24:23 26:21 74:22 75:25  
 turn (9) 6:3 55:23 66:5 77:14  
 78:5 84:9 88:2 94:6 102:15  
 turned (1) 87:25  
 turning (4) 42:2 47:17 59:18  
 67:1  
 twice (1) 24:17  
 twotier (1) 43:25  
 type (1) 43:8

U

uk (16) 30:21 32:5 55:2 57:1  
 61:19,21 64:20 70:24  
 71:10,15 72:18 77:6,12  
 88:25 89:3 93:18  
 uks (2) 34:19 101:14  
 ultimate (1) 25:19  
 ultimately (2) 52:16 104:14  
 umbrella (1) 63:2  
 unble (8) 21:18 30:6 44:20  
 50:21 57:14 61:2 80:25  
 81:3  
 unaware (1) 45:18  
 uncertain (1) 33:11  
 unchallenged (1) 42:17  
 uncle (5) 3:9 6:24 7:9  
 21:8,10  
 unclear (1) 77:10  
 uncles (1) 6:14  
 uncontested (1) 34:24  
 uncontrolled (1) 89:2  
 uncover (1) 34:22  
 uncovering (1) 34:17  
 underpinning (1) 42:25  
 underresourcing (1) 36:13  
 understaffing (2) 36:13 48:5  
 understand (12) 4:9,12,13  
 7:22 9:9 10:12,12 12:20  
 18:17 31:8 92:3 94:14  
 understandable (3) 47:10  
 81:15 86:10  
 understanding (1) 96:18  
 understands (1) 7:19  
 understood (2) 101:7,18  
 undertaken (6) 49:25 74:8  
 78:19 88:13 100:13,16  
 undertaking (2) 38:4 100:21  
 undertook (1) 94:1

underway (3) 62:14 88:6  
97:20  
undetected (1) 89:3  
undoubtedly (1) 70:5  
unexpected (1) 57:16  
unfathomable (1) 33:10  
unfolded (1) 70:8  
unforeseeable (1) 87:20  
unfortunate (1) 72:14  
unfortunately (1) 45:23  
unilaterally (1) 82:12  
unimaginable (1) 50:20  
unique (2) 32:14 96:8  
uniquely (1) 106:7  
united (4) 21:4,7 98:16  
100:14  
university (6) 11:4 13:14  
23:3,6 26:17  
unknown (2) 6:10 76:19  
unlikely (1) 59:3  
unmanned (1) 97:8  
unprecedented (5) 38:6  
56:15,18 87:20 95:15  
unvalued (1) 98:20  
unsafe (7) 20:3 21:20 54:2  
70:18 75:13 76:7 83:20  
unsuitable (1) 54:1  
until (16) 9:20 10:1 17:18  
18:21 23:13 24:18 30:1  
35:5,25 57:18 59:6  
62:11,13,16,18 64:7  
unusual (1) 37:6  
unverified (1) 62:8  
unwell (1) 28:6  
unwise (2) 43:10,14  
updated (1) 48:20  
uplift (2) 14:11 103:15  
uplifts (1) 104:1  
upon (4) 31:14 35:13 71:17  
94:25  
upsetting (2) 31:3 70:6  
urgency (1) 47:12  
urgent (1) 47:15  
used (11) 3:15 7:13 29:6  
43:2 46:4 63:25 64:4  
99:21,23 100:2 104:22  
uses (2) 59:8 99:25  
ushers (1) 107:6  
using (5) 67:20,21 75:18  
76:2 100:16  
usual (1) 43:3  
usually (1) 21:2  
utmost (1) 106:14

V

valiant (31) 35:17,21 46:10  
48:21 53:24 58:12  
66:21,22 68:10,12,22  
74:15 75:2 77:10 79:1,22  
80:4,6,15,17 81:1 82:2,10  
83:5,7,24 84:6,19 85:5  
86:14,18  
valiants (2) 84:9,22  
valuable (1) 100:6  
value (5) 45:8 47:11 51:10  
63:7 72:13  
van (1) 37:13  
variety (1) 93:23  
various (2) 29:14 102:2  
vast (2) 74:17 88:24  
vehicle (1) 51:22  
vehicles (1) 97:8  
veracity (1) 43:18  
verbally (1) 62:10  
verification (1) 62:21  
verified (7) 55:15 61:25  
62:9,12,14,16,19  
verify (1) 45:9  
verifying (1) 62:24  
version (2) 36:5,10  
vessel (18) 35:11 59:25  
63:17 75:9 76:7,15 77:1  
79:23 81:1 83:2 84:19  
85:16,19 86:1,8,16,17  
89:15

vessels (11) 44:5 59:24  
75:12 76:25 81:14 82:9  
85:1 103:18,19 104:22,23  
via (1) 82:19  
viable (1) 52:14  
vicinity (1) 65:11  
victims (5) 1:10 21:5 33:14  
71:2,8  
victimss (1) 42:7  
video (1) 5:24  
viewed (1) 40:5  
viewing (1) 37:7  
views (1) 46:2  
villages (1) 23:22  
vindicated (1) 32:10  
visceral (1) 34:7  
viscerally (1) 43:2  
visibility (1) 99:14  
vision (2) 48:17 82:17  
visit (7) 7:24 8:1 16:10,13  
22:1 29:25 30:2  
visited (2) 30:6 50:14  
visual (2) 45:10 46:7  
vital (4) 33:9 49:11 51:9 60:6  
voice (4) 6:1 9:15 31:5 33:7  
voices (4) 32:19 33:8 51:6  
91:16  
voluntarily (1) 77:20  
volunteers (3) 60:13 71:16  
74:19  
vulnerable (3) 71:1,20 88:1

