

23 May 2017

Dear Colleague

Like us, we are sure that you were deeply saddened and shocked waking up to the news of the attack in Manchester last night. Our thoughts are with those who are injured, and the families and friends of those who lost their lives.

Camden joins many across the country by flying our flag at half-mast in solidarity with the people of Manchester.

We have been deeply moved by the caring and strong response of Manchester's community and the bravery of Manchester's emergency services.

Despite these threats, such incidents continue to be rare.

In the wake of the attack, the Metropolitan Police have reviewed their own policing plans, and have increased the level of officers on our streets. Over the next few days people will see an increased number of officers on duty who will provide a highly visible, reassuring presence across London.

Locally, this will include enhanced engagement with schools and places of worship to support anyone with concerns. This enhanced level of policing will continue for as long as is necessary.

We will be reviewing all planned events across Camden from a security perspective, and will engage with partners and organisers if we have any concerns.

The work you do as a community leader can help. We know that community tensions can rise after attacks and we will continue to work with the police and partners to keep everyone in the borough safe making sure that Camden is no place for hate.

I ask that in this time of uncertainty you join me and my colleagues in Camden Council in reassuring our communities that we are One Camden – a place for all.

We will continue to work with you and others across our borough to build a borough where everyone is welcome regardless of their background. We will not tolerate hate and division in Camden.

Please encourage anyone who has experienced hate crime, hate incidents or community tensions in their area to report this to the Police via the police's 101 number or to the Council via 020 7974 4444 or communitysafety@camden.gov.uk.

Finally, we need to remain vigilant and continue to encourage people to report anything suspicious. If there is fear of immediate danger, people should call 999 or otherwise the number is 0800 789 321.

Many thanks for everything you do to help foster strong communities in Camden. I look forward to continuing to work with you.

Yours sincerely

Georgia Gould

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Abdul Hai', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Cllr Georgia Gould, Leader of Camden Council and Cllr Abdul Hai, Cabinet Member for Cohesion, Equalities and Community Safety