

Guidance to Mosques regarding post Paris Safety advice

This document is prepared to inform and advise the Mosques Management and their congregation's regarding some potential issues that may arise following a major incident but especially following the tragic events in Paris. Some of the objectives of ISIS are calculated to cause maximum tensions and conflict between Muslims and Non-Muslims in the UK.

While, Muslims from all backgrounds across the UK, continue to work towards creating better cohesion and understanding, we are aware that there may be a minority who will seek to exploit this event in creating division.

We have seen the rise of Islamophobia following such events, when Mosques, Graves and individuals have been unfortunately targeted.

Advice to Mosques

Administration

1. Ensure the Mosque is secure at all times.
2. Nominate individuals for security responsibility and make local police aware who they are.
3. Contact local police and area commanders for two way consultation about any concerns or police plans.
4. Contact local fire brigade area officers as above.
5. Consider appropriate sign for 'trespassers will be prosecuted'.
6. Any non-Mosque business to be pre booked via executive.

Security

1. Ensure local contact number of emergency services along with Police control room and local area officers is known and clearly displayed.
2. Have a simple policy on what to do in any such occurrence.
3. CCTV cameras consideration for long term security, if already there, ensure they are working and maintained and seek Police Guidance regarding evidence requirements.
4. All fire doors and normal doors to be secure and functional.
5. All gates internal and external to be locked upon end of Mosque business.
6. Be vigilant at all times in relation to Mosque and areas where vehicles may be parked.

7. Get Security to challenge any unknown or suspicious individuals entering the boundary of the Mosque or call the police ASAP.
8. During times of prayers and Khutbahs, ensure there is security outside the Mosques doors to ensure no trespassers can enter.

Hate or Suspicious Incidents

1. Do not seek any confrontation of any kind even if intimidated and provoked.
2. Obtain names and addresses of any trespassers if possible along details of vehicles they came in.
3. Report any incident to police ASAP.
4. Make a record of any such incident and details of when and who reported to at Police.
5. Obtain relevant incident report details from the Police and Council.
6. Ensure that local Council Community Engagement Officers are aware of the occurrence.
7. Inform other local Mosques and Muslim Organisations about attendance to ensure they are vigilant.
8. Consider preserving any visual recording or other evidence e.g. Documents left, of any event for evidence.