Ryan Gemma - SCO1

From:

Johal Nav - SCO1

Sent:

03 April 2018 07:10 Ryan Gemma - SCO1

To: Subject:

Russell's Grenfell notes

Hi Gemma

The notes to go with Russell's statement are below.

Nav

Detective Constable Nav Johal

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From: Russell Lobjoit [mailto @lond-amb.nhs.uk]

Sent: 29 March 2018 20:05

To: Johal Nav - SCO1 < @met.pnn.police.uk>

Subject: Grenfell notes

Please find a copy of my notes I made after the incident at Grenfell.

Grenfell statement of events

June 13 2017 working 19-07 on Y232 with Dom Stark

Whilst at St Thomas's hospital on active area cover in the early hours of 14 june activated to a 20 pump fire sw11. Started to make progress to SW11 Battersea. As we passed Southwark fire station the pumps there where activating. I mentioned to Dom that they would be coming our way but instead they turned left out the station towards Lambeth Bridge not towards Vauxhall.

As we got to Battersea Dogs Home we received a message to state that the call was W11 not SW11. We turned right onto Battersea Bridge to make our way to W11 Grenfell Walk. From local knowledge we knew we could not approach from Latimer road/St Annes due to road works so made our way through back streets (we heard the report from Y251 who was on the A40 that he could see the building on fire from his location), a couple of fire engines also followed us through the back streets to get to the scene. We parked in Avondale Park Road inc with Bomore Road where we knew we could make easy access to the address of the fire but wouldn't hinder the access of the London Fire Brigade (LFB) or other resources.

. As we got out of the vehicle and got changed into our ground kit, people who had obviously escaped from the fire, as they were very distressed, soaked and some covered in soot approached us asking for help. Dom gave a windscreen report to EOC whilst I suggested to those who were approaching us that they waited beside the leisure centre in front of us and help would come to them shortly. Some people tried to give us telephones with people who were still in the fire on the other end. We could see no other London Ambulance Service (LAS) resources at this time. On crossing the road we could see Grenfell Tower clearly heavily alight

Dom and I gathered the following kit Paramedic bag, Suction, Lp15, response bag, Oxygen bag, forward mass o2, tombstone rescue bag, burns dressings, 2x triage bags and the casualty clearing station ground sheets. We checked each other had all our personal protective equipment (PPE) and we shut our van and moved forward towards the base of the flat where the LFB where fighting the fire.

As we walked along the side of the leisure centre we were faced by more people moving away from the fire, we again advised them to go to the end of the path and wait beside the leisure centre. We could hear people screaming from the flats and waving clothing as well as the sound of fire alarms going off. One person appeared completely outside the window of one property.

We got the entrance of the building where the LFB were entering the building and were met by Incident response officer (IRO) Lawrence Iaonnou. He told us that nothing had been set up yet as he had only just arrived and he was trying to find out what was happening, we assured him we would set up a triage point and casualty clearing station (CCS). As we started to sort a triage point in a safe enough place away from the smoke and falling debris near enough the entrance of the fire where any casualties would appear and to be visible to the LFB. Clive appeared at this point so I left him with Dom and IRO Lawrence Iaonnou. I ran back towards our vehicle and the leisure centre to find a suitable Casualty clearing station (CCS) as I did so I kept and eye out for the Hems team as I knew that they were close behind as they were dispatched at the same time as us from ST Thomas's also. I found them beside the leisure centre heading towards the fire, gave them a brief of what I knew and suggested a CCS as we started to set it up the LFB came and said they were hoping to get access to the building down this foot path, so we had to move what was set up. At this point y231 appeared so I tasked them to assist setting it up at the new location on Bomore Road by the leisure centre.

The initial RVP given by the EOC wasn't reachable due to other emergency vehicles blocking the roads. The Hems Team and myself looked at map to suggest a suitable Rvp. The initial suggestion was Latimer Road but with local knowledge I already knew that that wasn't a great idea due to the road works blocking the road part way. I suggested Clarendon Road jnc with Cornwall Crescent as if people accessed form Holland Park Avenue end we could keep a direction of flow. I wrote my issi number on the Hems Paramedics sleeve as it was almost impossible to hear the radio over ambient noise so we could point to point if needed, To make sure this was a good access point I ran to the location to check it was clear. The road was free flowing with no emergency vehicles blocking it at the time. I ran back and reported this to the Hems Dr and Also IRO Lawrence loannou. At this point I ran back to the triage point where I had left Dom and Clive.

As I got back to the Triage point a fireman was carrying a child out, we went through triage and I carried the young girl to the CCS, I tried to get out of her what flat she lived in but only got her name Tamsin and she was 6. I gave her to Matt At the CCS and ran back to the triage point. Where I picked up a small adult male with a reduced GCS. I ran as best I could with him to the CCS, on the way I noticed an ambulance beside the back of the leisure centre.

