# First date ends in high-speed chase and £250,000 police chaos in Gateshead



A first date that spiralled into chaos unfolded for 27-year-old Courtney Redfern, who found herself at the centre of a harrowing police pursuit involving her date, 20-year-old Mayzar Azarbonyad. What began as an ordinary evening quickly turned into a nightmare, culminating in a high-speed chase across Gateshead and along the A1M towards Newcastle. The subsequent incident resulted in a staggering £250,000 worth of damage and left seven police officers in hospital.

Courtney was initially excited for the date, but it took a perilous turn when police attempted to stop Azarbonyad’s powerful BMW M5 due to a defective rear light. In an alarming twist, he chose to accelerate, leading to a pursuit that ended with a tactical stop from police, who surrounded his vehicle. Witnesses described the aftermath as 'carnage' when an unmarked police car collided with the stationary vehicles at high speed, creating a scene likened to disaster recovery.

Despite the chaotic circumstances, both Courtney and Azarbonyad emerged without major injuries. However, the emotional toll on Courtney and her family was significant, as sources revealed that the event transformed what was meant to be a pleasant evening into a traumatic experience. "There was a great deal of trauma for Courtney and her family," a source noted, highlighting the unexpected and horrifying nature of the incident.

In the aftermath, Courtney faced arrest on suspicion of aiding and abetting dangerous driving, igniting speculation about her involvement. Ultimately, authorities decided not to pursue charges against her, although she remains under investigation concerning cannabis possession at the time of the crash. In the wake of the ordeal, it appears that she has severed ties with Azarbonyad, seeking distance from the traumatic encounter.

In a recent court appearance, Azarbonyad pleaded guilty to multiple serious charges, including dangerous driving, failing to stop, as well as operating a vehicle without a licence or insurance. His defence claimed that he had not been aware of prior convictions, which had resulted in penalty points on his driving record. “It is possible someone else may have given his details when stopped by the police,” his barrister suggested, as the proceedings unfolded.

The courtroom drama highlighted an increasingly troubling trend of dangerous driving among young people, particularly with respect to the pressures they face in contemporary society. Azarbonyad’s behaviour—repeatedly disregarding bail conditions by driving just days after the crash—has sparked outrage. As prosecutor Simon Worthy remarked, “One would have thought as a matter of common sense… you would have been a bit more sensible about your activities, having been so lucky to get out of an accident only two days before.”

Lawyers argued for leniency during Azarbonyad's hearing, noting his self-employed status as a personal trainer and lack of previous convictions. However, the gravity of his offences looms large, with Judge Tim Gittens warning that all sentencing options, including custody, remain on the table. This level of leniency is becoming less probable given the rising statistics on reckless driving and associated harms.

The tragic reality is underscored by the significant injuries suffered by the police officers. Seven were hospitalised, but fortunately, their injuries were classified as non-life threatening. In response to this alarming event, a North East Ambulance Service spokesperson explained the scale of the emergency response, which involved multiple ambulance crews and support from the Great North Air Ambulance Service.

As Courtney begins to recover from this harrowing experience, she is left to ponder the serendipity that spared her life and the shocking reality that a simple night out could plunge her into an unforeseen crisis. While Azarbonyad’s fate now rests in the hands of the judiciary, the ramifications of that fateful first date will undoubtedly linger for all involved far beyond any court verdict.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14731867/mother-date-personal-trainer-police-officers-hospital.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14731867/mother-date-personal-trainer-police-officers-hospital.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490),
* Paragraph 3 – ,
* Paragraph 4 –

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14731867/mother-date-personal-trainer-police-officers-hospital.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data