# Third man arrested over arson attacks linked to Sir Keir Starmer amid counter-terror inquiry



A third man has been arrested in connection with a series of arson attacks targeting properties linked to Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer. The 34-year-old suspect was detained in Chelsea, south-west London, on Monday under suspicion of conspiracy to commit arson with intent to endanger life. This arrest follows the earlier detainment of a 26-year-old man at Luton Airport on the same charges, while a 21-year-old Ukrainian national, Roman Lavrynovych, has already been charged with three counts of arson related to incidents over a single week.

The fires in question occurred between May 8 and May 12, primarily in north London, targeting Starmer's former residence in Kentish Town, a vehicle he once owned, and a nearby apartment building associated with him. Remarkably, despite the apparent severity of these incidents, no injuries have been reported. The Metropolitan Police confirmed that the investigation has since escalated and is being handled by counter-terrorism detectives, reflecting the potential implications for national security.

The specific circumstances around the attacks have drawn attention to possible motives. Authorities are questioning whether there may be state involvement given the high-profile nature of the targets. The question of intent appears to be central to the ongoing investigation, especially as Lavrynovych is reported to have utilised accelerants to ignite the fires. During his appearance at Westminster Magistrates' Court, he denied the charges, affirming only his identity while receiving translation assistance in Ukrainian.

The first incident took place in Kentish Town, originating from a fire at Starmer's former home. Subsequently, his Toyota RAV4 was targeted, and a fire erupted at the front door of a property converted into flats in nearby Islington. These attacks align with broader discussions in Parliament about threats to democracy, with Starmer himself characterising these acts as assaults on shared values. The Labour leader has received condemnation and support from various quarters, including Conservative MP Kemi Badenoch, who denounced the attacks as "unacceptable."

This spate of incidents raises significant concerns not just about the safety of public officials, but also about the potential influence of external entities, as evidenced by other recent arson cases involving individuals linked to foreign organisations. For example, the case of Dylan Earl, who orchestrated an attack tied to the Russian Wagner Group, underscores the increasing entanglement of international dynamics within local criminal activities.

Starmer’s experiences have ignited a wider conversation around political safety and the integrity of British democracy, as investigations continue to unravel the complex web surrounding these arson attacks. With the next court date set for June 6, the nation watches closely not just for the judicial outcomes, but for the implications these events might have on the socio-political landscape.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraph 1: Sources (1), (2), (3), (4)
2. Paragraph 2: Sources (2), (3), (4)
3. Paragraph 3: Sources (3), (5), (6)
4. Paragraph 4: Sources (1), (4), (6)
5. Paragraph 5: Sources (6), (7)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/starmer-arson-attack-third-arrest-b2753864.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.ft.com/content/34d074c4-0a39-4d52-90ae-590972f32bb6> - The Financial Times reports that a third individual, a 34-year-old man, was arrested in Chelsea on suspicion of conspiracy to commit arson with intent to endanger life. This follows the earlier arrest of a 26-year-old man at Luton Airport and the charging of 21-year-old Ukrainian Roman Lavrynovych with three counts of arson related to properties linked to UK Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer. The incidents occurred over three nights between May 8 and May 12 in north London, targeting Starmer’s former residence, a building he once lived in, and a vehicle he previously owned. No injuries were reported, and authorities are investigating potential motives, including possible state involvement. The case is being handled by counterterrorism detectives due to its implications for national security. ([ft.com](https://www.ft.com/content/34d074c4-0a39-4d52-90ae-590972f32bb6?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://apnews.com/article/0ffaa52f338f6b57f416fb6073898f43> - The Associated Press reports that a third suspect, a 34-year-old man, was arrested in Chelsea on suspicion of conspiracy to commit arson with intent to endanger life. This follows the earlier arrest of a 26-year-old man and the court appearance of 21-year-old Ukrainian national Roman Lavrynovych, who has been charged with setting fire to properties associated with UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer. The attacks occurred over three nights between May 8 and May 12 in north London, targeting Starmer’s former residence, a building he once lived in, and a Toyota RAV4 he previously owned. No injuries were reported, and authorities are examining potential motives, including possible state involvement. ([apnews.com](https://apnews.com/article/0ffaa52f338f6b57f416fb6073898f43?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-police-arrest-third-man-over-fire-pm-starmers-house-2025-05-19/> - Reuters reports that British police have arrested a third suspect, a 34-year-old man, in connection with a series of arson attacks in north London, including a fire at the home of Prime Minister Keir Starmer. Earlier, 21-year-old Ukrainian national Roman Lavrynovych and an unnamed 26-year-old man were also arrested. Lavrynovych faces three counts of arson with intent to endanger life after fires last week, including one at Starmer’s Kentish Town residence. Though no injuries occurred, the front of the property was damaged. Additional incidents under investigation include a fire at an apartment block in Islington and a vehicle fire in Kentish Town, both reportedly linked to Starmer. Counter-terrorism police are overseeing the investigation due to the prime minister's involvement. ([reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-police-arrest-third-man-over-fire-pm-starmers-house-2025-05-19/?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.ft.com/content/4af155d6-c2f3-4277-b32a-8f01130140dd> - The Financial Times reports that Roman Lavrynovych, a 21-year-old Ukrainian national, has been remanded in custody after being charged with three counts of arson with intent to endanger life, related to attacks on property linked to UK Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer. The alleged incidents include a fire at Starmer's family home in Kentish Town and a prior car fire on the same street in north London. Lavrynovych appeared at Westminster Magistrates' Court, where prosecutor Sarah Przybylska noted the offenses were currently 'unexplained,' and stated he had used accelerants to start the fires. Lavrynovych, who has no fixed UK address and was arrested in Sydenham, south-east London, denied the charges when questioned by police. He spoke only to confirm his identity and received interpretation in Ukrainian during the proceedings. His lawyers did not apply for bail, and he is set to appear at the Old Bailey on June 6. ([ft.com](https://www.ft.com/content/4af155d6-c2f3-4277-b32a-8f01130140dd?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://apnews.com/article/508282452a81723220bcd383e5df4ad1> - The Associated Press reports that British Prime Minister Keir Starmer denounced recent arson attacks on properties linked to him as assaults on democracy and shared values during a parliamentary session. The incidents, which occurred in various locations connected to Starmer, including his former residence and a related apartment building, are under investigation by counterterrorism detectives. A 21-year-old man has been arrested and is being held on suspicion of arson with intent to endanger life, with authorities granted an additional 36 hours to question him. No injuries have been reported. Authorities are examining potential motives, including possible state involvement. The suspect allegedly ignited fires at Starmer’s former home in Kentish Town, a nearby property, and a vehicle, suggesting a targeted attack. Leaders across the political spectrum, including Conservative MP Kemi Badenoch, condemned the attacks as unacceptable. ([apnews.com](https://apnews.com/article/508282452a81723220bcd383e5df4ad1?utm_source=openai))
7. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/dylan-earl-london-arson-attack-wagner-group-russia-ukraine-b1190149.html> - The Evening Standard reports that British man Dylan Earl admitted orchestrating an arson attack in London linked to the Russian terrorist group Wagner. The attack targeted a property owned by a Ukrainian individual and was carried out on behalf of the Wagner Group. Earl was remanded in custody until a sentencing hearing at a later date. Several other individuals are also accused in connection with the arson charge. The case highlights the involvement of foreign terrorist organizations in orchestrating attacks within the UK. ([standard.co.uk](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/dylan-earl-london-arson-attack-wagner-group-russia-ukraine-b1190149.html?utm_source=openai))