On my way back to the Triage point I went to the ambulance, which was unattended and pulled the trolley bed and carry chair off of it and took them to the triage point so we had something to move patients on rather than carrying them. As I set the chair up the fire brigade put unconscious male onto the chair. Someone put a triage tag on him, there was no one to help move him so I put his head between my elbows to support his head and ran with him to the ccs as was going to the CCS other staff were heading to the triage with a bed, they offered to put the patient on their bed but the time taken to move him I would be at ccs so I suggested that they take the bed to triage.

I went back to triage again and this time there was two children waiting to be moved to ccs so I carried them as it was easier than a chair or bed. As I did so a man grabbed me and was screaming at me that his child was on the building and I should be saving him, he was hysterical and was punching and trying to pull the girl from my arms. I told him I was a paramedic and couldn't go in the fire I could only treat the people the fire brigade had bought out. He let go of me and ran towards the fire. I never saw him again.

The fire brigade were trying to get us to enter the foyer of the building to receive patients I pointed out that due to the large number of hoses on the floor we were unable to get any closer to retrieve patients so the current point was the best place to hand over patients.

I assisted moving several more patients to the ccs returning several times to the triage point.

The next time I was a triage 4 fireman carried a large male over by his ankles and wrists, the put him on the floor, as I approached the patient I noticed that it appeared both his shoulders were dislocated as I went to put the down by his side to do a quick assessment I noticed he had multiple fracture with limbs not in alignment I felt his chest for any chest rise as it was to loud ambiently to hear breath sounds and noticed his chest was soft with obviously multiple fractures, I confirmed this patient was dead and no breath sounds present. The patient was tagged as we did this the fire brigade returned and confirmed he had been found beside the building and was believed to have jumped form an unknown height. And we had to quickly decide where we would put any dead people we received. As more Hart staff had arrived the triage team and myself found a place out of the way and where bodies wouldn't be in the way as we still didn't have access to any buildings and would be out of sight for some dignity from people trying to see what was going on.

At some point we were told that the police had gained access to the leisure centre but there was no power. I asked if we could to use a room as a temporary morgue so all the dead were in one place and a police officer could stay with them as they had a body in the ccs. Jen Dodige and myself went to lay a tarp on the floor of the leisure centre hall and we got a crew to assist us with moving the one dead body from beside triage and the 3 bodies from the CCs to the now temporary morgue. I update the command team with the location of this. A police officer suggested we emptied the drinks machines in the leisure centre. So we did this and took bottles of water to as any of members of the initial response as we could. I witnessed a person fall from height but I couldn't get to them as where they landed was full of burning debris.

While this was going on we noticed people in flats above us still shouting waving, one male had tied sheets together and lowered them from his window several floors up he started to climb down the sheets. I don't know if the sheet broke free or he lost his grip but he fell to the ground but due to the amount of burning debis falling and on the floor no one was able to get to him.

Gradually the flow of patients from sector 1 slowed. Simon Woodmore came and stated that some patients had been taken out the other side of the building and could Dom and I find a way around there to sort it out. We worked our way through the paths in the neighbouring flats towards Latimer Road tube were we found a group of patients around a tree with DR Fay working her way round treating them, I asked her if she needed any help to which she said she was alright her only concern was a child that she was treating who was on high flow o2 and needed an ambulance asap but she had asked for that already. We told her we were going down towards the fire to set up a triage point as others were setting up a ccs like we had in sector 1 near to were she was operating. As we went to leave Fay, IRo Marie Co>>>>> asked if we were going towards the fire, if so could we take the triage pack to IRo Gleeson. We went to the end of the path where we found a large amount of firemen who had been in the fire and some who were preparing to re-enter the fire. We found Iro Gleeson and he stated that patients were being bought around the corner so could we do the triage. We got 2 tarpaulins and requested some carry sheets so we could get the police who were there to move the patients to the ccs. We asked BTP if they had any body bags in their vehicle that was at the top of the path we could have so we could set up another temporary morgue and time had passed and the fire was so intense it seemed hard to believe that anyone would come out alive. We worked as a triage team here with IRO Gleeson operating comms and keeping us updated on any vital info. We triaged several more patients in this area. At one point an IRo who I don't know came stating he was our safety officer and wanted us to move back he disappeared. IRO Gleeson asked us to move but we pointed out that by going to where the safety officer wanted us to go we were not only a long way from where the LFb were appearing with patients but also we couldn't then see the building should there be any falling debris we would only see it as it got into the walk way not before as we could see from our previous position. He agreed and we moved the triage point slightly back but so we were still a focal point for the LFB when they appeared with patients. A team of fire fighter who had just come out of the building stated that on 9th/10th floor there was an obese patient that they felt was dead as it appeared they had fallen down the stairs what should they do as she was to big to move out safely. We advised that if they believed she was dead they should move them so they weren't obstructing the stairs but report the move to their command.

We carried on working in sector 2 as a triage team with 2 of the east hart team too. Whilst we were there Simon Woodmore asked Dom and I to get our BA sets as there was a possibility that we would deploy to carry out ROLE on the obese patient on the 10th floor in the stair well. We got our sets and checked they were ready. But it was decided to risky to deploy us so we carried on doing triage as patients were bought to us. Eventually our relief arrived and we left the incident at about 9am.

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