



ANIC Statement on the Planned Terror Plot Targeting Mosques in Western Australia

28 February 2026

The Australian National Imams Council is deeply alarmed and shocked by the planned terrorist attack in Western Australia, which reportedly included Muslim places of worship among its intended targets.

We acknowledge the swift action of WA law enforcement in preventing what has been described as a potential mass casualty attack. Protecting innocent lives and upholding public safety must remain paramount.

The targeting of mosques is particularly distressing. Mosques are sacred spaces of prayer, reflection and community service that welcome families, children and the elderly. Any threat against them is not only an attack on a faith community but on Australia's social fabric and shared sense of safety.

The alleged white supremacist motivation behind this plot highlights the growing danger of violent extremism and the targeting of Muslims and Islamic institutions. There is no place in Australia for hatred based on race or religion.

We must also acknowledge the broader environment in which such hatred can grow. Irresponsible political rhetoric and sections of the media that portray Muslims through suspicion or collective blame risk normalising prejudice. We are concerned about double standards in political responses and media coverage. All forms of extremism must be treated with equal seriousness. Public discourse has real consequences for trust and fairness.

We are witnessing a rise in Islamophobia and anti-Muslim hate across the country. Many Muslims feel they must look over their shoulders, even when attending worship. This is especially painful during Ramadan, a time of spiritual reflection and peace, yet many families are experiencing anxiety and heightened security concerns.

ANIC reiterates that all forms of violent extremism must be unequivocally rejected. Political, media and community leaders share a responsibility to reduce division and foster unity. Australia is strongest when every community feels safe and respected.

We urge the community to remain calm and vigilant during this blessed month and these challenging times.