

**Joint statement from faith leaders:
“We all pray for the health and unity of our nation”**

April 2, 2020

Rabbi Moshe Rubin, Senior Rabbi of Scotland, and Giffnock and Newlands Hebrew Congregation, and Rabbi Mark Solomon, Sukkat Shalom: Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community have joined faith leaders across Scotland in signing a joint statement calling on people of faith to stand together, following government advice, and praying for the health and unity of the country during the covid-19 pandemic.

We are living through unprecedented times and our local communities are finding ways of connecting and supporting each other. We are aware that Covid-19 is beginning to affect people we know and people are anxious. It is therefore important that we all keep to the government advice, it will help save lives.

These are also the moments when it is so important that we, the faith communities in Scotland, stand together. We all seek the well-being and peace of our people and we all also pray for the health and unity of our nation.

We commit ourselves to mutual respect and to seek together those opportunities when we can offer ourselves to the service of the people and institutions of Scotland.

We are praying for you and with you, may God be with us.

Rabbi Moshe Rubin, Senior Rabbi of Scotland, Giffnock and Newlands Hebrew Congregation

Rabbi Mark L Solomon, Rabbi of Sukkat Shalom: Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community

Rabbi Joseph Dweck, Senior Rabbi of the Spanish and Portuguese Sephardi Community of the United Kingdom

Rt Rev Colin Sinclair, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

The Most Rev Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St Andrews & Edinburgh

The Most Rev Mark Strange, Bishop of Moray, Ross & Caithness and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church

Revd Mark Slaney, The Chair of the Methodist Church in Scotland

Rev. Dr. David Pickering, Moderator United Reformed Church National Synod of Scotland

Imam Sayed Razawi, Chief Imam, Director General, Scottish Ahlul Bayt Society

Mr Puneet Dwivedi, Vice President- Hindu Forum of Britain & Joint Secretary of Edinburgh Hindu Mandir

Mr Allan Forsyth on behalf of the Bahá'í Community of Scotland

Dr. Maureen Sier, Director of Interfaith Scotland