



## 2016-2018 PROGRESS REPORT



Glasgow Central Mosque, Jamiat Ittihad-Ul-Muslimin  
Scottish charity no. SC013142

*As-salamu-alaykum*

Dear Elders, Brothers and Sisters,

It has been an honour for each of us in the Executive Committee to have been given the opportunity to serve Allah swt's house. We were appointed at a tumultuous time for the Masjid and our priority this term has been to bring stability and harmony to GCM and to strengthen the core of the Masjid.

One of our first acts was to appoint a Communications subgroup which dealt with the media spotlight the Masjid was under. We also delivered a new constitution and committee code of conduct, passed by a member's vote, which keeps us true to the founding principles and tradition of the Masjid whilst adding clarity to Masjid functions and key procedures.

We also oversaw a major renovation of the Masjid. We had some amazing experiences, like the visit of Maulana Tariq Jamil and some humbling experiences such as the Janaza of Maulana Aslam RH. What impressed us most was the dedication of the volunteers, whether at Ramadan, in the carpark or Poverty Relief, they truly are gems and part of the backbone of GCM.

We believe our greatest achievement, by Allah's will, has been to restore a sense of decorum to Masjid affairs, and tranquillity to the Masjid. I pray Allah swt accepts our humble efforts and we seek forgiveness for any mistakes and shortcomings.

Tariq Iqbal  
General Secretary

# COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLBEING

## ELDERLY DAYCARE

Alhamdulillah, GCM secured funding from Glasgow City Council to restart its popular and important Elderly Day Care centre, providing companionship, activities and fresh hot meals for our Elders.

The project began in November 2016, employing four members of staff working alongside a hands-on member of the committee to facilitate the club. Currently, it runs Monday to Thursday and has up to 40 male and female service users. Transport is provided where available.

The club offers a variety of activities such as light exercise, sewing, arts & crafts, general socialising, a Zikr session with an Imam, trips, massage and wellbeing visits from healthcare professionals. Tea and coffee is available throughout and a 3 course hearty lunch is provided.

## BLOOD DRIVE

GCM has supported the national blood drive for many years and we welcomed the team back to GCM in July 2016 and September 2017.



## CPR TRAINING

For two consecutive years, GCM hosted a British Islamic Medical Association lifesavers event where doctors & healthcare professionals taught:

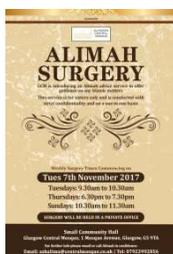
- Signs and symptoms of a heart attack and stroke
- What to do if someone is having a heart attack or stroke
- What to do if an adult or child is choking
- How to perform CPR

The event was open to both males and females. Females were taught separately by female doctors & healthcare professionals.

## ASK ALIMAH

The Ask Alimah service began in November 2017. It involves a small team of fully qualified UK educated and experienced Alimahs offering guidance on religious matters and chaplaincy services to females. Initially, this was via telephone, email and a drop in clinic. The service is completely confidential and has its own dedicated and confidential office/meeting area.

Alhadulillah this has proved to be an invaluable new service and we recommend the next committee to expand this.



## RECRUITMENT EVENTS

Over the last two years we have held a number of recruitment and awareness events with Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service and BT among others.

One of the most popular events was Police Scotland's mock physical test where attendees could try their hand at the fitness test in the recruitment process.



## POVERTY RELIEF

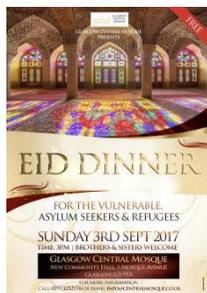
The project continues to deliver essential supplies to over 150 families a week. The project is run autonomously by a dedicated core of volunteers and supported by the generous donations of the wider community. The committee also managed to

strike a deal with Tesco, for their surplus and unwanted food which can still be used.

Over the last couple of years, the volunteers have also distributed dental packs, clothing, toys and some home essentials. The volunteers also administer a small amount of Zakat for the needy, this is done based on a strict criteria set by the Ulema.

