

Judiciary of England and Wales

Sentencing remarks of Mr Justice Kerr

The Queen v. Usman Karolia Raja Nawaz Ahmed Karolia Nabeel Naseer Nikash Hussain Irfan Hussain

Leeds Crown Court

30 July 2021

- 1. All of you, please remain seated for the moment. The court is sitting today to sentence these six defendants who were convicted by the jury of offences of extreme violence after a trial here at Leeds Crown Court from April to June this year.
- 2. All six of you stand convicted of murdering Bradley Gledhill on 21 June 2020. Bradley was aged just 20 when he died after being fatally stabbed that evening in an attack by the six defendants acting together as a gang.
- 3. You thought nothing of killing him in the open air, in the street, in public. A young child was watching. You thought nothing of the unending pain you would cause Bradley's family. They now suffer that pain each day, their beloved son and brother's life needlessly taken.
- 4. Four of you, Usman and Ahmed Karolia, Nabeel Naseer and Irfan Hussain, were also convicted of attempting to murder Joel Ramsden. He was stabbed that evening in the same gang attack and suffered serious injuries but, thankfully, survived.
- 5. One of you, Usman Karolia, was convicted of causing grievous bodily harm to Kasey Hall with intent to do so. Mr Hall was stabbed and suffered significant injuries. Mr Hall and Mr Ramsden were able to give evidence for the prosecution at the trial.
- 6. The defendants are all young. The oldest, Ahmed Karolia, is now 24 and

was 23 when the offences were committed last year. Two of them, Nikash Hussain and Irfan Hussain, are now not yet 18. One, Nabeel Naseer, is now 18 but was still 17 when he took his part in these crimes.

- 7. I take account of relevant provisions in the Sentencing Act 2020; the sentencing guidelines for cases of attempted murder and causing grievous bodily harm with intent (in force for adult defendants since 1 July 2021); and the guideline on sentencing children and young people.
- 8. For the principal offence of murder, I must sentence you all to custody or imprisonment for life, or to detention at Her Majesty's pleasure; and I have to determine the minimum term you must each serve before you can apply to the Parole Board to be considered for release.
- 9. A minimum term is not the same as an ordinary sentence where a defendant normally serves only half of it before being released on license. A minimum term is the time that must be served before your case may be referred to the Parole Board for a consideration of your release on license.
- 10. Whether or not you are released after the minimum term has been served will be for the Parole Board to consider at the end of that term. The Parole Board will not decide that you can be released, unless it is satisfied that you are not a risk to the public, and are ready for release.
- 11. If you are released at that time, or any later time, it will be on license with conditions attached and you may be recalled to continue serving your life sentence if you breach any license conditions that are imposed upon you.
- 12. Where a defendant has committed more than one crime, although I must deal with each one separately, they are closely linked to each other on the facts. My reasoning will reflect the common factual context in which the offences were committed.

<u>Usman Karolia</u>

- 13. You were 19 when you committed the three crimes of which the jury convicted you. You turned 20 on the date you were convicted, 2 June last. You have no previous convictions, cautions or reprimands.
- 14. I have considered the recent pre-sentence report in your case and am grateful for it. But the account you gave to the author does not fit with the jury's verdicts. It is on their verdicts, not what you told the probation officer, that I base my decisions.

