

Celebrating A Year of Service

The first ever joint prison visit by a group of imams and rabbis took place on Sunday 5th August. The group was from the [Council of Imams and Rabbis](#). They visited Muslim and Jewish prisoners together at HMP Wandsworth.

The project was part of the Joseph Interfaith Foundation's celebration of A Year of Service (www.ayearofservice.org.uk). The purpose of Sunday's visit was to promote the shared values of compassion and justice in Islam and Judaism. The group listened carefully to the prisoners for more than an hour and offered them understanding and spiritual support.

The visit was welcomed by Department of Communities and Local Government as well as the prisoners and Chaplaincy. Head of Prison Chaplaincy team said: "Importantly, the prisoners also expressed a real satisfaction in being involved, and a couple would have appreciated longer to talk". Head of Reducing Reoffending at Wandsworth said: "What a wonderful initiative and a great result. I hope this won't be a one off event." The Council aims to expand the number of such visits.



The Council of Imams and Rabbis is an initiative of the Joseph Interfaith Foundation. It is an authoritative body of senior imams and rabbis from major mosques and synagogues in London. Launched in the House of Lords in 2010, they represent the Muslim community from all ethnic backgrounds and the Jewish Orthodox, Sephardi, Reform, Liberal and Masorti communities.