

Cemetery and memorial gardens

## **KEMNAL PARK SUPPORTS VICTIMS OF KNIVES CRIMES**

Faiths Together in Croydon's recently held 'What is being done about Knife Crime' and we had a very informative speech delivered by Frank Maleiak, Operations Director from Kemnal Park, talking about a different perspective to:

## #no to knives

He gave us an insight into how it not only affects the loved ones left behind, but how it personally affects the staff having to deal with the families' tragedy.

How hard it is not to show personal emotions in front of the families affected.

He shared with us a tragic account of a family who had lost a loved one due to knife crime, he had to support during a personal service which he had arranged. The young brother age 8, was inconsolable when he tried to deliver a speech he had written and couldn't manage to do this, so Frank had to intervene as the mother and the other siblings were also inconsolable.

When he went home he had to have a time to himself to reflect, which he found very difficult.

He said it was the hardest thing he had to do, as he felt these tragedies are needless and avoidable.

He explained how it affects everyone and we **ALL** need to pledge in eradicating this in our communities. He was joined by his colleagues, Asif Hassanali, and Tamkin Riaz from <u>Eternal Gardens</u> in getting this message across to all service providers and the Police and Croydon Council, who also supported this pledge and we're looking for support from the whole community.

A large banner was unveiled at the opening, alongside a pledge book which was signed by everyone who attended.

https://kemnalpark.org/