Murder of Bradley Gledhill

15. As you are now 20, I am required by law to sentence you to custody for life for the murder of Bradley Gledhill.

- 16. To decide the minimum term in your case, I must assess the seriousness of the murder taken in combination with your other two crimes: the attempted murder of Joel Ramsden and the wounding of Kasey Hall with intent.
- 17. In my judgment, the court should increase the minimum term to reflect the seriousness of the combination of offences and the principle of totality; and pass concurrent determinate sentences on the other two counts of attempted murder and wounding with intent.
- 18. The totality principle means the sentence must be proportionate to the offending overall, neither too long nor too short for the crimes committed.
- 19. Taking first the offence of murder, my starting point must be 25 years because I am sure that, as your counsel concedes, you took a knife to the scene intending to have it available as a weapon, and that you used that knife to commit the murder.
- 20. The aggravating features are, first, that the killing was done in the street, in a public place and witnessed by a child; and second, that you were acting as part of a sustained, persistent and repeated gang attack.
- 21. In the CCTV images, you are seen to stamp on Mr Gledhill and then to drag him bodily, while he was bleeding and wounded, across from the road to the kerb. You were then first to make off down the ginnel.
- 22. The Crown submit that you must have intended to kill Mr Gledhill because of the circumstances of the killing and because the jury convicted you of attempting to murder Mr Ramsden, an offence which requires an intention to kill.
- 23. I am not satisfied so that I am sure, beyond reasonable doubt, that you intended to kill Mr Gledhill. You may have intended to cause him really serious harm. I therefore consider the minimum term on that basis.
- 24. The mitigating features are these. First, the violence was not premeditated or planned. It was spontaneous. As a group, the six of you were looking for trouble but you did not plan to injure or kill these particular victims.
- 25. Next, you were and are still a young man, 19 when you committed these offences. I accept your counsel's point that I should have some measured regard to the fact that the starting point for the minimum term would have been far shorter had you been a bit younger.
- 26. You have no previous convictions or other criminal conduct to your name. And, you voluntarily surrendered to custody the same night though you did not admit your guilt to the police.
- 27. I accept that you were, most probably, injured to the head while in the ginnel before you and the others set on your victims in the street, after

coming out of the ginnel. But that is negligible mitigation when set against the hideous brutality of the attack on the three victims.

- 28. Balancing the aggravating and mitigating features, in particular your young age, I would take a starting point of 17 years. But I will increase that by a further three years because of the attempted murder of Joel Ramsden; and by a further one year to reflect the wounding with intent of Kasey Hall.
- 29. I will consider those two offences separately in a moment. For the murder of Bradley Gledhill, the sentence of the court is custody for life, with a minimum term of 21 years. The 403 days you have already spent in custody will count towards that 21 year period.

Attempted Murder of Joel Ramsden

- 30. The degree of culpability that means, the amount of blame you bear for this crime - is high, in category B. That is because you took a knife to the scene intending to have it available as a weapon and because, without doubt, you used a knife to stab Joel Ramsden several times, to the left side of his body.
- 31. The amount of harm caused to Mr Ramsden was serious physical harm falling within category 2. He was stabbed six times in his left side and once to his neck. He suffered a collapsed lung and a contusion to a kidney as well as five flesh wounds.
- 32. The starting point would normally be 25 years, with a range from 20 to 30 years. The aggravating and mitigating features are the same as or similar to those in the case of the murder.
- 33. In this case, taking account of your age, I think it is right to impose a sentence below the level of the range of 20 to 30 years. I impose a sentence of 18 years' detention in a young offenders institution, to run concurrently with the sentence on count 1, murder.

Causing Grievous Bodily Harm to Kasey Hall With Intent

- 34. Mr Hall received two stab wounds. The jury convicted you alone, Usman Karolia, of causing him grievous bodily harm with intent to do so. You inflicted those two stab wounds; one, to the back of his chest on the right hand side; the other, to his upper left arm. After receiving those wounds, he was able to get into his car and avoid further injury.
- 35. I agree with the Crown that your culpability, or level of blame, falls within category A, high culpability, because you used a knife, a highly dangerous weapon and because you played a leading role in the activity of the group, which was a prolonged and persistent assault.
- 36. The harm Mr Hall suffered fell within category 3, which is the least serious of the categories of harm. The normal starting point is therefore 5 years, with a range from 4 to 7 years.

37. The aggravating and mitigating features of the offence are, approximately, the same as for the other two offences. I impose a sentence of 5 years, towards the low end of the range in view of your age at the time of the offence. That sentence will run concurrently with the other two sentences.

<u>Raja Nawaz</u>

38. The jury convicted you of the murder of Bradley Gledhill. You were 18 at the time of the murder and turned 19 in April this year. You have a previous conviction for robbery of a bicycle, with another youth, an offence committed in April 2016 when you had just turned 14.

