

Suspect in Kongsberg killings had converted to Islam, police say

OSLO, Oct 14 ([BBC](#)): The victims were all aged between 50 and 70, regional police chief Ole Bredrup Saeverud told reporters on Thursday morning. He said they were most likely killed after the police first confronted the attacker at 18:18.

Reports of the incident were “horrifying”, said Prime Minister Erna Solberg, hours before she was due to leave office.

Norway’s outgoing justice minister Monica Maeland told reporters the police did not yet know whether or not it was act of terrorism and could not comment on details emerging about the suspect.

Police prosecutor Ann Irén Svane Mathiassen told TV2 that the man had lived in Kongsberg for several years and was known to police.

The suspect was taken to a police station in the town of Drammen, where his defence lawyer, Fredrik Neumann, said he was questioned for more than three hours and was co-operating with authorities. The suspect had a Danish mother and Norwegian father, he explained.

Norwegian police are not usually armed and after the attack the police directorate ordered all officers nationwide to carry firearms as an extra precaution. “The police have no indication so far that there is a change in the national threat level,”