

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

## 15th May 2023

## Muslim Women's Network UK announces new trustee - Ibtisam Belola

The Muslim Women's Network UK announces the appointment of a new trustee Ibtisam Belola, who took up her role on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023, when she attended her inaugural board meeting.

Ibtisam is an accomplished professional with a specialism in user-centred design and research. She brings her wealth of experience to the charity's efforts to promote the rights and welfare of Muslim women in Britain. She is committed to promoting inclusivity, accessibility and collaboration within all aspects of her work and through her activities tries to ensure the voices and experiences of Muslim women in the UK are heard and valued.

She has worked extensively in the field of user experience design and research across both the private and public sector including the development of digital services for the Department for Education and multi-country studies for leading media and healthcare companies. Her expertise has played a key role in helping them to create user-friendly and accessible products that meet the needs of their customers.

Ibtisam is also a trustee at the charity Muslimah Sports Association, where she helps to develop initiatives that empower Muslim women and girls through sports and physical activity and advocates the need for greater engagement from National Governing Bodies. Her passion for gender equality and women's rights led to her selection as a UN Women UK delegate at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.

Ibtisam holds a degree in Economics and Masters in Social and Consumer Research and in recognition of her contributions towards promoting social progress and positive change, Ibtisam was awarded a fellowship at the Royal Society of Arts (FRSA).

Ibtisam Belola said: "I am delighted and honoured to serve as a trustee for the Muslim Women's Network UK. I have followed the inspiring and impactful work of the charity and am committed to promoting the voices of Muslim women in shaping a more equitable and inclusive society. Together, with the accomplished board and dedicated staff at the charity I look forward to applying my research skills to help advance the charity's mission of gender equality and empowering Muslim women in the UK."

## **Additional Information:**

- 1. For further information, email contact@mwnuk.co.uk and phone 0121 236 9000
- 2. We have three websites organisational: <a href="www.mwnuk.co.uk">www.mwnuk.co.uk</a>, helpline: <a href="www.mwnhelpline.co.uk">www.mwnhelpline.co.uk</a> and member: <a href="www.mwnhub.com">www.mwnhub.com</a>