- 39. As you are now 19, I am required by law to sentence you to custody for life for the murder of Bradley Gledhill. To decide the minimum term in your case, I must consider the role you played in the murder and the seriousness of the offence.
- 40. In the pursuit of Bradley Gledhill, you teamed up with Nikash Hussain to corner him and force him back between two cars and a railing so he was trapped. The prosecution suggest that you must have had a knife in your hand, threatening Mr Gledhill to make him back off.
- 41. I am not sure about that. You may have had a knife but I could not see one in your hand on the CCTV film. I will sentence you on the basis that you did not yourself wield a knife. Nor am I sure the Crown were right to suggest you filmed part of the incident from above with a mobile phone. That was speculation and I do not sentence you on that basis.
- 42. Nevertheless, your part in Bradley's death was vile. You held him, helpless and bleeding, while others landed blow after blow on him and his blood was pooling next to him on the road.
- 43. The jury rejected the lie that your raised arm was meant to encourage the others to stop. You were the last to leave the scene and go back down the ginnel, after giving a mocking victory salute to your victim.
- 44. I think it likely that you were aware at least one knife had been brought to the scene but since the incident was not planned, I am not sure you knew that whoever had brought a knife or knives to the scene intended to have it available as a weapon.
- 45. I therefore take a starting point of 15 years as the minimum term. The aggravating features are that this was a killing in a street witnessed by a child and in full public view; and that you were acting as part of a sustained, repeated and persistent gang attack.
- 46. You have one relevant conviction, also involving violence against the

victim and also involving cooperation with another in violent criminal behaviour. Although you were only just 14 at the time, that is an aggravating feature. I accept that you had a steady job and have otherwise led a blameless life.

- 47. As for mitigating features, I take into account your age, 18 at the time of the murder. I accept also that the murder was unplanned and not premeditated. The violence was spontaneous; your group did not know the victims were going to come into the ginnel. And, I accept that you did not land blows on Mr Gledhill, though you helped others to do so.
- 48. I accept that you may not have intended Mr Gledhill to be killed, rather than to suffer serious bodily harm. You showed no surprise when Irfan Hussain afterwards said "we've killed him", but it may be that was not what you intended at the time. The pre-sentence report suggests you felt remorse at first but now do not. That is disappointing.
- 49. Balancing the aggravating and mitigating features, I give precedence to your young age and note that the starting point would have been 12 years had you been a little younger still. The minimum term will be 12 years. The 402 days you have already spent in custody will count towards that 12 year period.

Ahmed Karolia

- 50. You were 23 when you committed the two crimes of which you stand convicted, murder and attempted murder. You are now 24, the oldest of the defendants.
- 51. You have convictions for driving offences in 2018 arising from a car crash that caused serious injury to another driver. You and your passengers fled the scene. You were identified as the driver by your DNA on the driver's airbag.

- 52. I am required by law to sentence you to imprisonment for life for the murder of Bradley Gledhill.
- 53. To decide the minimum term in your case, I have to assess the seriousness of the offence of murder taken in combination with your other crime, the attempted murder of Joel Ramsden.
- 54. I will increase the minimum term to reflect the seriousness of the combination of offences, applying the principle of totality so that the total sentence is proportionate to the offending overall; and I will pass a concurrent determinate sentence for the offence of attempted murder.
- 55. I do not accept the Crown's submission that the starting point for the minimum term should be 25 years. It will be 15 years. I think it likely that you knew your brother Usman had a knife, but since the attack was

unplanned and spontaneous, I am not sure you were aware he had taken it to the scene to be available for use as a weapon.

