

Rochdale grooming trial restarts after jury discharged

From the [Manchester Evening News](#) and the [BBC](#)

A jury has been discharged in the case of eight men accused of sexually abusing two girls as young as 12 in Rochdale.

The men went on [trial earlier this month](#) charged with 80 sexual offences between 2002 and 2006. Jurors at Minshull Street Crown Court [heard that the alleged victims were 'mere objects' to be groomed, humiliated and sexually abused by the defendants](#).

But following several days of evidence, Judge Tina Landale dramatically discharged the jury of seven men and five women on Tuesday afternoon.

Neither of the alleged victims in the case, as complainants of sexual offences, can be publicly identified. All defendants have pleaded not guilty and deny all the charges they face.

A [new jury](#) was sworn in today. To recap

The defendants are as follows:

- Jahn Ghani, 49, of Whitworth Road, charged with 17 offences including rape and sexual activity with a child
- Ali Razza Hussain Kasmi, 34, of Brotherod Hall Road, charged with six offences including rape and gross indecency
- Aftar Khan, 33, of Sparth Bottoms Road, charged with eight offences including rape and sexual activity with a child
- Mohammed Iqbal, 66, of Gainsborough Drive, charged with

two counts of paying for sexual services of a girl under 18

- Mohammed Ghani, 37, of Bamford Way, charged with 21 offences including rape and engaging in sexual activity with a child
- Insar Hussain, 36, of Bishop Street, charged with 17 offences including rape and trafficking people for sexual exploitation
- Ikhlaq Yousef, 37, of Stanley Street, charged with seven offences including rape and gross indecency
- Martin Rhodes, 36, of Dinmore Avenue, Blackpool, charged with six offences including rape and sexual activity with a child