

For Immediate Release: 6 January 2008

**"Courageous" Bishop of Rochester highlights key reasons for opposition to Olympics mega-mosque, says local Cllr Alan Craig**

**"LibDem leader Nick Clegg should visit Dewsbury" before criticising Bp Michael Nazir-Ali's analysis**

Councillor Alan Craig, leader of the Christian Peoples Alliance group on Newham Council today commended Dr Michael Nazir-Ali, Bishop of Rochester, for his courage in highlighting the deliberate creation of Muslim enclaves by radical Islamists in Britain.

"Of course the Bishop will get attacked by ostriches who hide their heads in the sand and hope the problem will go away," said Cllr Craig.

"But mega-mosque promoters Tablighi Jamaat have just such a track record of creating a Muslim enclave around their current UK headquarters mosque in the Saville Town area of Dewsbury in West Yorkshire," he continued. "Muslim superiority and separatism is what Tablighi Jamaat preach, and Muslim ghettos are often the result.

"That's why we don't want the Tablighi Jamaat mega-mosque in our diverse east London where social cohesion and integration are highly valued.

"LibDem leader Nick Clegg should visit Dewsbury before he further criticises Dr Nazir-Ali. He should see for himself the 'parallel society' Tablighi Jamaat have established in the streets around their mosque. If Mr Clegg cannot make the trip and doesn't want to stay uninformed on the issue, he should at least view the BBC Newsnight report (*note 1 below*) from Saville Town.

"Almost as bad as the enclaves are the developing territorial claims for Islam in Britain that are demonstrably spurious but which politically-correct commentators and decision-makers dare not challenge," said Cllr Craig.

"For instance mega-mosque supporters claim that the West Ham area around the site "is a Muslim community" (*e.g. see note 2 below*) that needs the huge mosque. But at the last count less than one in five local residents in the three adjacent neighbourhood wards identified themselves as Muslim (*note 3 below*).

"We should honour Dr Nazir-Ali for exposing this Islamic enclave issue."

ENDS

**Editors Notes:**

Note 1. See report on BBC Newsnight  
[http://news.bbc.co.uk/player/nol/newsid\\_6050000/newsid\\_6057300/6057324.stm?bw=bb&mp=wm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/player/nol/newsid_6050000/newsid_6057300/6057324.stm?bw=bb&mp=wm)

Note 2. For instance, view mega-mosque supporter's video on YouTube  
<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=Ndox1-rcb14>

**Note 3.** In the latest (2001) National Census, the three wards immediately adjacent to the mega-mosque site recorded the following percentage of Muslim residents:

West Ham	15.9%
Stratford & New Town	16.8%
Canning Town North	10.3%

**Queries:** *Councillor Alan Craig*  
*Christian Peoples Alliance*  
*St Luke's Centre*  
*85 Tarling Road*  
*Canning Town*  
*London E16 1HN*  
*020-7476 5381*