

Annual Report  
2007/08

# East London Mosque & London Muslim Centre







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## Chairman's Foreword

In the name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful.

It has been another busy year for the East London Mosque and London Muslim Centre as we continue to serve the community, develop our services and projects, and strengthen relations with external stakeholders. We have carefully reviewed our organisational structure, and I am pleased to report we have updated our constitution to make it clearer and provide a stronger foundation for our ever expanding range of activities. And having reached the end of our previous 5-year business plan, a new plan has been put in place to take us forward.

The need for additional prayer space and for more facilities for women, and the high demand on existing space for services and projects, has led us to explore the creation of a new building alongside the East London Mosque. We have been consulting about the design and fundraising for, and carefully reviewing the proposals in the light of feedback. It is Allah's blessing that we have been able to achieve so much.

The dedication, commitment and prayers of our staff, volunteers and supporters have driven this organisation and made it what it is today. Let us continue together on this noble journey, seeking the common good and promoting harmony and cohesion in our society.

May Allah guide us and be pleased with us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'M. Bari'.

**Dr Muhammad Abdul Bari**  
Chairman





## Executive Summary

In the name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful. Alhamdulillah, it has been another busy year across all work areas.

We continue to struggle to accommodate the increasing number of worshippers on Fridays and in Ramadan. Even on weekdays the main prayer hall is often full.

The Mosque continues to deal with a large number of enquiries for help, advice and counselling. This huge demand has been difficult to manage even with dedicated surgery times from Imams.

We facilitate appeals to the congregation from deserving causes throughout the year, especially in Ramadan. Ramadan is a busy time for everyone connected with the Mosque. This year we managed to raise funds for Iftar (breaking fast) from our congregation, and provided food for up to 400 people every day.

Regular talks and circles in English, Bangla and Somali attract men and women seeking knowledge. The Hajj orientation sessions are very well attended.

This year the Mosque received 63 organised visits with about 2,000 visitors in total. Our volunteers in the Islam Awareness Project organised exhibitions on Islam that attracted several hundred visitors on each occasion.

This year was the first time the London East Academy had all the secondary classes from years 7 to 11. The primary provision, Al Mizan, had two classes operating, years 3 and 6; they received a good report after an inspection by Ofsted. The year 6 and year 9 students who took their SATs in 2007 scored well above the local and national averages.

Way to Work has again exceeded targets in training, advising and successfully placing people into employment. This has led to an extension of their contract with the London Development Agency.

Improving School Attendance in Partnership (ISAP), now a well established and successful service in Tower Hamlets, plans to expand its work.

ELM Women's Link, now restructured, offers a wide range of services, including legal support surgeries, health sessions, volunteer training programmes, and regular activities and events for women.

Faith in Health (formerly the Healthy Living Project) continues to work in partnership with the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust to tackle health inequalities and to help deliver services more effectively.

We have appointed a Media and Communications Officer to address constant media interest; he has started a monthly email newsletter for staff, management and trustees.

Our new Technician manages the extensive computer network and Audio-Video facilities, and develops our redesigned website. We recruited a Maintenance Officer to keep the buildings in good repair. We also recruited a researcher to organise our rich archives in preparation for the centenary in 2010.

The comprehensive renovation of the ELM Ablutions was completed just before Ramadan, and has been well received by the public. 94 Whitechapel Road has been completely refurbished to create three new classrooms, linked via a new corridor directly into the mosque first floor where a fourth classroom has replaced the old classroom and old library. The mosque lobby has been refurbished to accommodate the Al-Ihsan Marriage Service and a new Meeting Room for use by the Imams and other users, alongside the existing Islam Awareness Project office which was extended and redecorated.

We pray to Allah (SWT) to give us the ability to continuously improve the services we are providing to the community and also try our best to fulfil the needs of the community as much as possible.

