

# Manchester Arena bombing trial: Hashem Abedi accused of 22 counts of murder – latest updates

*There has been preliminary preparation done at the Central Criminal Court Old Bailey during the course of last week but this is the first news report of the trial now that the prosecution have opened. From the Manchester Evening News*

The brother of Manchester Arena bomber Salman Abedi is standing trial at the Old Bailey in London, accused of murdering 22 people who died following an Ariana Grande concert there in May 2017.

Hashem Ramadan Abedi , 22, from Fallowfield, but of Libyan heritage, denies the charges.

He also denies a charge of attempted murder, concerning those who were injured but survived, and another that he conspired with his brother to cause an explosion likely to endanger life.

He entered the not guilty pleas at a hearing in October.

The trial is being shown live at courts in Manchester, Leeds, Newcastle and Glasgow so families of those affected by the bombing can watch the proceedings. His trial, before the judge Mr Justice Jeremy Baker, is scheduled to last up to eight weeks.

Hashem Abedi's brother Salman killed himself and 22 others when he detonated a bomb in his backpack in the foyer of Manchester Arena on May 22, 2017, following an Ariana Grande concert.

He is accused of murdering Elaine McIver, 43; Saffie Roussos, eight; Sorrell Leczkowski, 14; Eilidh MacLeod, 14; Nell Jones, 14; Olivia Campbell-Hardy, 15; Megan Hurley, 15; Georgina Callander, 18; Chloe Rutherford, 17; Liam Curry, 19; Courtney Boyle, 19; Philip Tron, 32; John Atkinson, 26; Martyn Hett, 29; Kelly Brewster, 32; Angelika Klis, 39; Marcin Klis, 42; Michelle Kiss, 45; Alison Howe, 45; Lisa Lees, 43; Wendy Fawell, 50; and Jane Tweddle, 51.

*The MEN is doing live updates of the trial proceedings. The Telegraph has a precis of this morning's proceedings*