



AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL IMAMS COUNCIL



1st of November 2019

MEDIA STATEMENT

ANIC Expresses Deep Concern about the Recent Findings of the LECC

The Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) expresses deep concern about the findings of the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission that two NSW police officers have engaged in serious misconduct by racially abusing two Afghan women at a traffic stop in Western Sydney.

Such misconduct, especially by constables who occupy senior roles, highlights a severe abuse of trust and power. It is unacceptable that any person, let alone those charged with the responsibility to enforce laws, used "intimidating and abusive language" to the women and deliberately "bullied and frightened them".

According to the ANIC Spokesperson, Bilal Rauf, "(T)his incident suggests the need for greater accountability and education within the NSW police force. No citizen should be subject to such abuses. As stated in the Commission's report, the people who hear of this incident are likely to form a very adverse view of police officers and as a result be wary of or even aggressive towards them."

ANIC has contacted NSW Police regarding this matter and raised its concerns. Together with the NSW Police and law enforcement agencies, it will continue working to avoid such regrettable incidents.

We commend the two women for reporting this incident and we urge all community members to report such incidents in the future.

You may contact ANIC's Spokesperson, Bilal Rauf in relations to this media statement on 1300 765 940 or spokesperson@anic.org.au.