



Statement from the Irish Muslim Peace & Integration Council on the senseless murders of Micheal Snee and Aidan Moffitt

On behalf of the Irish Muslim community, the Irish Muslim Peace & Integration Council wishes to express our shock and sadness at the senseless murders of Michael Snee and Aidan Moffitt in Sligo this week. We wish in particular to send our thoughts, prayers and solidarity to their families, friends and the wider LGBTQI+ community who will have found the tragic events of recent days upsetting and terrifying. We also wish to send our best wishes to the third victim who is recovering from his injuries.

Forty years on from the murder of Declan Flynn being the catalyst for Dublin Pride, they bring back memories of dark days we thought we had left behind, in Ireland at least. They serve as a reminder that we have much to do at home and around the world to tackle the dehumanisation of LGBTQI+ people.

It would be unhelpful to try to conceal the fact that an apparently Muslim male has been charged with these crimes. Whilst unable to comment further on the specifics of a case before the courts, we are all too aware that homophobia remains too common in certain Islamic Centres and schools of thought throughout the Muslim world and here in Ireland.

IMPIC has called on countless occasions for government and state agencies to take the threat of so-called “non-violent extremism” seriously. Tragic events like these show that the preaching of homophobia, misogyny and otherisation can have unthinkable consequences. There should be no place for it in our society. The government must expedite the process of bringing robust Hate Crime legislation before the Oireachtas.

IMPIC and our affiliated Islamic Centres remain safe spaces - our doors will always be open for all worshippers and visitors regardless of who they love.