



MEDIA STATEMENT

8th June 2026

Statement of Solidarity with Sikh Communities

Muslim Women's Network UK extends its condolences to the family, friends and loved ones of 18-year-old Henry Nowak. His tragic murder has shocked communities across the country.

Responsibility for this crime lies solely with the individual convicted, Vickrum Digwa. We are deeply concerned by reports that Sikh individuals, families and institutions have faced hostility, abuse and intimidation in the aftermath. No community should ever be held collectively responsible for the actions of one person, nor should anyone be targeted because of their faith or identity. As a Muslim organisation, we understand the harm caused by collective blame. We stand in solidarity with our Sikh sisters and brothers and reaffirm our shared commitment to challenging prejudice and hate.

We are also concerned by questions raised about the police handling of this case. The released body-worn camera footage was deeply distressing, particularly seeing a seriously injured young man pleading for help while restrained. This has understandably raised public concern about decision-making, training and operational responses.

It is essential that lessons are learned. We support calls for a full, transparent and independent review of the police handling of the case, including prior warnings, risk assessments, and the circumstances surrounding the incident and subsequent police response.

We pay tribute to the dignity and courage shown by the Nowak family. Their words remind us that even in the face of profound loss, hatred must be rejected. We call on politicians, the media and the public to act responsibly, resist attempts to sow division between communities, and ensure that this tragedy is not exploited to inflame tensions or advance political agendas.

Ends

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