



**21<sup>st</sup> June 2024**

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **Deep concerns about misogynistic comments by Parliamentary Candidate**

Muslim Women's Network UK (MWN UK) is deeply disturbed by the comments made by Akhmed Yakoob, an independent candidate for the Birmingham Ladywood constituency, a criminal law solicitor, and TikTok influencer. In clips from a recent podcast shared online, Mr. Yakoob is heard suggesting that "70% of hell is going to be women." Additionally, he has expressed support for Andrew Tate, a misogynistic influencer currently awaiting trial in Romania on charges of human trafficking and rape. Mr. Yakoob's public alignment with Andrew Tate and his comments raise serious questions about his judgment and values.

The spread of misogynistic attitudes online and in public discussions fuels violence against women and girls. Domestic homicide rates are particularly high among Black, Asian, and minority women. Ensuring the safety and well-being of women in every community should be a top priority for all parliamentary candidates. With women making up half of the population in every constituency and many areas having a significant number of Muslim women voters, their voices will be pivotal in this general election. We strongly encourage all women to closely examine candidates' positions on crucial issues such as violence against women and girls (VAWG) and equality.

We also urge all parliamentary candidates to condemn violence against women and girls (VAWG) and misogyny, and to commit to improving the safety of women in all communities. Every voter has the right to demand accountability and integrity from those who seek to represent them in Parliament.

### **Additional Information**

- Media enquiries can be directed to: [contact@mw nuk.co.uk](mailto:contact@mw nuk.co.uk) or 0121 2369000
- MWN UK is a national charity and more information can be found on the website: [www.mw nuk.co.uk](http://www.mw nuk.co.uk)
- MWN Helpline can be contacted on: Tel: 0800 999 5786 / E: [info@mw nhelpline.co.uk](mailto:info@mw nhelpline.co.uk) / Text: 07415 206 936 a