



Giving back to society



London Borough of Waltham Forest

Our borough is one of the most diverse areas in the country. 48 per cent of residents are from a minority ethnic background.

The top five countries of origin for residents born overseas are Pakistan (8,200), Poland (8,200), Romania (4,300), Jamaica (4,200) and India (4,200 people).

The top five languages spoken locally other than English are Urdu, Polish, Romanian, Turkish and Lithuanian.

- About 22% of LBWF are Muslim and this is the 8th highest proportion in the UK according to last census.
- 15 mosques in LBWF and 11 are part of WFCOM

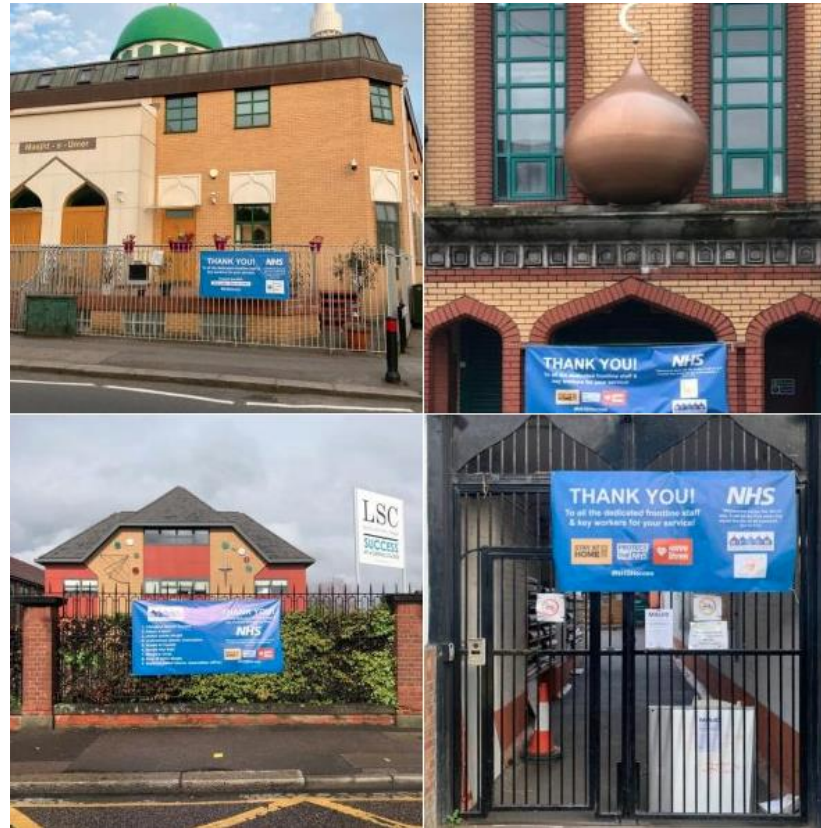


Objectives of WFCOM

The Waltham Forest Council of Mosques exists to provide a forum for the Mosques of Waltham Forest to gather collectively in order to fulfill the following aims and values:

- a. A forum for representation of member Mosques within the borough of Waltham Forest
- b. Act as a body to liaise amongst the member Mosques in order to facilitate consultation and information sharing
- c. Unite the local Muslim Community to create a spirit of goodwill and harmony within Waltham Forest
- d. To provide a forum that addresses issues that affect the Muslim community

Covid 19 response





- WFCOM has been in contact with the main Consultant in charge of the LBWF Covid response at our main hospital, Whipps Cross.
- We have also been in touch with the Muslim Chaplain at Whipps.
- Provided sanitisation packs for NHS workers, as well as providing hot food and iftars during Ramadhan.



- PPE for all volunteers who were performing Ghusl.
- Training was provided virtually for all volunteers of how to perform Ghusl under Covid restrictions.
- Established immediately a Janaza facility at the local burial ground.
- Provided support to other masjids and areas to have the same set up for Janaza facilities.



