



MASJID | COMMUNITY CENTRE

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## Official Statement from PIETY

Date: 06/08/2024

### To all it may concern

On Friday 02/08/2024, news started filtering through that the English Defence League (EDL) was scheduling to stage a protest on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2024 at 19:00pm in the city centre of Plymouth. Leaflets on social media started circulating everywhere. Monday morning 05/08/2024, we were informed by the local law enforcement agencies of a potential protestors' march towards our mosque as they have done in all other cities in the country.

The police provided assurance that they would ensure protection of all people including our mosque if this happens. They also advised us to take necessary precautions to secure our premises. This gave the Director and Trustees of PIETY, reassurances, satisfactions and complete confidence in the police's ability to maintain law and order.

The police held a strong presence and coverage of the place through out the day and night.

We commend our good neighbours for their support and reassurance during this time.

We also applaud our Muslim youth and their friends some of whom were non-Muslims for the values and love they hold for their Centre and mosque. They mobilised themselves and created a second line of defence in case those hooligans attempted to attack the mosque. They turned up in big numbers.

In the aftermath of yesterday's actions, we have had various meetings with key organisations, civic leaders, law enforcement bodies, Fire and rescue services, news agencies, neighbours, etc who have all expressed dismay for the perpetrators of yesterday's activists. It has been identified that some of them are not even from Plymouth. Our communities have a lot which brings us together than dividing us. Plymouth is historically known as a welcoming city, so those trying to create hatred will not succeed.

We appreciate the support and vigilance of the local police, politicians, Fire and rescue services. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and update you.

My sincere thanks go out to good Samaritans, like an English sister who came to the centre to donate towards repairing the damages caused to our building on Tuesday. That is a sign that those who want to intend to divide us will never win.

Yours Sincerely

Centre Director on behalf of the entire Trustee Board

[www.pietty.org.uk](http://www.pietty.org.uk)

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