

Sufra NW London

Zakat Policy

Introduction

Sufra NW London provides a *zakat* distribution service for local Muslim donors who are keen to support poverty alleviation in their own community.

Zakat is a pillar of the Islamic faith and a form of charitable giving that is obligatory on believing Muslims.

Types of Zakat

Zakat takes two main forms:

- *Zakat al-Mal* – an annual financial donation of 2.5% of liquid and fixed assets (assessed at a fixed point during the year) for distribution to the poor and destitute. This form of *zakat* can be paid at any time of the year but is traditionally donated during the Muslim month of Ramadan.
- *Zakat al-Fitr* – an in-kind donation of approximately 3kg of food that coincides with the festival of Eid al-Fitr at the end of Ramadan. Most Muslims will make a financial donation in lieu which is distributed as food by the collecting charity. The approximate value of *Zakat al-Fitr* is £5.

Method of Distribution

Sufra NW London distributes *Zakat al-Mal* as part of our Samaritan Fund that provides small financial grants for individuals and families to cover the cost of essential living costs. *Zakat al-Fitr* is used to provide in-kind donations of food to similar beneficiaries.

Although *zakat* funds originate from the charity's Muslim donors, they are distributed to the needy, regardless of their faith or cultural background.

Donations that are restricted for use by a specific faith or cultural group will not be accepted by Sufra NW London.

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