**Dilowar Hussain Khan**  
Executive Director

# Religious Services



## Prayer Facilities

Alhamdulillah, more people are attending the Mosque for congregational prayers, especially at midday. The numbers increase considerably when there are many Janazah (funeral prayers). More than 4,000 people attend on Fridays for Jumua prayer and when space is full in the buildings people have had to pray outside on the pavement. All staff and many volunteers are used every week to ensure the buildings are filled fully and safely.



## New Muslims

The Mosque handles many enquiries from individuals seeking to understand Islam and where possible one-to-one advice is provided for them. A weekly session runs every Saturday for men and women providing basic teachings for new Muslims; they are well attended and a valuable service which is not available in all Mosques. There are also other regular activities including Eid and Iftar gatherings, social gatherings and Qiyamul-Lail.

## Religious Teaching

There are many weekly sessions running in the Mosque with teaching from the Qur'an and Hadith, in English, Bangla and Somali. Two Hajj training programmes were held, one in Bangla and one in English, with an estimated 700 people attending both programmes.

## Adhan Radio

This valuable service has continued to provide access to the adhan, sermons, prayers and selected programmes for those at home. It has been estimated that there are about 1,850 adhan radios in circulation at present.

## Circumcision Clinics

A hugely popular service offered through surgeons practising at the Newham

General Hospital. The service is offered at the LMC, and numerous families have taken advantage of this valuable service which is conveniently located.

## Ramadan

This special month of fasting is always very busy. At its peak more than 4,000 people attended the tarawih prayers, filling both the mosque and centre to capacity. Those who attended were fortunate enough to listen to excellent recitation of the Holy Qur'an. There were regular pre-tarawih talks and in the last ten days of Ramadan tahajjud prayer attracted large numbers of people.

We provided Iftar (breaking fast) for almost 400 people every day in Ramadan; an estimated 40% of costs were covered by donations and food from local businesses. 120 people performed Itikaf (seclusion) in the last 10 days at the mosque; no further space was available to meet the need for more places.

External organisations raised nearly £50,000 at the Mosque for their various causes. There were also appeals by the Mosque for the replacement of carpets and the refurbishment of 94 Whitechapel.

# Education and Training

## Improving School Attendance in Partnership (ISAP)

Throughout this year ISAP has continued to develop and build on its previous successes. Working with 17 primary schools in Tower Hamlets, it helped over 200 families improve their children's attendance, punctuality and attainment, provided religious and cultural advice and support to head teachers and school staff and improving parental engagement at all levels of the schooling of their children.

This year also so the final phase of the ISAP pilot in two local secondary schools. The pilot years enabled the development of a model of work which is suited to the challenging yet different dynamics of secondary schools. The aim is to roll out the secondary Service Level Agreements to others schools as well. A number of recruitment initiatives have taken place, and applications have been received. Efforts are underway to develop partnerships with other local Muslim schools that are also starting their own 6th Forms.

## Saturday Islamic School (SIS)

The Saturday Islamic School teaches children about the basics of Islam, history and Arabic. In recent years it has developed a strong partnership link with Stepney Green Maths and Computing College (SGC). The SIS classes are spread over the LMC and SGC. It currently caters for 300 girls and boys aged between 6 and 13 years. The School is looking to expand beyond these years and increasing in the number of pupils.



## London East Academy

### Secondary

This is the fourth year of operation for the secondary school, now with all years 7 to 11, and the first time that Year 11 students took part in GCSE exams. The Year 9 students who took their SATs in 2007 achieved results well above the local and national averages.

The primary school, Al-Mizan, has 36 boys on roll in two classes, Year 3 and Year 6. The Year 6 students who took their SATs in 2007 also achieved results well above the local and national averages. The school was inspected by OFSTED in November 2007, and received a positive report:

*“ Al-Mizan is a good school that fulfils its aims effectively. It is a calm, orderly community with a caring atmosphere. The quality of education is good. Teaching is good overall with some outstanding practice taking place. Pupils achieve well and the standard of their work is above the national average. Teachers are good role models... The welfare, health and safety of pupils are good. ”*

The London East Academy has been working towards opening a Sixth Form from September 2008. A number of recruitment initiatives have taken place, and applications have been received. Efforts are underway to develop partnerships with other local Muslim schools that are also starting their own 6th Forms.

