



6th October 2025

MEDIA STATEMENT

Arson at Peacehaven mosque must be treated as a terror attack

The Muslim Women's Network UK (MWNUK) strongly condemns the horrific arson attack on a mosque in Peacehaven, East Sussex, which took place around 9.50pm on Saturday 4th October 2025. Although the police are investigating the incident as a hate crime, it should also be recognised and treated as a terror attack motivated by anti-Muslim hatred. MWNUK stands in solidarity with the Muslim community in Peacehaven and all those affected by anti-Muslim hate crimes across the country.

MWNUK CEO, Baroness Shaista Gohir said: *"I am deeply alarmed and angered by the arson attack on Peacehaven Mosque. Sadly, I am not surprised, given the significant unchecked rise in anti-Muslim abuse and attacks across the country, which continues to embolden racists. This was an act of terror intended to instil fear within Muslim communities and sow division in society. While we are thankful that no lives were lost, the resulting trauma and fear should not be underestimated."*

MWNUK calls on the police and the Government to take urgent and robust action, not only to bring the perpetrators to justice, but also to confront the growing wave of anti-Muslim hatred that fuels such attacks. Condemnation after the fact is not enough. We need stronger prevention measures and visible solidarity from the media, and from political and civic leaders alike. In light of the recent attack on members of the Jewish community, it is clear that the safety of faith communities must now be treated as a national priority.

Anti-Muslim hate incidents can also be reported to our new service, Muslim Safety Net www.muslimsafety.net / 0330 330 0288

Additional Information

1. For comments get in touch via – contact@mw nuk.co.uk / 0121 236 9000
2. Muslim Women's Network UK (MWNUK) is a registered charity (no.1155092)
3. 80% of Muslims do not report anti-Muslim experiences according to report by MWNUK, Anti-Muslim Hate: Concerns and Experiences (Sept 2024).