- 56. Your role in the murder of Bradley Gledhill was, first, to help immobilise Mr Ramsden, preventing Mr Ramsden and Mr Hall from coming to his aid; and then to launch a casual vicious kick to Mr Gledhill's head as he lay helpless and bleeding on the ground. You then shepherded others away, directing the retreat of those last into the ginnel.
- 57. The general aggravating features are, first, that the killing was done in the street, in a public place and witnessed by a child; and second, that you were acting as part of a sustained, persistent and repeated gang attack. I reject the suggestion that anything you did that evening was in self-defence or defence of your brother or anyone else.
- 58. As the oldest, you had influence over the others. You were drunk. You misused your influence to encourage and sustain the attack, not to prevent it. That aggravates the offence relative to the other defendants, but, I bear in mind, you were still a young man when you committed it.
- 59. Your previous convictions for the driving offences are of limited relevance but not wholly irrelevant because they did include injury to another, group activity and flight from the crime scene.
- 60. I do not sentence you on the basis that you intended to kill Mr Gledhill. It does not necessarily follow from the jury's verdict on the attempted murder count that you must have intended Mr Gledhill's death. I am not sure and I therefore sentence you as having intended really serious harm to him.
- 61. The violence was spontaneous not premeditated. That is a mitigating feature but its weight is limited because the six of you were out looking for trouble even though you did not plan to injure or kill these particular victims.
- 62. I accept that you were not involved in the initial fracas in the ginnel and that you did not yourself wield a knife, so far as the evidence goes. You are of previous good character apart from the driving offences. The court's sentence will have an adverse impact on your family, but not remotely comparable to the impact on Mr Gledhill's family.
- 63. Balancing the aggravating and mitigating features, I would take a starting point of 14 years, but I will increase that by two years because of the attempted murder of Joel Ramsden which I will consider separately in a moment.
- 64. The minimum term for the murder is therefore 16 years. The 403 days you have already spent in custody will count towards that 16 year period.

Attempted Murder of Joel Ramsden

65. The blame you bear for the attempted murder is in my judgment in

category C. Although you may not have been aware before the incident that your brother intended to use a knife as a weapon that evening, you knew he was doing exactly that very soon after the incident started.

- 66. The harm suffered by Mr Ramsden from his seven stab wounds was in category 2, serious physical harm. He also suffered less serious injuries from being kicked and hit.
- 67. The normal starting point is therefore 20 years' imprisonment, with a range from 15 to 25 years. Your role in the attempt to murder Mr Ramsden was to help corner him and cut him off. The CCTV film then clearly shows you kicking him while your brother was stabbing him.
- 68. The general aggravating and mitigating features are, otherwise, similar to those in the case of the murder.
- 69. Balancing all relevant factors, I impose a sentence of imprisonment for 14 years for the attempted murder of Mr Ramsden. That sentence will run concurrently with the sentence of imprisonment for life for murder.

Nabeel Naseer

- 70. You were aged 17 when you took part in the murder of Bradley Gledhill and in the attempted murder of Joel Ramsden. You were 18 when convicted by the jury of those two crimes and are now nearly 19.
- 71. You have two previous convictions for possessing a bladed article in a public place and one for using threatening words and behaviour. You did those criminal acts about six months before the murder and attempted murder.
- 72. For your previous offences you received, first, a referral order and then a four month detention and training order. Your license period after release ended about a week before you committed these offences.

- 73. As you were 17 at the date of the offence, I am required by law to order that you be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure for the offence of murder.
- 74. In deciding the minimum term for the murder, I must assess the seriousness of your part in it, taken together with your role in the attempted murder of Joel Ramsden. By attacking Joel Ramsden, you helped to stop him going to the aid of his friend, Mr Gledhill.
- 75. I will increase the minimum term to take account of the attempted murder and will pass a concurrent determinate sentence of detention in a young offenders institution for the attempted murder, respecting the principle that the overall sentence must fit your criminality.
- 76. The starting point for the minimum term is 12 years. I must have

particular regard to the matters stated in the guideline for sentencing children and young people and the impact of your young age and immaturity on your behaviour.

