

Public Statement from the Chair

Faith leaders in Leicester have condemned the right-wing terrorist attack on 2 mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand which killed 49 worshippers today. The Leicester Council of Faiths, which comprises of faith community representatives of Leicester are holding a prayer vigil and minute silence together with the Federation of Muslim Organisations, on Sunday at 1.15pm as a mark of remembrance for the victims. Fayyaz Suleman Chairman said

"We condemn this cowardly act against innocent worshippers. Places of worship are sanctuaries where people meditate and pray. An attack against these Muslim worshippers is an attack on peace, love and harmony that we commonly stand for. There is no place for Islamophobia and hatred in our society and more needs to be done to build tolerance and prevent these kinds of attacks in the future."

"Our heartfelt sympathies are with the loved ones of those affected by this tragedy and the victims will remain in our thoughts and prayers. This no doubt creates anxiety among local Muslim community, but we stand in solidarity with our Muslim community in Leicester and reassure them that the faith leaders of the city are together with them at this difficult time."

The prayer vigil and minute silence will be held at 1.15pm on Sunday the 17th of March outside Masjid Umar, Evington Road, Leicester. Members of the public are invited to attend and join in the remembrance.

Please show your solidarity by attending if you are able to and to circulate this invitation to all your friends and colleagues. Thank you.

Fayyaz Suleman Chairman