### Evening Madrasah

The Evening Madrasah is a supplementary school that teaches Muslim children about Islam every weekday from 5 to 7 PM. Currently there are 282 students on roll with another 176 on the waiting list. The Madrasah publishes a quarterly bulletin for students and parents. The Madrasah is facing a huge demand, and will begin to use two of the new primary classrooms from July 2008.

## Summer Supplementary Course

This high-demand course ran in August 2007 catering for about 200 boys and girls aged 8–14. The course covered the basic teachings of Islam as well as other practical activities including arts and crafts, first aid, etc.

## Al Baseera Institute of Arabic & Islamic Studies

Al Baseera underwent a major reorganisation in this period. For the most recent term 95 students were enrolled. Regular updates are planned for the website to increase publicity and accessibility to information. Al-Baseera is looking into developing and providing home study correspondence courses in Qur'an, Hadith and Seerah Studies in 2009 as well as publishing its own books and audio materials for the core subjects.

## Library

The library continues to be used on a regular basis every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from after midday prayer until about 8pm. Further books have been purchased to increase the library's stock. It is used by Way to Work to aid job searches and CV preparation for clients.

Rainbow House have two sessions every week, using the children's area. The library is also used by the London East Academy. Plans are being made to put secure displays of historical mosque documents as part of the ongoing archiving project.

## Food 4 Thought (F4T) – Supplementary Classes

F4T has continued to build on the success of the last year and now has sessions running in the Whitechapel Ideas Store and Swanlea School. The sessions cater for years 7–11 covering all curriculum subjects (SATs and GCSE).

## Islamic Circles for Deaf Children

Not enough effort is invested in development for the disabled. Volunteers of the East London Mosque and Redbridge Islamic Centre joined together to organise a regular Islamic Circle for deaf children, aged 7–16. The circle is held every Saturday at the LMC, with support from parents. The participants are learning a variety of topics including the seerah, fiqh and Islamic history. The circles are delivered using sign language and enhanced audio, to meet the varying degrees of deafness.

## Junior Muslim Circle

The youth room in the mosque has been renovated to improve facilities, used mainly by the members of the Junior Muslim Circle. They have weekend sessions catering in total for up to 180 girls and boys, which include learning about the basics of Islam and recreational activities. They also organise trips, night programmes and a summer holiday scheme. The aim is to expand the mosque's services for youth and place greater emphasis on their social, educational and recreational development.

## Rainbow House Playgroup



Rainbow House Children's centre, dedicated to provisions for under 8-year-olds, has services including crèche, morning and afternoon pre-schools sessions, Arabic language club, Qur'an for mums and evening madrasah.

We now have sessions running 7 days a week, morning till evening which in total sees over 100 children walking through our doors to benefit from our services.



## Social Welfare

### Help, Advice and Counselling

The Mosque is the first point of contact for advice, guidance and support on religious and personal matters for people of all ages and backgrounds. Enquiries are received in person, by letter, email and phone. The sheer number of enquiries places a huge workload on the Imams. There are dedicated surgery hours, but demand for this service far exceeds the hours available.



### Working in the Community

The Mosque has continued to work with many organisations and bodies to further the interests of the Muslim community. The organisations we have worked with include: London Islamic Centres Coordination Committee, Local Ulama Body, Council of Mosques Tower Hamlets, LBTH Social Services, LBTH Education Department, National Health Service, Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education, The East London Communities Organisation, and Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust.

### Marriage Attestations

Our imams are regularly called upon to provide attestations and references for people, such as providing proof that someone belongs to a religious community. Performing Nikah (marriage blessing) is one of the functions of the imams.

### Charity Collections

External organisations collected more than £55,000 (excluding Ramadan – see above) for various worthy causes in the UK and overseas. Collections are usually held after the midday prayer.

