

PRESS OFFICE

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CUMBRIA
CONSTABULARY
SAFER STRONGER CUMBRIA

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

PRESS RELEASE

Issued at 10.10pm on Wednesday 2 June 2010

Police investigating the shooting in West Cumbria this morning have released a map identifying the roads on which the suspected offender, Derrick Bird, is believed to have travelled when he shot dead 12 people and injured 11 more.

A dedicated team of more than 100 detectives from Cumbria CID are working to retrace his steps and identify the sequence of events which led to the death of 12 people and injury of 11 others. One of their top priorities is identifying the exact route Derrick Bird travelled this morning and discovering the events leading up to this tragic incident. As part of this work they have identified provisional roads on which he is believed to have travelled based on sightings and preliminary casualty information.

He is believed to have travelled on the A5086 between Lamplugh and Whitehaven, through Lowther Street, Duke Street Coach Road, Low Road, Kells Road, Ennerdale Terrace, Woodhouse Estate and High Road in Whitehaven on to the B5345 to Main Street in St Bees. He is also believed to have travelled from Whitehaven from St Bees to Rigg Road towards Egremont, Grove Road, South Street, Vale View, Bridge End/Woodbank area then out towards Wilton, Haile and the A595. He is then thought to have travelled to Oxenrigg Farm area, down Thorny Lane, Gosforth and then onto the B5344 towards Drigg Road in Seascale then onwards to Boot.

His vehicle, a silver/grey Citroen Picasso, was found abandoned at the Hardknott Pass where he continued on foot and was found dead in a wooded area nearby.

Officers are now putting together a precise sequence of events and identifying the exact route he travelled.

Two weapons have been seized by police and are being examined by forensic experts. These are a shotgun and a .22 rifle fitted with a telescopic sight.

Eleven casualties were treated in hospitals around the region following the shooting in West Cumbria this morning, three are described as being in a critical condition, five in a serious condition and three others have been discharged.

More than thirty Family Liaison Officers will be working through the night to formally identify the twelve people who were killed and inform immediate family members.

We are appealing for members of the public with friends and family in the West Cumbria area to ensure they are safe and well. If you cannot make contact with relatives, or you are not sure if they are safe, please contact the police helpline number on 0800 096 0095.

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Anyone with information or who thinks they may have seen Derrick Bird over the last 24 hours is asked to contact police on 0845 33 00 247.

End