

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **LEWISHAM FAITH LEADERS UNITED AGAINST MURDERS IN NICE**

Faith Leaders across the borough of Lewisham are united in condemning the shocking murders in Nice, France, on 14<sup>th</sup> July. Such an act of murder on families and children celebrating a public holiday has no basis in any religious belief.

Lewisham's Faith Leaders reject all such acts of violence and terrorism, wherever they occur, in London, Europe or the Middle East. We renew our commitment to working together here in Lewisham for peace, justice and a community of mutual trust and respect.

Lewisham has a proud history of diversity and tolerance and is home to people from many nations and cultures. As Faith Leaders we celebrate this multicultural heritage as an example of intergration and cooperation.

Our recent Walk for Peace (29<sup>th</sup> May 2016) was a clear demonstration that our common humanity and shared community are strong bonds and we can enjoy learning from each other's different traditions and perspectives on the world. We urge the people of Lewisham from all faiths and none to work together with our Police and civic authorities to strengthen those bonds and protect peace.

Sir Steve Bullock, Mayor of Lewisham  
Chief Superintendent Kate Halpin, Lewisham Police  
Imam Shakeel Begg, Lewisham Islamic Centre  
Mr Joe Birchell, Catford Synagogue  
Revd Canon Peter Farley-Moore St John's Deptford  
Revd Jane Kustner, St Swithun's Hither Green  
Revd Steve Hall, St Mary's Lewisham  
Fr Chris Connor, St Saviour's RC Church Lewisham  
Revd Bridget Shepherd, The Good Shepherd Lee  
Fr Philip Corbett, St Stephen's Lewisham  
Revd Canon Charles Pickstone, St Laurence Catford  
Cllr Janet Daby, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Lewisham Council  
Revd Dr Stephen Maunder, Lewisham Methodist Church  
Carol Bostridge, Lewisham Street Pastors