- 77. My point of departure is the term the court would have imposed as at the date of the offences, 21 June 2020 when you were 17. But I also bear in mind that Parliament has said the sentencing regime is that applicable at the date of conviction, by which time you had turned 18.
- 78. The pre-sentence report makes disturbing reading. You are unable to take responsibility for what you did, indicating, on the one hand, a callous absence of remorse or, on the other, youth and immaturity combined with the shock of conviction, as your counsel emphasises.
- 79. You were last out of the ginnel, eight or nine seconds after the others. Instead of walking away, you joined the gang attack. After your part in the attack on Mr Ramsden, you were part of the group that attacked Mr Gledhill, though you did not strike a blow to Mr Gledhill.
- 80. The general aggravating features are that the killing was done in the street, in a public place and witnessed by a child; and that you were acting as part of a sustained, persistent and repeated gang attack. A knife or knives were used in the attack. You were a knife carrier yourself, as your record shows.
- 81. I am not sure, beyond reasonable doubt, that you intended Mr Gledhill to be killed rather than suffer serious bodily harm, even though the jury convicted you on count 2 of attempting to murder Mr Ramsden, an offence which requires an intent to kill.
- 82. There is no doubt that you were involved in destroying evidence. You involved a young person, Casey Dawson, in the burning of clothes worn during the attack. That is an aggravating feature. You appear to have concealed something under the bins at your family home; it may well have been a knife or knives; I cannot be sure.
- 83. I bear in mind as an aggravating feature that you had previously carried bladed articles in public, had recent convictions for doing so and had responded poorly to court orders intended to help you avoid doing so in future.
- 84. The general mitigating features are that the attack was spontaneous, not premeditated, albeit that the six of you were out looking for trouble. You and the others did not target these particular individuals beforehand.
- 85. Your age when the offences were committed is relevant but, as the Court of Appeal has said, there is a limit to how far that takes the court because age is already taken into account in setting the 12 year starting point for the murder.
- 86. I accept that you played less of a role in the murder than the other five

defendants; that you did not actually strike a blow to Mr Gledhill; and that there is no evidence that you were carrying a knife or other weapon on this occasion.

- 87. Your character referees show strong family and community support but do not engage with what you did. They emphasise your good side, which I do not doubt exists; whereas I am confronted with what you did to your two victims. They are therefore of only limited help to me.
- 88. Balancing the aggravating and mitigating features, I would set the minimum term at 10 years, particularly because of your limited role in the murder. But I will increase that to 11 years, because of the attempted murder of Mr Ramsden, to which I come next.
- 89. The 400 days you have already spent in custody will count towards that 11 year period.

<u>Attempted Murder of Joel Ramsden</u>

- 90. The new sentencing guideline applies because you are now aged 18. You crossed the age threshold from 17 to 18 between the offence and the sentence. I cannot apply the guideline in the same way as I would to a person who was already an adult when committing the offences.
- 91. In the attack on Joel Ramsden, you were one of the four who ganged up to assault and seriously injure him. You delivered two kicks to him. They did not cause the main harm he suffered. The stab wounds did. You did not stab him but your support and participation helped enable Usman Karolia to wound him badly.
- 92. If the terms of the guideline, the Crown submits that the level of blame is in category B, high culpability. However, I agree with your counsel that your limited role in the attack means it is category C.
- 93. I agree with the Crown that the harm suffered by Mr Ramsden falls into category 2, serious physical harm. The relevant harm is not just the harm resulting from the two kicks you dealt him. It is all the harm resulting from the joint attack on him.
- 94. The guideline starting point would therefore be 20 years, with a range from 15 to 25 years. But I find the guideline of little help because, although it cites age as a mitigating factor, it does not fully address the age of the offender when the offence is committed.
- 95. There must be a substantial discount for that reason. The guideline would not have applied at all had you been sentenced 11 months earlier for the same offending committed at the same young age.
- 96. The general aggravating and mitigating features are similar to those in the case of the murder. The offence is aggravated by your previous convictions, but mitigated by your age and by the relatively low level role you played in the attack on Mr Ramsden.

97. Balancing these factors against each other, I will impose a sentence of 8 years' detention in a young offenders institution, to run concurrently with the sentence on count 1, murder.

<u>Nikash Hussain</u>

98. You are the youngest of the defendants, two months younger than your cousin, Irfan Hussain. You were 16 when you took part in the murder of Bradley Gledhill. By the time the jury convicted you, you had turned 17, also your age now. You have no previous convictions, cautions or reprimands.

