National Federation of Cypriots in the UK
Working for a Free, United Cyprus

The National Federation of Cypriots in the UK Condemns Racist Remarks Targeting Cardiff's Lazarou Family

The National Federation of Cypriots in the UK strongly condemns the racist remarks made by Restore Britain councillor Owain Clatworthy, who singled out the Lazarou family and its businesses while attacking Cardiff's rich diversity.

Since 1966, George Lazarou and his family have become an institution in Cardiff. Locals will know them from the eight Lazarou Barbers across the city, the Lazarou Cardiff Sunday Football League and the Whitchurch Christmas lights that they began in 2000.

The Lazarou family has also raised thousands for Cancer Research, supported the Dreams and Wishes Charity and run their own an annual Barberthon where barbers deliver free haircuts and shaves to those in need.

They are also recognised as pillars of the Greek Cypriot Association of Wales, whose hall is a community hub in the region and has helped strengthen the bonds between the Cypriot community and wider Welsh society.

Mr Clatworthy was ignorant of all of this in his attempt to minimise the invaluable contribution of communities like our Cypriot diaspora to the fabric of British society and life. The Lazarou family is a symbol of that contribution, and it is shameful that they, or any family, could be subjected to such prejudice and discrimination by an elected official.

The Federation stands in solidarity alongside the Lazarou family and welcomes the support they have received from the people of Cardiff. We call on Restore Britain to apologise for, and condemn, the statements of Mr Clatworthy.