- Permission to call the Adhan during Ramadhan.
- Overall very positive comments from the local community.
- Domino effect for other areas in the UK.





98.6% POSITIVE FEEDBACK FROM RESIDENTS VIA <https://wfc.org/calltoprayer/>

I really like the call to prayer. It provides a real sense of calm and comfort in a time of great distress. I have no religion but really enjoy the spirituality of it. Thank you.

Margaret

Absolutely loving this. On my one and only visit to Istanbul I got up early each day to hear the Call to Prayer. I'm delighted that I can now hear it in my own borough. Thank you. Please consider carrying this on.

Lynda

Hi there, just a quick note to thank you for the letter about the call to prayer during Ramadan. I was lucky enough to visit Jordan many years ago and remember the beauty of the Adhaan performed in Amman. Hearing it here in Walthamstow will bring me fond memories and more importantly some spiritual comfort for our neighbours in these unprecedented times. Wishing you and all our Muslim neighbours a safe and peaceful Ramadan, Yours,

Anna

Thank you so much for your courteous letter. My family and I fully support this initiative. What a great idea, which will help us all to recognise this special time of year for all of our Muslim neighbours and friends. I'm really struck by the fact that as an organisation you decided to write to everyone in this way. I should imagine you will receive only support

The first day we heard the call for prayers gave us goosebumps. As a non muslim family it gives us the opportunity to feel part of your community. Thank you so much.

Lesley

Loved hearing this, should be a feature regularly

Liz

Beautiful and peaceful. Its brought calmness and peace to the heart. Very beautiful way to announce the end of daylight.

Henna

It must be so very odd to be observing and celebrating such a significant period during lockdown. I'm very pleased to hear that the Adhan is helping some families deal with the isolation. We're really enjoying hearing it in this household. Both of my girls ran inside this evening to tell us 'the mosque is singing!'

Leo

I love the Call to Prayer. Thank you for broadcasting!

Jordan

Made my day. The lockdown has really made me suffer and to hear the call to prayer has really soothed my heart.

Love the initiative and wish it could carry on after Ramadan and lockdown too

Irina

I have been listening to the call for prayer every evening. It's beautiful and reminds me of when I was in Cairo. I hope it can continue after the lockdown. There is noise pollution from traffic and so on, but this is completely different. Best wishes and Ramadan Kareem

Stephen and Jessica

A beautiful moment to savour and great that the WF council have supported us during such an important time of our year. I hope neighbours enjoy the Adhaan it too, something different and memorable for everyone.

Imran

Hey. We got your letter through the post (we are all Christian/agnostic). We LOVE that you are doing Adhaan and will be honoured to take part and want to thank you for allowing the wider community to be a part of it. :)

Kim

Hello, I am not a Muslim, but I have great admiration for the faith, and I have enjoyed hearing the Adhaan, both for its melody and for what it represents. I appreciate the effort to bring people together during

In addition to....

- Virtual iftars for community as well as with Council Leaders.
- Iftar packs provided and delivered.
- Food banks such as PL84U As Suffah and Higham Hill Muslim Community Trust



WFCOM - Waltham Forest Council of Mosques @WFC... · May 12 ···
Thank you so much @ClrCoghill for organising a Virtual Iftar between councillors of @wfcouncil and members of @WFCOMosques.
Was amazing seeing you all online and we pray we can see each other again offline very soon!
#StaySafe 🇮🇵❤️#RamadanAtHome 🇮🇵



Coronavirus: 'I don't like doing it but I do it to survive'

Non-profit charity PL84U AL-SUFFA runs a food bank in Walthamstow, east London. Volunteers normally serve meals once a fortnight but now due to people losing their income during the lockdown, they are giving out meals three times a week.

Chief executive Saira Mir said: "We've noticed that there's a lot of different people from different social backgrounds."



- Our work continues....
- Affiliate members
- Open to other mosques to join