

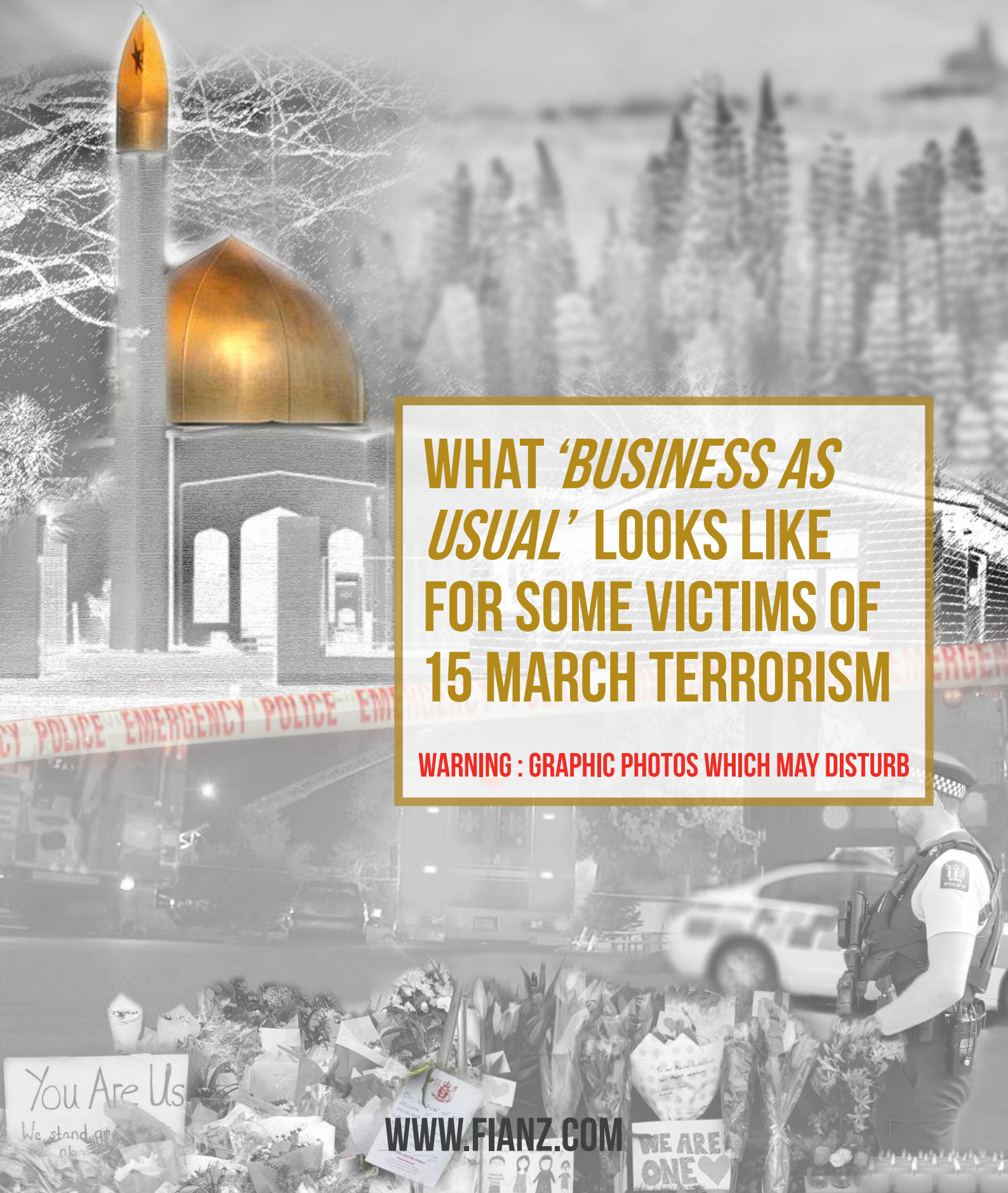


The Federation of
Islamic Associations
of New Zealand (Inc.)

اتحاد الجمعيات الإسلامية النيوزيلندية

WHAT '*BUSINESS AS USUAL*' LOOKS LIKE FOR SOME VICTIMS OF 15 MARCH TERRORISM

WARNING : GRAPHIC PHOTOS WHICH MAY DISTURB



You Are Us

We stand
alongside

WWW.FIANZ.COM

WE ARE
ONE

WHAT 'BUSINESS AS USUAL' LOOKS LIKE FOR SOME VICTIMS OF 15 MARCH TERRORISM.



The Lead Coordination Minister, Hon Judith Collins KC announced the end of coordinated cross-government response with respect to the Royal Commission and that there will be a continuation of some of the services being provided to the survivors on a “business as usual” basis.

We provide an evidence-based response as to what this means to some of the survivors.

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August 2024

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Abdur Razzaq,

Chairperson, FIANZ Royal Commission Submission and Follow-Up

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CASE 1: TERROR SURVIVOR WITH BULLET IN BODY 'ADVISED' TO SEEK EMPLOYMENT

ACTUAL PHOTOS OF VICTIM



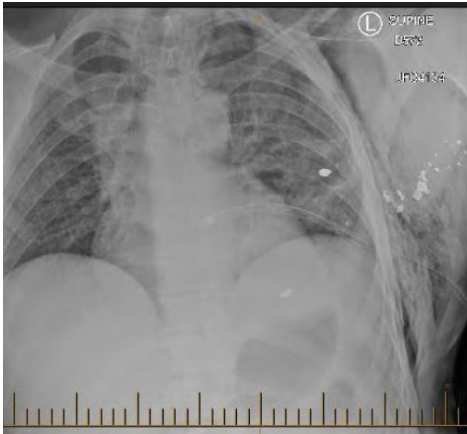
- Bullet punctured body.
- Multiple surgeries over time.