### Faith in Health

Our Healthy Living Project has been re-branded as Faith in Health. In partnership with the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust, the project goes further in creating awareness of public health services and developing pathways for people to access these services. The aim is to reduce health inequalities and encourage better partnerships to deliver services more effectively. The project has organised three health seminars at the LMC, hosted information stalls by other local service providers, supported consultation at local health practices, developed a health pack and training for imams and held workshops on health issues in mosques across Tower Hamlets.



### Improving Our Environment

We have continued to support LBTH in promoting key messages around recycling, water waste and climate change, particularly during Ramadan. We have revised our environmental policy and are pushing each and every member of staff to take responsibility for recycling and reducing our energy use. The LMC hosted discussions with Thames Water, London Sustainability Exchange and LBTH to look at raising awareness on water wastage. We hope that over the medium term we are able to reduce our carbon footprint, and explore ways to offset our carbon emissions.

## ELM Women's Link

Staffing was re-structured to improve access to the services. We now have one full-time employee and one part-time employee delivering our advice, support and counselling services. At present we offer surgeries in partnership with Pro Bono at the LMC for people seeking legal support, health sessions in conjunction with Elite Youth and Faith in Health, volunteer training programmes, and major events such as Women's Appreciation Day.

## Outward Bound

This year saw the completion of the Outward Bound courses for 147 young people. They were made possible by funding from HSBC Amanah Finance, with some additional help from the Peabody Trust. Outward Bound is the original and the best outdoor activity organisation, offering a range of inspiring personal development programmes through a variety of challenges. The courses have been an outstanding success. The original funding was for two years, but it is hoped that further funding may be secured in future.



## Al-Ihsan Marriage & Family Advice Service

This is a marriage introduction and family support service. It now has around 400 men and women on its list who are being helped to find suitable spouses. An office has been provided for this project in the refurbished ELM foyer area. It is planning to hold seminars and programmes on marriage in Islam, how to lead a happy married life and provide advice and counselling services to married couples who are facing difficulties in their marital relationship.

## Pro Bono in the LMC

Pro Bono operates a number of legal surgeries to allow the community to access advice and support, and offers drop-in sessions in the Business Wing of the LMC, a women-only session at Women's Link, and recently started sessions at the Ideas Store in Whitechapel. Approximately 300 people have been supported over the past year, in areas such as housing, immigration, family and debt.

## Somali Development Association

The Somali development Association is a culturally sensitive project working with people primarily from the Somali community, in and around the surrounding boroughs of Tower Hamlets. The project concentrates on working with families and children helping primarily to increase education standards.



above: Sultan of Sokoto with Dr Abdul Bari  
below: Vice President of The Gambia (left)



## North African Community Association (NACA)

NACA provides weekend classes for children of North African origin. There are approximately 70 children attending classes on Friday in the evenings and during the day on Saturdays. The subjects taught include Arabic as a mother tongue, Qur'an, Hadith and Islamic Studies.



## Exhibition and Open Days

Regular open days give the public a better understanding of Islam and help build bridges within our communities. Visitors are offered tours of the mosque tours, and professional Islamic displays and materials are hired. Gift bags are given to take away after participating in the tours. During the last 3 open days we had on average 200 people attending each day, and 20–30 people per tour.

## Visitors/School Visits

There were 63 organised visits to the Mosque from local schools and groups. In total about 1,900 visitors were received and provided with a guided tour of the Mosque by members of staff.

## Muslim Community Radio (MCR)

Our partnership initiative with Islamic Forum Europe brought volunteers of all ages and background to go live from our rooftop studios. The community engaged in lively debate ranging from the environment to youth crime, from civic responsibility to Q&A with leaders from the THPCT and LBTH. The programmes were researched, produced and presented by volunteers. MCR broadcasted throughout Ramadan, and now has a limited schedule over the internet.

## Media

We have made great strides in the last year to address the frequent media interest in the East London Mosque and London Muslim Centre. We have appointed a full time Media and Communications Officer to deal with media enquires and to develop strategies to cater for communications. A redesigned website has been developed and launched. The new design is easier to navigate and has more sections, including downloads of the weekly Khutbah (sermon).

