

PRESS RELEASE

04 November 2024

Thames Valley East Masaajid Council (TVMC) marks Islamophobia Awareness Month with Call for Greater Understanding and Solidarity

For Immediate Release

1st November marked the beginning of Islamophobia Awareness Month, an important time for reflection, understanding, and action against the deep-rooted bias and discrimination. TVMC is proud to join the month-long national campaign, to improve understanding of Islamophobia and its impacts on British Muslims.

Though the UK has yet to establish a legal definition of Islamophobia, it is widely recognised as an unfounded fear, prejudice, or hostility towards Islam and Muslims. “Islamophobia manifests in many forms. It could be unwarranted criticism of a Muslim’s appearance, scrutiny of their actions in public spaces, or even prejudiced portrayals of Muslim and Islamic institutions in the media. These biases, whether blatant or covert, create an environment that marginalises Muslims and undermines the harmony of our communities.” Dr Jarral, Chair TVMC

This Awareness Month offers a valuable opportunity for everyone to learn about Islamophobia and recognise how it impacts Muslims in everyday life, from their interactions in local neighbourhoods to their experiences in the workplace or while practicing their faith freely.

Despite this ongoing discrimination and threats, British Muslims continue to make invaluable contributions to the UK’s economy and the public services, so we ask everyone including the policymakers to stand in solidarity with British Muslims to foster respectful, and inclusive communities.

End Statement

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Note to Editors

The Thames Valley East Masaajid Council (TVMC) is a consortium of 11 mosques representing over 60,000 Muslims in Slough, Windsor, Maidenhead, South Bucks, Runnymede and neighbouring areas; essentially the entire geographical footprint of the Thames Valley East region. TVMC represents local Muslim communities and partners statutory and non-statutory organisations as well as other religious communities to improve racial and religious harmony in the region.