

Sir Mark Rowley,  
The Commissioner  
Metropolitan Police Service  
New Scotland Yard  
London

Subject: Formal Complaint Regarding Failure to Act Against Islamophobic Hate Speech at the  
“Unite the Kingdom” Rally

Dear Commissioner,

I write to formally complain regarding the Metropolitan Police Service’s catastrophic failure to uphold its own publicly stated obligations at the recent “Unite the Kingdom” rally in central London led by Stephen Yaxley-Lennon (“Tommy Robinson”) and associated speakers and organisers. The Metropolitan Police not only failed in its legal duty to prevent hate speech and Islamophobic incitement, but by its inaction effectively permitted and enabled a platform for Islamophobia to operate unchallenged in the heart of London.

Prior to the event, the Metropolitan Police publicly stated that there would be “zero tolerance” towards hate speech, anti-Muslim abuse, unlawful extremism, and incitement at the rally. In the Metropolitan Police’s own press statement dated 13 May 2026, explicitly stated that organisers and speakers would face consequences if the rally was used as “a platform for unlawful extremism or hate speech,” and further stated: “We will be arresting for these offences where we see them.”

(See Metropolitan Police statement: [4,000 officers prepare for day of protest in central London](#))

The same statement specifically acknowledged that previous “Unite the Kingdom” protests involved “anti-Muslim chanting” and had left Muslim communities “feeling scared.”

Despite these explicit assurances, the Metropolitan Police demonstrably failed to honour its own commitments. Islamophobic rhetoric, imagery, speeches, and conduct were openly on display during this latest rally, and the Metropolitan Police did not intervene to stop it. The atmosphere and messaging were overtly hostile towards Muslims — constituting textbook Islamophobia — and the Police’s failure to act allowed this hatred to go unchecked, creating genuine and widespread fear within Muslim communities across London and the United Kingdom.

Media reporting and footage from the event demonstrate deeply troubling rhetoric and conduct:

- [The Guardian report on Tommy Robinson rally](#)
- [Middle East Eye coverage of arrests and rally conduct](#)
- [5Pillars coverage of the rally and messaging](#)
- [Video evidence 1](#)

- [Video evidence 2](#)
- [Video evidence 3](#)
- [Instagram footage 1](#)
- [Instagram footage 2](#)

The rhetoric employed at this rally repeatedly portrayed Muslims as a threat to Britain, framed Islam as incompatible with British society, and encouraged confrontation and hostility under the guise of patriotism and “taking back” the country. Such rhetoric cannot reasonably be divorced from its Islamophobic context.

The Metropolitan Police themselves imposed conditions requiring organisers and speakers to ensure that speeches and broadcast content did not “stir up racial or religious hatred.” The fact that such conditions were imposed demonstrates that the Police were fully aware of the risk of Islamophobic incitement. Their subsequent failure to enforce those conditions, despite extensive video evidence and widespread public concern, represents a serious and inexcusable dereliction of duty. The Metropolitan Police had both the legal power and the operational intelligence to act, and chose not to.

Many British Muslims now genuinely believe that had comparable racist language been directed at any other faith community in Britain, immediate arrests and swift enforcement action would have followed. The Metropolitan Police’s failure to act here does not simply reinforce perceptions of unequal or “two-tier” policing, it confirms them. By allowing Islamophobic rhetoric to go unpunished, the Metropolitan Police has sent a clear and damaging message that Islamophobia is tolerated to a degree that hatred targeting other communities is not.

Accordingly, I request clear answers to the following:

1. What investigations are currently underway into speeches, banners, chants, and conduct at the “Unite the Kingdom” rally?
2. How many arrests or investigations specifically relate to Islamophobic hate speech?
3. What steps will the Metropolitan Police now take to reassure Muslim communities that Islamophobia will be treated with the same seriousness afforded to hatred against other faith groups?

The Metropolitan Police publicly recognised before the event that Muslim communities were fearful. That acknowledgement created a clear and unambiguous legal and moral obligation to act decisively where Islamophobic rhetoric occurred. The Metropolitan Police failed to meet that obligation. This failure has caused direct harm. Muslim families, particularly visibly Muslim

women and children, are increasingly unsafe in public spaces following such rallies. Community fear is not hypothetical; it is real, it is growing, and it has been made worse by the Police's inaction.

The Metropolitan Police's failure to act has already undermined public confidence, damaged community cohesion, and sent a dangerous message that Islamophobic extremism can be openly platformed in London without consequence. This must be rectified immediately, and those responsible for this failure must be held to account.

I look forward to your urgent response.

Yours faithfully,

Ismail Patel

Chair, Friends of Al-Aqsa