- 99. As you were 16 at the date of the offence, I am required by law to order that you be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure for the offence of murder. To decide the minimum term in your case, I must consider the role you played in the murder and the seriousness of the offence.
- 100. You were fourth out of the ginnel. You rushed out in pursuit of Mr Gledhill. With Raja Nawaz, you penned him in. You directed Raja Nawaz to trap him next to the BMW car.
- 101. You went to your pocket for something that could have been a knife. The officer in the case accepted that a knife could not be seen in your hand. I am not sure, beyond reasonable doubt, that you had a knife in your hand when you lunged at Mr Gledhill between the two cars.
- 102. You delivered three kicks to Mr Gledhill. Two of them were to the area of his head. You then picked up his mobile phone. The evidence of the pathologist and forensic scientist supports the proposition that Mr Gledhill may well already have been stabbed before you lunged at him.
- 103. I think it likely that you were aware at least one knife had been brought to the scene but since the incident was not planned, I am not sure you knew until it had started that whoever had brought a knife to the scene intended to have it available as a weapon.
- 104. I am not satisfied to the criminal standard, so that I am sure, you intended Mr Gledhill to be killed rather than to suffer very serious bodily harm. I therefore sentence you on the basis that you did not intend to kill him.
- 105. The starting point for the minimum term is 12 years because of your young age when you committed this crime. The aggravating features are the use of a knife or knives in the course of joint offending; the killing taking place in public, in the street, and in the sight of a child; and that you acted as part of a sustained, persistent and repeated gang attack.
- 106. You destroyed evidence after the murder. You threw Mr Gledhill's

mobile phone into a drain in an attempt to avoid being caught. That is an aggravating feature.

- 107. In mitigation, the violence was not premeditated although the gang was ready to seek out a confrontation. You have no previous convictions or cautions. And, you were very young at the time, though that factor is already reflected in the 12 year starting point.
- 108. You have shown remorse, as explained in the pre-sentence report and I accept it as genuine. I have seen the character references written in support of you. They are positive and confirm that there is nothing to your discredit until this matter, which I take into account.
- 109. Balancing the aggravating and mitigating features, I arrive at a minimum term of 10 years. The 378 days you have already spent in custody will count towards that 10 year period.

<u>Irfan Hussain</u>

- 110. You are the second youngest of the defendants, two months older than your cousin, Nikash Hussain. You were 16 when you took part in the murder of Bradley Gledhill and the attempt to murder Joel Ramsden.
- 111. You had turned 17 by the time the jury convicted you. You will turn 18 in just over a month. You have no previous convictions, cautions or reprimands.

- 112. As you were 16 at the date of the offences, I am required by law to order that you be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure for the offence of murder.
- 113. To decide the minimum term in your case, I must consider the role you played in the murder, the seriousness of that offence and the seriousness of the combination of that offence and the offence of attempting to murder Joel Ramsden.
- 114. I will increase the minimum term to reflect the seriousness of the combination of the two offences and will pass a concurrent determinate sentence on the count of attempted murder, respecting the principle of totality. The starting point in setting the minimum term is 12 years.
- 115. Your role was, sadly, a very aggressive one. You were pumped up with alcohol and adrenalin during the confrontation. It started in the ginnel with a conversation about your brother. The atmosphere quickly soured. You rapidly turned against Mr Gledhill, while in the ginnel.
- 116. You did not have a knife or inflict any stab wounds. As the incident was unplanned, I accept that you may not have known that whoever brought a knife or knives to the scene intended to use them as a weapon.

