Safer Communities Together

Kia ora, As-salamu alaykum, Namaste, Ni Hao, Shalom, Sat Sri Akaal, Greetings

Following the tragic terrorist attack in Christchurch on 15 March 2019, our condolences and heartfelt sympathies are with all New Zealanders, and particularly our Muslim and ethnic communities.

Police has a crucial role in supporting our communities as we recover together. We are focused on providing a strong and supportive presence to help people feel safe and be safe.

Keeping New Zealand safe

On the day of the attack, New Zealand's national terrorism threat level was raised to high. Police, with other Government agencies, set and continually review the threat level.

Since the attack, you may have seen Police officers carrying firearms. This is a temporary measure as New Zealand Police do not normally carry guns.

It is important that people feel able to return to their routines, including visiting their places of worship. Police will continue to be visible, and are engaging with communities to offer safety advice.

Supporting our communities

Police are working closely with community groups, ethnic groups, and government agencies to provide reassurance and support, particularly to those feeling vulnerable at this time. While we have been focused on visiting mosques and Islamic centres, we encourage any individual or community group to get in touch with Police if they feel vulnerable.

If you or your community group would like to know more, please contact your local police to find out how we can support you to feel safe and keep safe.

How to contact Police

You are welcome and encouraged to approach Police to talk or ask for help.

- In an emergency, call 111.
- If you can't decide if it's an emergency and you're still worried, call 111 and ask for Police. We will help work out what to do.
- For a non-emergency, call or visit your local police station. Find the contact details online: www.police.govt.nz/contact-us
- Always report any suspicious activity to the Police. If you don't feel comfortable about this, you can always contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or submit an online form at: www.crimestoppers-nz.org
- When reporting a crime, it is important to remember not to touch anything which could be included as

evidence and, if relevant, take photographs (for example, vandalism or other property disturbance).

New Zealand Police Values

Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Commitment to Māori and the Treaty, Empathy and Valuing Diversity

- If threats are made to you either in person or online that make you fearful for yourself or others, please contact Police immediately. This includes any incident which may be motivated by hostility based on race, colour, nationality or religion.
- Make sure you tell Police about any other incidents of concern which may have recently occurred. Also let Police know how the incident has made you feel that way we can ensure you are connected to the support you need.
- Police have specialist officers working in ethnic communities around the country. They are happy to listen to any concerns and work together with you to

improve safety in your communities. Find contact details online: www.police.govt.nz/ethnic-liaison-officers

