

**\*\* POST-EVENT RELEASE \*\***

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## **CELEBRATING INTEGRATION AND SIX DECADES OF PAKISTANI DIASPORA IN THE UK**

Yesterday, on 25 June, **The Conservative Friends of Pakistan (CFoP)** co-hosted **Celebrating Integration – The Six Decades of Pakistani Diaspora in the UK**, at the **Holiday Inn Bloomsbury**, London. The event was attended by over 300 guests and sought to engage with the **British Pakistani community** on the important issue of **Integration**.

The event was co-hosted by **CFoP** and the **World Congress of Overseas Pakistanis (WCOP)** and saw **Michael Wade, Chairman of CFoP**, deliver a speech on Integration and the Conservative Party's relationship with the British Pakistani community.

Mr Wade said: *"Both the British Pakistani community and British citizens as a whole have huge benefits to gain by **working together** in accelerating the process of integration. We must however be clear that this is a **two-way street**. The Conservative Party has to do a better job in reaching out to the British Pakistani communities where there is a perception that the Party is remote and uncaring of their issues and concerns, although this is not the case within the core of the Conservative Party itself."*

The event saw the CFoP addressing the issue of Integration for the first time. Mr Wade's speech made clear that the **Conservative Party is supportive of the British Pakistani community** and its values of **strong family values** and **aspiration**. Integration continues to be seen by the Party and CFoP as the necessary framework to link the Party and the British Pakistani community together and more generally to **progress forward** as one society.

**Michael Wade is available for interview on behalf of CFoP. For further information, contact Nick Viner at [nick.viner@cfop.org.uk](mailto:nick.viner@cfop.org.uk) or call 07584 222 971**

**Attached is the speech delivered by Michael Wade & three photographs from the event.**

### **Notes to editors:**

#### **About Conservative Friends of Pakistan**

The Conservative Friends of Pakistan (CfoP) was launched during 2012 by Prime Minister David Cameron as a part of an initiative to reach out to the British Pakistani Diaspora. CfoP seeks to build a stronger, wider, and deeper relationship between the Conservative Party, Pakistan and the British Pakistani community. By bringing together people from across the British Pakistani community and the Conservative family, CfoP will become a one-stop shop for everyone interested in promoting the values of the Conservative Party, as well as helping to forge a stronger relationship between Pakistan and the UK. For more information, visit [www.cfop.org.uk](http://www.cfop.org.uk)