## Preventing Violent Extremism Project

This pilot initiative in partnership with LBTH is to support communities in addressing issues of extremism and radicalisation. The ELM-LMC has always been proactive in rooting out any extremism through its projects and activities, working with a wide range of people. The PVE project however focused on young people, and delivered 3 conferences for local schools with interactive workshops and debates on the issue of extremism.

## CRB Disclosure Service

The East London Mosque Trust Ltd is an umbrella body registered with the CRB on the basis that it will countersign applications on behalf of others who are not registered. Through the Disclosure Service, organisations can provide greater protection for the vulnerable members of our society and to their customers, staff, volunteers and ultimately their organisation.

## Eid Celebration

Canary Wharf Plc sponsored an Eid Reunion Dinner at the London Muslim Centre on 23rd October 2007. More than 250 guests participated in the event which included representatives from local community organisations and community leaders. It helped to bring the local Muslim and non-Muslim community together.

## Supporting Muslim Prison Chaplains

The prison population of Muslim youth has increased disproportionately over the years. ELM-LMC has been supporting the Muslim Prison Chaplains by hosting a number of their meetings and also hosting a conference where more than two hundred Imams, Chaplains, Community leaders attended.





## Way to Work Project

During the second year of operation, Way to Work has continued to achieve and exceed targets in training, advising, and successfully placing people into employment. Through the provision of quality advice and developing links with employers, the project has been successful in placing 31 people into employment in 2007, making a total of 62 people over the course of a two-year contract with the London Development Agency.

The project has delivered training in a number of vocational areas such as Security Training, Business Administration and Health & Safety, including

women-only courses to encourage the participation of Muslim women. To complement these courses, a programme of training in 'employability' skills such as CV Writing & Interview Techniques has also been delivered. Altogether over the course of the year, 74 people have achieved a Level 2 qualification through training with Way to Work, and a further 165 have achieved certificates in other areas of training.

Thanks to the many successes of the project, Way to Work has now been awarded a further two years funding from the London Development Agency ensuring sustainability until March 2010.

## Faith in Work

This project began in 2003 in partnership with Working Links to provide motivational courses for long-term unemployed Bangladeshi people in Tower Hamlets. In this period three Faith in Work sessions were delivered for ex-offenders who are finding it difficult to re-engage with their community. Areas covered included: forgiveness and hope; barriers to work for an ex-offender and how the Mosque can assist in re-engaging with the community; how to get support to find work, etc.

## Faith Regen at the LMC

Faith Regen UK works in partnership with the LMC to deliver education and training to those hard to engage groups, based in our dedicated ICT Suite. Programmes and courses currently being delivered include: Learndirect accredited courses, UK Citizenship, Food & Hygiene, ESOL, Work Placement UK, and Construction Skills Certification Scheme.

### Funders and Partners





## Major Renovation & Outfitting Works

- The refurbishment of the ELM Ablutions was completed just before Ramadan. This included substantial new drainage, and improved ventilation system and water supply.
- The refurbishment of 94 Whitechapel Road has been completed to create three new classrooms, linked via a new corridor directly into the mosque first floor where a fourth classroom has replaced the old classroom and old library. It has been designated for use by Al-Mizan primary school.
- The mosque lobby has been refurbished on the eastern side. The Islam Awareness Project office is now much larger, a new office has been created for the Al-Ihsan Marriage Service, and there's a new Meeting Room.
- The LEA Staff Room has been partitioned to create three small offices for senior staff.

## ELM – New Extension

In November a Section 106 agreement was finally signed with the Planning Department; this means we can go ahead with the building of an extension. However, new architects have been brought in to help revise the design to bring as much benefit as possible with the space available.