The annual Qurbani meat distribution is also done by the poverty relief team. This year saw almost one and a half tonnes of meat distributed to the needy through various agencies around Glasgow.

We also held an Eid dinner primarily for our regular service users, but open to all the needy.



## **FRIDAY LUNCHES**

The Friday lunches were introduced by the previous committee and in order to reduce the Masjid's liability and stop facilities being misused, we decided to contract the lunches out, based on a strict set of conditions. Following a tender process, the contractors were chosen and have been operating the Friday lunches since.

## **FUNERALS**

During this term, we purchased a new vehicle which can be used both as a hearse and also for body transportation.

## **OUTREACH**

Over the last couple of years, GCM has been involved with Visit My Mosque, Islam Awareness Week and the Glasgow Doors Open Day festival.

We also continue to work to welcome on average 3 school parties visiting the Masjid every week. We have

introduced a new online booking system, making it easier for GCM and Schools to plan.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

GCM hosted a broad range of events. These included a fundraiser for the Rohingya, a Pakistan 70th Anniversary Dinner, Screbanica Memorial event, and annual Family Fun Day on 25<sup>th</sup> December. GCM also supported and had a speaker at the "Muslims against Terrorism" rally which was held at George Square.

## THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT PROJECT

GCM made a successful application for funding from the Climate Challenge Fund to launch The Future is Bright project. During the project, GCM adopted energy efficiency measures which include upgrading the entire lighting at the masjid with LED light fittings and draught-proofing the iconic golden dome to prevent heat loss.

Since the project completed we have already observed a 23% reduction in electricity.

As part of the project we also raised awareness about climate change through regular events and workshops and a sister was recruited to help coordinate the project. We also offered free home energy advice and encouraged masjid users to adopt car sharing and cycling to cut carbon emissions. To facilitate this, we are pleased there is now a bike shelter installed at the mosque which can store 20 bikes.

Overall, the project was successful with all outcomes achieved and we hope that we have demonstrated how the Muslim community can play its role in protecting the environment.



## DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Significant changes have been made to the way GCM operates on an administrative level with more focus on using technology.

The website was also upgraded making it user friendly. The new platform includes improved sections and automated prayer times integrated with the MyMasjid app.



THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT  
THE FUTURE IS GREEN

LED LIGHTING WORKS

GLASGOW CENTRAL MOSQUE

**BEFORE** MAIN COMMUNITY HALL **AFTER**

PREVIOUS CONSUMPTION: 8,542W | NEW CONSUMPTION: 2,448W | SAVING: 71%

Climate Challenge Fund  
Greener Scotland  
Scottish Government

THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT  
THE FUTURE IS GREEN

LED LIGHTING WORKS

GLASGOW CENTRAL MOSQUE

**BEFORE** SMALL COMMUNITY HALL **AFTER**

PREVIOUS CONSUMPTION: 4,320W | NEW CONSUMPTION: 860W | SAVING: 81%

Climate Challenge Fund  
Greener Scotland  
Scottish Government



iPhone



Android



MyMasjid by MasjidPlus  
MyMasjid - Iqamah & More



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## BUILDING REPAIRS & UPGRADES

### ROOF REPAIRS

Alhamdulillah, essential repair and upgrade works to the roof of the Masjid were completed as pictured.

A full renewal of the entire roof surface was carried out with new insulation and then covered, in its entirety, including drainage channels, with a brand new bespoke all-weather membrane.



### INTERNAL REFURBISHMENT

The prayer halls and basement had the artex removed and walls replastered before being completely repainted. The Mihrab was rebuilt in a bespoke design.

The PA system was inspected and tested by sound engineers and on their advice, the

speakers were replaced and the sound tuned and balanced.

A new carpet was sourced from Turkey and fitted in prayer halls, the basement and foyer. The old carpet was upcycled, carefully measured, cut and laid in two Masjid. The remainder was cut into individual Musullahs for the public.



## SMALL COMMUNITY HALL

The small Community Hall was also repainted and the carpet replaced.



## SISTERS AREA

The sister's prayer area was renovated as part of the GCM 30th year anniversary upgrade and on inspection, didn't require any additional work.