W

waited (1) 79:22  
waiting (2) 6:10 39:16  
wake (1) 30:6  
wakeman (1) 91:7  
war (31) 10:24 11:7 12:12,13  
13:17,19,23,24 14:25  
15:5,22 16:15,24  
17:2,14,15 18:2 19:21  
20:1,10 23:14,15,24 24:2  
26:20,24 27:9,19 28:11  
30:5 33:20  
warned (1) 9:1  
warned (2) 40:11 59:11  
warning (3) 1:13 37:19 39:21  
warnings (2) 39:24 48:13  
wary (1) 37:6  
wasnt (4) 37:5 38:12 45:13  
48:17  
water (11) 35:13,15 45:21  
62:15 64:3 65:13 68:2,3  
70:21 74:14 85:15  
waterways (1) 54:15  
way (17) 6:3 16:14 17:16  
28:17 43:22 44:5 46:15  
51:6 53:21 65:9 70:13  
79:18,25 84:7,20 92:19  
94:25  
ways (5) 8:12 12:23 14:11  
42:12 93:9  
weakest (1) 57:9  
weakness (1) 2:4  
weather (6) 38:13 57:11  
58:2 75:22 76:8 81:12  
week (6) 3:1 17:11 24:17,18  
50:13 106:7  
weekly (1) 99:5  
weeks (10) 6:9 21:15 24:20  
25:2 32:1 47:18 51:2 53:14  
72:25 91:8  
wellbeing (1) 24:12  
went (8) 5:19 6:19 9:7 11:4  
25:13 28:12 30:2 45:22  
west (1) 11:9  
western (1) 89:11  
whatever (1) 55:3  
whats (2) 33:9 45:24  
whatsapp (3) 5:17 6:7 62:12  
whatsoever (1) 48:14  
wheelchair (1) 43:6  
whereby (1) 44:1  
whilst (5) 64:12 70:23 86:8  
99:3 100:3  
whitehouse (2) 84:2 85:23

whitton (3) 39:14 41:18  
87:17  
whole (6) 7:25 11:17 24:7  
26:14 28:11 90:14  
wholly (3) 54:1 75:13 83:20  
whom (1) 39:13  
whose (3) 45:5 52:21 106:6  
widely (1) 42:19  
wider (1) 36:11  
wife (12) 1:18 2:10  
4:16,21,24 10:9 12:14,24  
23:19 26:7 27:10 28:14  
willing (3) 33:4 49:22 64:12  
willingness (2) 50:8 101:2  
willows (5) 44:16 84:3  
85:13,14,23  
winter (2) 38:19,25  
wish (6) 16:15 21:25 25:6  
49:8 50:10 72:10  
wished (1) 18:13  
wishes (4) 91:11,21,25  
106:10  
withdrawing (1) 102:10  
withstand (1) 41:18  
witness (6) 47:23 74:10  
77:19 82:5,5 103:23  
witnesses (14) 37:2,5 39:13  
43:24 54:6,24 57:22 61:12  
62:1 72:5 77:17 90:17  
91:10 95:12  
wolf (1) 45:3  
woman (2) 22:25 26:12  
women (2) 62:17 70:17  
wont (1) 60:17  
woods (5) 19:13 22:13,17  
26:2,6  
work (28) 6:25 7:4,5 9:3  
31:7 47:25 54:9,12 60:3  
72:3,12 73:18 74:11 79:9  
84:9 87:11 88:6 90:4 91:18  
92:1 94:13,17,22 97:4,20  
98:3,11 103:6  
worked (6) 69:10 87:15  
90:19 94:8 102:22 107:13  
working (8) 2:22 3:20 8:4  
60:9 74:12 79:1 94:2  
105:16  
works (1) 9:4  
world (4) 9:24 54:15 70:22  
84:16  
worlds (1) 74:6  
worried (5) 17:21 19:19  
20:20 21:1,16  
worry (1) 28:7  
worst (2) 28:3 57:5  
worth (1) 73:23  
wound (1) 25:16  
wrenching (1) 70:9  
writing (2) 49:9 72:6  
written (10) 48:3 55:24  
72:25 73:2 78:4 86:24 87:3  
91:9 92:10,17  
wrong (2) 83:20 86:2  
wrote (1) 39:20