- The pain of bullet wounds.
- Suffering in silence.



Message from survivor



- Lead bullet shrapnel in chest.
- Difficult to remove.




- Shrapnel lodged in body.
- Gradual poisoning by lead bullets.

CASE 2:

TERROR SURVIVOR WITH BULLET IN BODY COERCED BACK TO WORK OR LOSE HIS ACC PAYMENT

- ACC FORM – BACK TO WORK.
- THE VICTIM STILL HAS BULLETS IN HIS BODY BUT ACC INSISTS ON PREPARATION FOR BACK TO WORK

ACC 

Back to Work – Initial and Progress Report


If you're a Back to Work (BTW) provider, please complete this form when you need to update us on our client's progress on their BTW programme. Please tick below to indicate which type of report this is and complete the appropriate sections.

Initial Report
Complete sections 1 to 7 and sign section 9

Progress report
Complete sections 1 to 5, 8 and sign section 9 (Only current progress report required)

When you've finished, please send a copy to the ACC contact person.

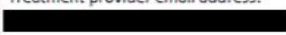

1. Report stage

Initial: 	Progress (number): 	Date of this report: 
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2. Client details

Client name: 	Claim number: 
Date of injury: 15/03/2019	Diagnosis: Depressive disorder NEC
	Injury? Accident, by other means
	Accident caused by gunshot wound NOS – Left
	Injury of muscle and tendon at lower leg level – Left.
	Post-traumatic wound infection – Left.
	Injury of nerves at lower leg level – Left.
	Crush injury, back.
	Adjustment disorders
	Single major depressive episode, moderate
	Post-traumatic stress disorder

3. Contact details

Lead supplier company name: 	Lead supplier contact person: 
Treatment provider company name: 	
Treatment provider name: 	Treatment provider email address: 
ACC contact name: 	ACC contact person email address: 

4. Overall objectives

What is the overall objective specified in the referral?

Similar job, new employer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Modified job, new employer	<input type="checkbox"/>
New job, new employer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Work ready and vocationally independent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Despite all these medical issues ACC still insisting on back to work. This is what Minister Collins' "Business as Usual" looks like.

02

Summarise your assessment of this client

Documents reviewed and provided:

- Initial Occupational Assessment [REDACTED]
- Initial Medical Assessment [REDACTED]

A brief history of the client:

The ACC referral indicates that [REDACTED] sustained his injuries during the Christchurch shooting at Al Noor Mosque.

[REDACTED] has encountered significant challenges with various movements and is currently experiencing the following symptoms and complications:

- Reports difficulties with pain and nerve pain.
- Experiences swelling in the leg.
- Has no sensation or strength from the calf down – Left leg.
- Struggles with fatigue and concentration due to medication.
- Finds prolonged sitting, standing, and walking challenging.
- Has difficulty walking up/downstairs and ladders, as well as climbing into a heavy vehicle.
- Reports struggles with squatting and crouching.
- Has become socially withdrawn and has lost interest in all hobbies and interests.

WE SIMPLY ASK THE QUESTION, IS THIS FAIR ?



FIANZ STATEMENT:

The shameful abandonment of the victims of the March 15 terrorism by Hon Judith Collins KC, Lead Coordination Minister is unfathomable. Survivors with bullet shrapnel still in their bodies are being warned that if they don't start the process of job seeking and assessment they will lose their ACC compensation. This is the reality of "business as usual" which the Coordination Minister has thrust upon the impacted community without any warning or consultation.

FIANZ has raised this specific issue of the bullet wounded with the government more than three months ago, but there has been a wall of silence on this matter. It is quite obvious that Hon Judith Collins has abandoned the moral responsibility due to these innocent victims. They were mercilessly shot with semi-automatic weapons by a terrorist. However, ACC is treating them as victims of an accident in keeping with the "business as usual" guidelines. This is a shameful incongruity.

These wounded persons still have lead oozing into their bodies which is slowly poisoning them. We know of cases of survivors who have gone through multiple surgeries and are also undergoing psychological counseling for PTSD. One is on 24-hour pain medicine. This is at a time when the community is also reliving the trauma of the details of how the shuhada died at the coronial inquiry.

The Minister's recent announcement that the victims should be treated by the agencies under "business as usual" process has obviously not been well thought out nor discussed with the impacted community. Given that Judith Collins is a senior Minister with experience in more than 12 past and present Ministerial portfolios, it is quite obvious that she is aware of the context and the consequences. Some have concluded that she is sending a deliberate and loud message to the 15 March survivors to 'suffer in silence' because they will not be heard by her. We find it particularly unfathomable for the Attorney General to take such a stance. It is quite obvious that social justice is not in her vocabulary.

We would have requested the Prime Minister for an independent review of her performance on this and other matters, however we know that such a review may be pointless, given that the Minister has already stated that the coordinated cross-government response has ended. Unfortunately for the survivors, the trauma continues under "business as usual".

Finally it is important to remind ourselves that the State apologised to these innocent victims. We now ask the question whether this type of "business as usual" approach is consistent with the apology?

August, 2024



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