We have however, drawn up detailed plans to address the longstanding issue of accessibility/entrance for sisters. These will be passed to the next executive to progress Inshallah.

## SIGNAGE AND NOTICES

The Communications team undertook a thorough review of all internal and external notices, signs and road traffic

signs. Following the review external signage was upgraded and new road safety signage installed in the carpark.

All internal notices were replaced using new notices with standardised text and layouts. This has reduced the clutter around the Masjid and we have endeavored to make the notices as clear and easy to follow as possible.



## EDUCATION

### MAKHTAB

Hafiz Abdul Majid, the Makhtab administrator, moved on after many years of service. We thank him for his hard work and pray Allah swt bless him. We appointed Hafiz Nafees Ahmed as the committee's education coordinator and Alhamdulillah he has been working hard to maintain and improve the Makhtab.

Under Hafiz Nafees, all the paperwork for each teacher, including relevant security checks, were audited internally and brought up to standard. We also appointed a Child Protection Officer in line with safeguarding best practice.

The teachers have a clocking in/out system and a holiday schedule in place to make management more effective.

Four new classes were created to reduce class sizes. Teachers are supported regularly now through in-service day training and support whenever they need through the coordinator. Application process has also moved on-line and an appointments schedule for parent's evening introduced. We also migrated to a new standing order fees system.

We introduced a new syllabus for the children- an established curriculum called An Nasihah and are now also offering support and training to the teachers as well. Over the last two years, the new curriculum has included a new shorter 1 hour class for smaller children, as well as Islamic Studies exams followed by certificates and medal awards.

The makhtab in numbers:

**Total students:** 369

**Hifz:** 46 with 6 completions in 2 years

**Current Hifz waiting list:** 60

Quran Class Boys/Girls: 125/121  
 Aalimiyya Boys/Girls: 45/15  
 Supported study: 17 boys  
 Total Teachers: 23

## KHATAME NUBUWWAT

Alhamdulillah we restarted the Khatame Nubuwwat annual conference with a fixed date of 1st January every year. The conference is in conjunction with other Masajid in the Glasgow and surrounding areas with the speakers being mostly local Ulama from across a variety of scholarly traditions.



## HALAQAS & CLASSES

The Monday fiqh drop-in class is still run by Maulana Abdul Ghafoor. On a Wednesday night we have dars e Quran by Maulana

Habib, Thursday Darood Sharif majlis and on Friday, Maulana Abdul Ghafoor's Darse Hadith Majlis in English.

Maulana Habib has also introduced a Day&Night monthly I'tikaf in the Masjid.

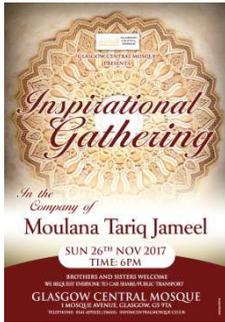
There is a sisters revert group which meets once a week at GCM organized and run by dedicated sisters with an Alimah.

Hajj workshops which were conducted by Maulana Habib in Urdu and English.

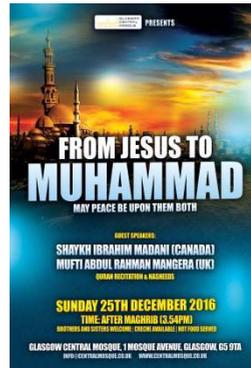
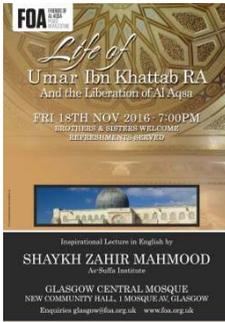


## CONFERENCES

A number of conferences were held over the last couple of years. Among them, we were honoured to host the world renowned Maulana Tariq Jamil sahib. Thousands packed into the Masjid to hear his bayaan.



Similarly, we co-hosted Shaykh Zahir Mahmood for an event on the life of Hazrat Umar RA.



On 25<sup>th</sup> December, we had conferences to coincide with the family fun events.