## Projects and User Groups of ELM-LMC

The following projects/user groups are using the rooms and halls of LMC on a regular basis:

- Improving School Attendance in Partnership
- Women's Link
- Al Mizan Tahfizul Madrasah
- ELM Evening Madrasah
- London East Academy
- Saturday Islamic School
- Al-Baseera Arabic Language Institute
- Somali Development Association
- North African Community Association
- Middle Path Media
- Faith Regen UK
- College Link project
- Bangladesh Forum Europe (BFE)
- Deaf Muslim Project
- Faith in Health
- Islamic Forum Europe
- Young Muslim Organisation UK
- Muslima UK
- Saturday Halaqa
- Islam Awareness Project
- Junior Muslim Circle
- Rainbow House Play Group
- Tower Hamlets Council of Mosques
- Way to Work
- Library
- Food4Thought Supplementary School
- School Link Project
- Association of Islamic Teachers UK

## Events Bookings in LMC

Many organisations have already discovered that the London Muslim Centre is the ideal venue for conferences, seminars, meetings, launches and exhibitions. Some of the organisations who held their events at the London Muslim Centre in this period:

- Association of Muslim Schools
- Agroni Research
- Alamiyah Institute
- Al-Huda Mosque
- Al-Kauthar Institute
- BBC
- Borough Policing Forum
- Bart's & The London NHS
- Bangladesh British Chambers of Commerce
- City University (Islamic Society)
- Collective Bangladeshi School Governors
- Common Purpose
- Community Organisation Forum
- Consortium of Bengali Associations (CBA)
- Connect Research
- Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)
- Department of Works and Pensions
- Employment Forum
- Family Welfare Association
- Foreign and Commonwealth Office
- Friends of Al-Aqsa
- Field Solutions
- Islamic Promotion Organisation
- Greater Sylhet Council South East Region
- Indonesian Children's Appeal
- Interpal
- Islamic Network
- London 2012
- London Bangla Press Club
- London Civic Forum
- London Met University (Islamic Society)
- London Sustainability Exchange
- Learning works
- Metropolitan Police Authority
- MPAC
- Muslim Aid
- Muslim Council of Britain
- Muslim Deaf Project
- Mosques & Imams National Advisory Board (MINAB)
- Muslim Safety Forum
- Mercy Mission UK
- Mazkan
- Montefiore & Little Oaks Children's Centre
- Marks Field Institute of Higher Education
- NHS Primary Care Trust
- Open system International Ltd
- Radical Middle way
- Sure Start
- Share & Care
- The East London Communities Organisation (TELCO)
- Tower Hamlets Partnership Support Team
- Tower Hamlets Social Services
- Tower Hamlets Children Services
- Tower Hamlets Tobacco control Team
- Tower Hamlets Scrutiny & Equality
- The Scriptural Reasoning Society
- United Airways
- Working Links



## Premises and Customer Service

A training day to review current standards of customer service and premises management was organised in early 2008. The East London Mosque Trust aims to set the highest standards in services it provides to the congregation by continually reviewing and improving what is offered.

A survey was conducted amongst a wide range of demographics in the mosque congregation and the results were disseminated among the staff, volunteers, trustees and management teams.

The results were overwhelmingly positive with many of the congregation pleased with the services that the East London Mosque and London Muslim Centre provide. As always, we need to acknowledge what we need to improve. We are looking at ways to address a number of constructive suggestions.

## History and Archives

Our aim is to make publically available, through the setting up of an archive repository, a collection of documents detailing the history of the establishment of suitable infrastructure for religious use by the Muslims of London. The ELM-LMC is preparing for a series of events to mark the centenary of the organisation in 2010.



## Comments from Stakeholders



Tower Hamlets Council has a unique relationship with the East London Mosque and London Muslim Centre. This partnership has helped foster good community relations between both parties, members of the Muslim community and the wider communities locally, nationally and, indeed, internationally.

