

#StandTogether if you hate hate speech

A week-long national campaign to counter the surge in hate crime launches on Monday 12 December.

Actor Shobu Kapoor – *EastEnders*, *Bend It Like Beckham*, *Citizen Khan* – will be speaking at the London launch.

Birmingham City Council has already declared its support for the #StandTogether campaign, which is backed by a group of organisations* concerned about the increase in verbal and physical attacks on migrants and minorities since the Brexit referendum.

“Many migrants and ethnic minorities are anxious about their safety and worried about their future,” says Nazek Ramadan, director of Migrant Voice.

“However you voted in the referendum, if you disapprove of the way the vote was used by individuals to legitimise their appalling acts of racism and hate, including anti-Semitism and Islamophobia, we invite you to take positive action in your local communities.”

Mustafa Field, director of Faiths Forum for London, says: *“We cannot be silent about hate, discrimination and abuse to people who came to this great country and made it their home.”*

The campaign runs from 12 December and culminates on 18 December, which is International Migrants Day.

- ***PHOTO OP: launch event, with actor Shobu Kapoor, faith leaders, balloon release etc, will be at Collaboration House, 77-79 Charlotte Street, W1T 4PW, at 12 noon, Monday 12 December.***

* **Collaboration House organisations:** Migrant Voice; Faiths Forum for London; Women’s Interfaith Network; Christian Muslim Forum; Council of Christians and Jews; Faith Based Regeneration Network; Integrity UK; International Debate Education Association; London Borough Faiths Network; Islamic Society of Britain; Nisa-Nashim; Sadaqa Day; European Network on Religion & Belief UK

- ***For more information: contact Nazek Ramadan or Anne Stoltenberg at Migrant Voice at 07467 299 335 or info@migrantvoice.org***

To mark the week leading up to International Migrants Day, actions around the country include:

- An anti-hate speech statement, already read to a Birmingham Hate Crime Reduction Partnership meeting (attended by West Midlands Police, Crown Prosecution Service, Communities, Probation Service, Stop Hate Crime UK, Victim Support, Birmingham LGBT Centre, South and City College Birmingham, Birmingham Education Service, Tell Mama, Guide Dogs and Birmingham Disability Resource Centre). It will be promoted

at an Eastern European Community Network meeting on 9 Dec and a Faith and Community Networks, Guns and Gangs Community Consultation on 15 Dec.

- Migrant Voice 'Meet a Migrant' for the local community at 1-4pm Monday 12 December, Collaboration House, 77-79 Charlotte Street, W1T 4PW.
- International Debate Education Association debates on hate crime at City and Islington College, Hackney Community College, and Ealing Green College, 14 Dec
- Student activities at London School of Economics, and the universities of Bristol, Coventry, Oxford, Nottingham and Warwick
- As Salaam Centre, 14 Moss Road, Stretford, Manchester M32 0AH, football match
- Al Hira Educational and Cultural Centre, 1-7 Beechwood Road, Luton LU4 8RR, presentation on History of Migration, 17 Dec
- Barking Muslims Association, 2 Victoria Road, Barking IG11 8PY, presentation on history of migration, 15 Dec
- Dar Al-Islam Foundation, London NW2 3AQ, open day
- Leeds Makkah Masjid, 36 Thornville Road, Leeds LS6 1JY, open day
- Al-Khoei Foundation, Chevening Road, London NW6 6TN, open day
- Women's Interfaith Network Groups' talks in Brent, Giant Hill, Kent, Camden, East Sussex, Barnet