

## **Letter of support – Jodie Chesney Foundation**

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to provide my full support to the Jodie Chesney Foundation.

Jodie Chesney was tragically killed in Harold Hill on 1 March.

Having met with Teresa Goulding, who is a longstanding friend of the family and is assisting with the establishment of the charity, I understand that the family intend to honour Jodie's name by setting up a charity, which provides much needed support to the most vulnerable in our communities. The charity's primary aim will be to provide intervention support and education to young people and children. The charity will also be working with individuals who may not otherwise engage in mainstream support.

As a parent myself, I understand the importance of doing everything we can to protect our children and the environment that they are nurtured in. I commend the efforts of the family wanting to explore ways to engage and support other parents going through similar hardship.

As the Leader of Redbridge Council, I know too well the difficulties local authorities face in tackling serious youth violence and the need for government funding to help address this critical issue. I welcome the support of charities to help drive a reduction - one day leading to an end - to youth violence. Redbridge will be working with the Jodie Chesney Foundation to find innovative ways to engage with our communities, schools and authorities on the subject.

I am excited to see the charity evolve. I believe the charity will not only honour Jodie's name but will create a legacy of exemplary charity work and bring together families affected by serious youth violence.

Yours faithfully,

Cllr Jas Athwal  
Leader of the Council  
Councillor for Mayfield  
London Borough of Redbridge  
Redbridge Town Hall  
128-142 High Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1DD

Web: [www.redbridge.gov.uk](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk)

Twitter: @Jas\_Athwal

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CllrJasAthwal](https://www.facebook.com/CllrJasAthwal)