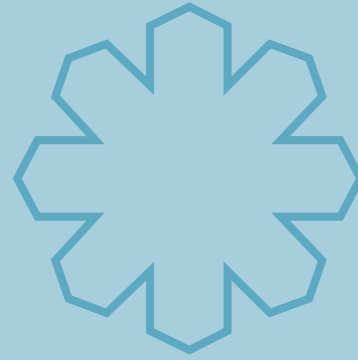
This link has enabled the Council to take a tailored approach to working with the Muslim community, e.g. targeted social issues of Tower Hamlets thematically by synchronising some of the keynote Friday Public Address (during Jumm'ua) on pertinent issues such as drugs, anti-social behaviour, health, forced marriages etc.

We hope that we can continue to build on this excellent relationship.

**Clr Lutfur Rahman**  
Leader of the Council

London Muslim Centre is the most visionary Muslim institution in Europe. Its approach to engage, inspire and train the Muslim community to play an active role in British society is unmatched. It reminds of the days of the Prophet (pbuh) when his mosque emerged as the centre of excellence for the world. I pray the the London Muslim Centre revives that tradition in Europe.

**Saif Ahmad, CEO**  
Muslim Aid



A warm welcome has been extended to me whenever I have visited the East London Mosque. It is an organisation that spans the religious and spiritual, education and training, social welfare, culture and heritage and economic regeneration, presents itself from the outset as one to be encouraged, especially with its clear and admirable intention to promote tolerance and encourage inter-religious and inter-cultural understanding. We need this and I am always delighted to witness and encourage such a spirit of goodwill in East London.

**Jim Fitzpatrick MP**  
Poplar and Canning Town

The PCT is delighted to be working with the London Muslim Centre and the Faith in Health project to help ensure that all in the community can learn more about their health and health services.

The PCT believes that working with faith organisations has helped deliver important health messages, but has also allowed the PCT to better understand the views and issues of those who use our services. This will help the PCT to develop more culturally responsive services, which meet the needs of our diverse communities.

**Alwen Williams, CEO**  
Tower Hamlets NHS Primary Care Trust



## Conclusion



All praise is due to Allah, our services and projects are running more smoothly and effectively, and the whole community is benefitting from them. The work of the staff and Management Committee is the core reason for this continuous growth, and the past year has seen a number

of training initiatives to aid their development. I pray that Allah rewards their efforts in driving this institution forward.

Implementing the recommendations from the 2007 Away Day, in particular the updating of the governing documents and structure of the East London Mosque Trust has put our organisation on a firmer basis.

For our 2008 Away Day we looked at issues relating to the new building project, the development of the LEA and its proposed sixth form, coverage in the media, as well as reviewing progress in our five-year plan; this has been very helpful in steering our future work. The need for the new development was underlined, and discussion about the content confirmed our commitment to deliver lots of space for use by women, including a new hall and at least two floors for girls' and women's education. The main challenge will be to raise the necessary funding.

The forthcoming year will not be without its challenges as we continue to deliver our existing services whilst being responsive to emerging needs within our communities.

### Key areas include:

- Setting up the professional structures to plan the development of the proposed new building
- Implementing structured youth activities, with improved facilities and greater access
- Expanding the Faith in Health and Way to Work projects
- Reviewing of our 5-year Business Plan, to ensure we meet the needs of users
- Making our educational institutions self-financed

May Allah bless our efforts and lead us to success.



**Ayub Khan**  
Secretary



## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st March 2008

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total 2008 £	Total 2007 £
<b>INCOME AND EXPENDITURE</b>				
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
Donations	37,470	498,974	536,444	674,771
Rent and Service Charges		564,420	564,420	600,6150
Educational Projects	417,132		417,132	297,202
ELM – LMC Projects	641,615		641,615	690,703
Other Income	11,517	141,662	153,179	130,331
	<b>1,107,734</b>	<b>1,205,056</b>	<b>2,312,790</b>	<b>2,389,622</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>				
ELM – LMC Projects: Direct Charitable	580,142		580,142	582,703
Educational Projects: Direct Charitable	462,973		462,973	396,486
Other Expenses: Direct Charitable	50,545	952,985	1,003,530	587,003
Management and Administration		226,637	226,637	230,405
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>1,093,660</b>	<b>1,179,622</b>	<b>2,273,282</b>	<b>1,796,597</b>
<b>Net Income / Deficit for the Year</b>	14,074	25,434	39,508	593,025
Fund Movement:	44,241-	44,241	0	0
Unrestricted to Restricted	58,315 -	18,807	39,508	593,025
<b>Funds as at 1 April 2007</b>	2,706,647	10,438,870	13,145,517	12,552,492
<b>Funds as at 31 March 2008</b>	<b>2,764,962</b>	<b>10,420,063</b>	<b>13,185,025</b>	<b>13,145,517</b>

## Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2008

		Total 2008 £	Total 2007 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Freehold properties at cost		2,576,039	2,576,039
London Muslim Centre		9,766,860	9,766,860
Long Leasehold		658,048	658,048
Fixtures, fittings and equipments		312,585	257,040
		<b>13,313,532</b>	<b>13,257,987</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Stock of Radio receiver	392		3,166
Debtors & Prepayments	540,441		622,984
Cash at bank & in hand	809,421		970,997
East London Mosque Trust Ltd	49,216		16,853
		<b>1,399,470</b>	<b>1,614,000</b>
<b>Creditors</b>			
Amount falling due within one year		<b>848,967</b>	<b>971,298</b>
<b>Net Current Assets/ (Liabilities)</b>		550,503	642,702
<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>		<b>13,864,035</b>	<b>13,900,689</b>
<b>Creditors</b>			
Amount falling due > one year		679,010	755,172
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b>13,185,025</b>	<b>13,145,517</b>
<b>Funds</b>			
<b>Total Fund</b>	Restricted	2,764,962	2,706,647
	Unrestricted	10,420,063	10,438,870
		<b>13,185,025</b>	<b>13,145,517</b>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on  
2 August 2008 and signed on his behalf by



**Musaddiq Ahmed**  
Trustee & Treasurer



**Dr M A Bari**  
Trustee & Chairman

## Brief historical timeline of East London Mosque and London Muslim Centre

**1905** First 'Eid prayer held at London's Hyde Park by prominent British Muslims in treacherous weather conditions.

**1910** First meeting organised to raise funds to establish a Mosque and Islamic Centre in London. Jumu'ah (Friday) Prayers begin at hired halls.

**1935** As more and more Muslim sailors settled in East London, Friday prayers and 'Eid Prayers moved to the area.

**1938** The Trustees purchase a house for use as a Mosque and hostel for Muslim sailors living in East London.

**1940** Three houses purchased for the Mosque and Islamic Cultural Centre.

**1941** Official opening of the East London Mosque on Friday 1st August. The Jumu'ah prayer was lead by His Excellency Shaikh Hafiz Wahba, Ambassador of Saudi Arabia.

**1975** The Greater London Council (GLC) under compulsory purchase order acquired the three buildings in Commercial Road and in return provided land and temporary buildings on Whitechapel Road, London E1.

**1985** The official opening of the newly built East London Mosque by Shaikh Abdullah bin Subail, Imam of Masjidul Haram, Makkah on Friday 12th July.

**1999** As Muslim population in the area grew considerably the need for a larger Mosque and Islamic Centre was ever more imperative. East London Mosque raised £600,000 from the local community to buy the adjacent disused land to develop its extension programme.

**2000** The land was officially purchased and planning began in earnest to build the extension programme to house much needed community facilities.

**2002** ELM acquires full planning permission for the extension programme titled the 'London Muslim Centre' from the Local Council. A very comprehensive fundraising programme begins which amounts to over £6m donated by the public.

**2004** Opening of the London Muslim Centre, 11th June 2004, where over 15,000 people congregated to pray with Shaikh Abdur Rahman Sudais, Imam of Masjidul Haram, Makkah. Establishment of secondary educational facilities and the London East Academy.

**2006** Establishment of employment and training projects.

**2008** Planning, Design and Consultation for the proposed new development of the East London Mosque.



**East London Mosque & London Muslim Centre**

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