



Chief Constable Jo Shiner  
Sussex Police Headquarters  
Lewes BN7 2DZ

Our Ref: JLCC/10102023

CC: Councillor Bella Sankey, Leader Brighton & Hove City Council  
Chief Superintendent Justin Burtenshaw, Brighton & Hove Divisional Commander

10<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Chief Constable

I am writing to express my profound concern regarding the inadequate Police presence and lack of prevention of pro-Hamas demonstrations in the city of Brighton & Hove last weekend. It is imperative to note that Hamas is a proscribed terrorist organization under the Terrorism Act 2000.

It was deeply concerning to observe the recent demonstrations in Brighton where individuals openly voiced their support for Hamas and glorified the recent attack on Israeli citizens. This attack has been widely condemned as one of the most egregious assaults against Jews since the Holocaust. These demonstrations not only endorse violence, but also instil fear and distress within our local Jewish community.

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In this country, pro-Palestinian groups conflate their political cause with that of Hamas, despite the fact that Hamas is a self-proclaimed Islamist organisation partnered with similar terrorist groups like ISIS. Hamas oppresses the ordinary Palestinian population, using them as human shields and siphoning off international aid relief to line their own pockets and further their nefarious agenda.



Khalid Mashal, a founding member, and leader of Hamas has recently released a video on social media urging Islamists worldwide to show anger, especially this Friday [October 13], in Muslim countries and among Muslim diaspora around the world; he called it “the Friday of Al-Aqsa flood”. He asked all Muslims around the world to carry Jihad by their souls; to fight and be martyrs for Al-Aqsa. He said: “This is the time for Jihad to be applied on the ground rather than just in theory.”

Considering the significant turnout in various cities and towns across the UK earlier this week, I strongly advise taking this threat seriously. It is crucial to enhance police presence during pro-Palestinian rallies and enforce the law by preventing speeches that endorse or glorify Hamas and its perilous ideology.

It is crucial to maintain peace and security in our community and to protect the well-being of all residents. Our Jewish communities are in mourning and feeling extremely vulnerable at this time. I trust that you will give this matter your full attention and take the necessary steps to address the concerns raised.

Most faithfully,

The Most Reverend Dr J Lloyd  
Titular Archbishop of Selsey