

JCORE's Rosh Hashonoh message receives cross-communal support

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Ahead of Rosh Hashonoh, The Jewish Council for Racial Equality (JCORE) is asking the community to support its letter to the Government on a number of race and asylum issues.

The letter, which has already been endorsed by more than 300 people, includes calls for asylum seekers to be allowed to work and for a firm commitment to allow unaccompanied asylum-seeking children and young people to settle in the UK.

It also calls for funding for a memorial to the victims of the transatlantic slave trade and for all political parties to adopt clear and transparent procedures for dealing with all forms of racism, including antisemitism, Islamophobia and anti-black racism.

Speaking at the launch of the letter, Dr Edie Friedman, Executive Director of JCORE said "It is really important that during this time of uncertainty and anxiety, our community

demonstrates positive Jewish values. The purpose of this letter is to remind the Government that our community remains very concerned about race and asylum issues and that the energy we displayed at the height of the refugee crisis needs to be reactivated today."

Marie van der Zyl, President of the Board of Deputies, added her voice to the call for support:

"The Board of Deputies welcomes these calls to protect refugees, commemorate the horrors of slavery, and eradicate racism from politics. The Yomim Noraim period is not only a time of reflection but also a time for considering how the Jewish community can work with others to help create a society that celebrates diversity and challenges oppression."

JCORE is aiming to get 1,000 signatures by Yom Kippur.

Details of the manifesto can be found on the JCORE website, www.jcore.org.uk/manifesto