- 117. I accept that you did not intend Mr Gledhill to be killed. I sentence you on the basis that you intended him to suffer very serious bodily harm.
- 118. You launched several powerful and vicious kicks to both Mr Gledhill and Mr Ramsden. You also stamped on Mr Gledhill. You are quite heavily built and capable of doing real damage with your kicks and stamping, though it was the stab wounds that were fatal to Mr Gledhill.
- 119. The aggravating features are, again, that a knife or knives were used, albeit not by you, in the course of a joint gang attack that was persistent and sustained and undertaken in full view of the public, including the child who filmed part of the incident. You gestured in an arrogant gloating manner at Mr Gledhill on leaving the scene.
- 120. The murder was unplanned and spontaneous but the group was looking for trouble and you in particular, having drunk vodka and kicked out at fences and doors earlier in the afternoon, were keen to engage in a confrontation. That reduces the mitigation afforded by the spontaneity of the incident.
- 121. You were only 16 at the time; though that is already taken into account in setting the 12 year starting point for the minimum term. You have no previous convictions and nothing else of any discredit to you until this incident. You have shown some remorse.
- 122. You were in full time education and have strong family and community support, as shown by the many character references provided on your behalf. They confirm that you have not until this incident lived the life of a bad person. I hope that, like the author of the pre-sentence report, that gives some hope of rehabilitation after serving your sentence.
- 123. Balancing the aggravating and mitigating features, I give particular weight to your young age. I would set a minimum term of 9 years, but I will increase it by two years because of the attempted murder of Joel Ramsden, to which I come next.
- 124. The minimum term will be 11 years. The 331 days you have already spent in custody will count towards that 11 year period.

Attempted Murder of Joel Ramsden

- 125. As you were under 18 at the date of conviction, the court can make a determinate detention order (under section 250 of the Sentencing Act 2020). I will do so.
- 126. The new guideline on attempted murder, in force from 1 July 2021, does not apply to those under 18 at the date of sentence. It may be consulted for comparative purposes only but the most important direction is found in the guideline for sentencing of children and young people.
- 127. If you were an adult being sentenced for attempted murder under the new guideline, the Crown say your level of blame, or culpability, is

category B. However, it was category C since you did not use a knife and I am not sure you were aware beforehand that someone else would.

- 128. I agree with the Crown that the harm suffered by Mr Ramsden was in category 2: serious physical harm. I have already noted that he suffered a collapsed lung and contusion to a kidney, among other less serious injuries.
- 129. The range for an adult offender on those findings would be from 15 to 25 years, with a starting point of 20 years. But that cannot stand with the 12 year starting point for murder and I conclude that the new attempted murder guideline is of little help here.
- 130. The general aggravating and mitigating features of the attempted murder offence are similar to those already mentioned in the case of the murder.
- 131. Taking account of all the circumstances including in particular your age at the time of the offence, I make a detention order for a period of 10 years, to run concurrently with the sentence on count 1, murder.

Conclusion

- 132. Please stand, all of you. The sentences of the court are as follows.
- 133. Usman Karolia, you are sentenced:
 - on count 1 (murder) to custody for life with a minimum term of 21 years;
 - on count 2 (attempted murder) to 18 years' detention in a young offenders institution, to run concurrently; and
 - on count 5 (causing grievous bodily harm with intent) to 5 years' detention in a young offenders institution, to run concurrently.
- 134. Raja Nawaz, you are sentenced:
 - on count 1 (murder) to custody for life, with a minimum term of 12 years.
- 135. Ahmed Karolia, you are sentenced:
 - on count 1 (murder) to imprisonment for life, with a minimum term of 16 years; and
 - on count 2 (attempted murder) to 14 years' imprisonment, to run concurrently.
- 136. Nabeel Naseer, you are sentenced:
 - on count 1 (murder) to detention at Her Majesty's pleasure, with a

minimum term of 11 years; and

- on count 2 (attempted murder) to 8 years' detention in a young offenders institution, to run concurrently.
- 137. Nikash Hussain, you are sentenced:
 - on count 1 (murder) to detention at Her Majesty's pleasure, with a minimum term of 10 years.
- 138. Irfan Hussain, you are sentenced:
 - on count 1 (murder) to detention at Her Majesty's pleasure, with a minimum term of 11 years; and
 - on count 2 (attempted murder) to a detention order for 10 years, to run concurrently.
- 139. Those are the sentences of the court. The periods already spent in custody will count towards the minimum terms. The statutory charges that apply will be dealt with administratively.