# Children among eight injured in Southport knife attack



**Children Among Eight Injured in Southport Knife Attack**

Southport, Merseyside – A knife attack today has left eight people injured, including children, sparking a heavy police and medical emergency response. The incident occurred at Hart Space Studios on Hart Street at approximately 11:50 am following reports of multiple stabbings.

Witnesses described a chaotic and harrowing scene, with children seen fleeing into the street covered in blood. One resident likened the distressing sight to "something in a horror movie." Armed police and paramedics swiftly arrived at the location to provide urgent assistance.

### Labour Cuts Winter Fuel Payments for Pensioners

Up to two million older individuals who are financially struggling could lose the annual winter fuel payment due to new government plans. This decision was announced as part of a series of spending cuts to address a reported £22bn "black hole" in public finances.

Rachel Reeves, the Chancellor, outlined these plans during a speech on Monday, emphasising the need for fiscal responsibility. The cuts would save an estimated £1.5bn. However, charities have raised concerns about the potential impact on pensioners who may face difficult choices between heating their homes and other necessities.

Critics of the decision highlight that many older adults fail to claim pension credit, which would have qualified them for the winter fuel payments. Age UK estimates that around 800,000 low-income older people do not claim the benefit and could therefore lose out on these crucial payments. In winter 2022-23, some 11.4 million people received these payments, alongside additional cost-of-living payments.

The Treasury has planned to target these payments more specifically, aiming support at households over the state pension age who are in receipt of pension credit and universal credit. Those eligible are to receive £200, or £300 for individuals over 80. Winter fuel payments in Scotland and Northern Ireland are devolved.

“This will better target support for heating costs at those who need it,” a Treasury document stated, also confirming the government's commitment to maintaining the triple lock for pensions within the current parliament.

### Huw Edwards Faces Charges Over Indecent Images

The prominent television broadcaster, Huw Edwards, has been charged with creating indecent images of children. The charges have brought significant attention to the broadcaster, adding to an ongoing debate surrounding issues of child protection and media responsibility.

### Paris 2024 Event Roundup

Today's events at Paris 2024 saw a whirl of activity and competition, capturing global interest and athletic prowess. Detailed coverage showcases the array of sports and the remarkable performances set against the vibrant backdrop of Paris.

In summary, a tragic incident has left Southport in shock, with a knife attack causing injuries to several, including children. Meanwhile, the Labour government's plans to cut winter fuel payments have reignited debates on social care and financial support for pensioners. Additionally, the high-profile charge against Huw Edwards underscores ongoing concerns about child protection, and the Paris 2024 continues to engage audiences worldwide with thrilling sports action.