X

x (1) 108:1

year (7) 16:6 23:3 30:1  
38:11,19 64:22 92:1  
years (9) 12:15 13:16 14:14  
25:16 44:11 46:21 50:2  
59:17 77:22  
yeshiwendi (1) 10:16  
yeshiwendim (4) 10:17,19  
16:24 108:5  
yesterday (2) 31:4 32:3  
yet (1) 29:4  
yielded (1) 58:11  
young (3) 7:22 26:16 29:17  
younger (1) 2:13  
youngest (10) 19:16,17  
22:2,10,22 26:8,10 27:4  
29:4,10

Z

zone (1) 23:24

0

00 (1) 67:9  
0106 (1) 35:4  
0124 (1) 83:5  
0148 (2) 45:15 66:19  
02 (1) 67:20  
0231 (1) 45:16  
0311 (2) 85:12 86:16  
0312 (1) 35:6  
0324 (1) 35:16  
0327 (1) 35:19  
0333 (1) 58:21  
0630 (1) 49:4  
07 (2) 67:22,23  
0703 (2) 35:20 49:3

1

1 (6) 31:8 35:25 55:6 63:3  
77:6 108:3  
10 (8) 5:4 11:25 28:23 44:11  
45:4 54:8 65:2 108:5  
100 (2) 31:12 85:10  
1055 (1) 19:4  
11 (5) 3:2 65:2 77:3 79:5  
101:21  
110 (2) 85:20 86:13  
1110 (1) 19:6  
1149 (1) 31:10  
12 (2) 35:15 36:1  
1212 (1) 6:2  
13 (3) 27:12 35:10 108:6  
130000 (1) 87:18  
14 (4) 13:10 97:22 101:24  
103:10  
15 (3) 11:25 19:2 107:13  
16 (1) 108:7  
163 (1) 74:23  
17 (1) 39:19  
17minute (1) 58:20  
19 (2) 60:15 108:8  
1975 (1) 1:19  
1996 (1) 19:10  
1997 (1) 13:9  
1999 (2) 10:16 13:10

2

2 (5) 15:25 55:8 57:18 63:3  
66:16  
20 (1) 84:13  
2009 (1) 37:12  
2012 (1) 4:25  
2014 (2) 23:2 26:18  
2015 (1) 5:4  
2016 (1) 100:11  
2018 (4) 13:13 36:19 94:13  
95:5  
2019 (2) 23:7 26:19  
2020 (11) 11:11 13:16 14:25  
16:25 17:3 23:14,18  
27:9,12 38:19 95:9  
2021 (76) 5:9,21,23 6:7,12  
11:23 12:9 15:12 17:6 18:2  
20:2,17,22 21:1 24:14  
27:15,24 28:12,23 31:21  
32:6 37:4 38:5,7,16,23  
39:1,4,11,19 40:5,11,23  
43:25 46:21 50:5 55:9  
56:6,12,14 58:23 59:12,25  
60:3,11 64:6,21 65:15  
70:14 71:25 73:23 76:25  
78:15 79:5 87:19 88:6  
91:24 92:4 93:2  
95:8,9,14,18 96:12,16  
97:4,15,22 99:5 100:12  
101:21 102:17,20 103:10  
104:6 106:2  
2022 (11) 15:25 59:21,23  
89:3 96:13 97:4,12,13  
101:22 103:1,8

2023 (2) 16:4,9  
2024 (1) 30:1  
2025 (1) 1:1  
209 (1) 87:22  
21 (7) 38:8 40:23 74:18  
88:17,23 89:8,15  
22 (7) 20:17 21:1 39:4 57:18  
65:3 72:5 108:9  
23 (16) 5:21,23 6:7 11:11  
20:17 32:6 38:5 56:21  
57:11 58:3 65:15 70:14  
73:22 76:25 80:10 90:5  
230 (1) 95:11  
23rd (1) 64:24  
24 (23) 11:11 20:22 31:21  
32:6 35:5 36:16 38:5 50:5  
56:21 57:12,19 58:3,6 59:2  
69:10 70:14 73:23 79:5  
80:19,22 91:24 92:4 106:2  
247 (1) 88:19  
24th (2) 64:24 84:8  
257 (1) 107:16  
26 (3) 97:15 101:23 108:11  
27 (2) 1:1 53:18  
29 (2) 12:9 18:2  
2excl (4) 57:16,19 59:2,3

3

3 (3) 52:10 55:10 61:5  
30 (5) 36:3 70:12 75:8 80:6  
84:11  
31 (2) 71:25 108:12  
33 (1) 64:3  
35 (2) 64:2 97:6  
35000 (1) 65:15  
36 (1) 65:4  
363 (1) 79:3

4

4 (4) 6:13 55:14 57:17 108:4  
40 (3) 45:17 63:24 67:25  
48 (1) 45:16

5

5 (2) 6:12 55:16  
53 (1) 108:12

6

6 (3) 55:17 58:6 64:19  
69 (1) 108:13  
6971 (2) 64:20 95:16

7

7 (1) 55:18

9

91 (1) 108:13  
959 (1) 1:2  
98 (1) 75:2