# dog attacks escalate in Greater Manchester with baby and children among victims



Armed police and an air ambulance were dispatched to a residential area in Haughton Green, Manchester, following a distressing incident where a dog attacked two adults and a baby. Dramatic scenes unfolded on Baslow Road as emergency services responded to the call that raised concerns over public safety.

This incident is part of a concerning pattern involving dog attacks in the region. Just a week prior, a 12-year-old boy in Oldham suffered life-changing injuries from a similar event, prompting police to detain the dog involved at a kennel. The rising incidents of dog attacks have sparked debates around responsible ownership and the inherent risks posed by certain breeds. The breed of the animal in the current incident has yet to be confirmed, adding to the mounting concern within communities.

Recent reports indicate that factors such as stress from environmental changes can provoke unpredictable behaviour in dogs. For instance, police in Barnsley highlighted that fireworks had likely triggered a family dog to attack a baby, leaving the infant with serious injuries. This case involved a Cane Corso cross, previously regarded as loving and docile. The family had reported increased anxiety in the dog as fireworks were set off in their neighbourhood, underlining the need for pet owners to be attentive to their animals' stress reactions.

Greater Manchester has seen a rise in serious dog attacks. Recently, an 11-year-old boy in Monsall sustained injuries that, while not life-threatening, nevertheless necessitated an urgent response from emergency services. In that instance, a 35-year-old woman was arrested under the suspicion of having a dog dangerously out of control. There were calls for any witnesses with footage of the event to come forward, reflecting a broader community effort to address safety concerns related to aggressive dog behaviour.

The issue is not limited to Manchester alone; dog attacks on children have been increasingly reported across the UK, leading to both physical and emotional scars. A particularly harrowing case involved a seven-year-old girl who sustained horrific injuries from a pit bull-type dog at a cricket club. This incident, described in court as resulting in "appalling injuries" and lasting mental trauma, highlights the devastating impact such attacks can have on young victims.

With multiple incidents raising alarms about dog behaviour and owner responsibility, it is clear that there is an urgent need for comprehensive discussions on dog ownership laws, the classification of dangerous breeds, and community safety measures to minimise the risk of further attacks.

As communities grapple with these challenges, it remains crucial to balance the rights of dog owners with public safety concerns, ensuring that such distressing incidents do not become a regular occurrence.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2061887/manchester-incident-live-dog-attack-baby-Haughton-Green), [[2]](https://news.sky.com/story/oldham-woman-charged-after-12-year-old-boy-suffers-life-changing-injuries-in-dog-attack-12990922)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2061887/manchester-incident-live-dog-attack-baby-Haughton-Green), [[3]](https://www.itv.com/news/calendar/2023-10-24/fireworks-stress-may-have-provoked-dog-to-attack-baby)
* Paragraph 3 – [[4]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-65807472), [[5]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-65121935)
* Paragraph 4 – [[6]](https://www.gbnews.com/news/dog-attack-girl-manchester-injuries-owner-convicted), [[7]](https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/seven-month-old-baby-mauled-29384911)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2061887/manchester-incident-live-dog-attack-baby-Haughton-Green> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://news.sky.com/story/oldham-woman-charged-after-12-year-old-boy-suffers-life-changing-injuries-in-dog-attack-12990922> - A 41-year-old woman has been charged after a dog attack left a 12-year-old boy with 'life-changing' injuries. The incident occurred on Villa Road, Oldham, at about 11.30am on Sunday. The boy was left with 'serious injuries, believed to be life changing'. A woman aged 31 was also attacked and has received treatment. The animal was 'safely detained' at a kennel after armed police and a dog unit were sent to the scene. The breed of the dog had not yet been disclosed.
3. <https://www.itv.com/news/calendar/2023-10-24/fireworks-stress-may-have-provoked-dog-to-attack-baby> - Police say 'stress' caused by fireworks may have provoked a family dog to attack a baby boy. The 10-month-old needed surgery and is in a serious but stable condition in hospital after being mauled by the Cane Corsa X, in Hoyland, Barnsley, on Tuesday. South Yorkshire Police said the dog was described as 'loving and affectionate' and had shown 'no previous signs of aggression' before it attacked the boy. A spokesperson said the family had reported that the dog had recently become 'stressed' by fireworks being set off in the local area.
4. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-65807472> - An 11-year-old boy has been seriously hurt in a dog attack in Manchester. It happened on Sunday afternoon in Swanley Avenue, Monsall, and left the boy with injuries which were not life-threatening, according to Greater Manchester Police. A 35-year-old woman was arrested on suspicion of having a dog dangerously out of control and the animal was also seized, officers said. Police have appealed for any CCTV, mobile or dashcam footage.
5. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-65121935> - A man has been charged over a dog attack which left a six-year-old girl seriously injured. The girl remains in hospital for treatment after police were called to a house on Ackers Lane in Carrington at about 14:40 BST on Sunday, Greater Manchester Police (GMP) said. A 35-year-old man from Carrington faces eight counts of being in charge of a dog dangerously out of control. He is due to appear at Manchester and Salford Magistrates' Court later. Four dogs were seized immediately and four more adult dogs and nine puppies were taken away.
6. <https://www.gbnews.com/news/dog-attack-girl-manchester-injuries-owner-convicted> - A seven-year-old girl has been left with horrific physical and mental scars after she was savagely mauled by pit bull terrier-type dogs at a cricket club in Greater Manchester. Robert Parsons, 27, appeared at Minshull Street Crown Court following the attack at Micklehurst Cricket Club in Mossley last October. The court heard how the young victim, who cannot be named for legal reasons, suffered 'appalling injuries' and 'mental trauma and terror' during the incident. At the cricket club, two dogs - Reggie and Barney - were being walked by Parsons and his partner around the cricket club's boundary when one without a lead ran towards the girl, knocked her over and jumped at her.
7. <https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/seven-month-old-baby-mauled-29384911> - A baby girl has been mauled to death by family's pet dog in Coventry, police have said. West Midlands Police rushed to the property where they found the seven-month-old with severe head injuries following the attack. She was taken to hospital but did not survive, the Mirror reports. The dog, which was not classed as a dangerous breed, was humanely destroyed. Detectives are now investigating the horrifying attack. The tragedy unfolded on Sunday afternoon when officers were called to a street in the Coundon area of the city. No arrests have been made over the attack.