

Dudley Council statement on EDL

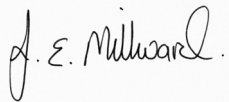
On behalf of the political groups on Dudley Council we are united in **opposing** the proposed English Defence League (EDL) visit to Dudley Town Centre on April 3.

We have a clear message to send out to the EDL and its supporters.

1. We didn't invite the EDL to our town and we don't want them here.
2. We urge communities in the borough to ignore the protest, to stay away from the event and not be provoked. We want to allow the police to manage the gathering.
3. We've seen the level of violence and disruption associated with recent EDL events in Birmingham, Stoke and elsewhere. We are very concerned at the potential damage this could cause to members of the public and businesses in our town.
4. Local people in our borough get on extremely well together. We don't want extremists coming from outside into our borough and trying to jeopardise that.

As a council we don't have the power to ban the event. We will work closely with the police to do all we can to protect and support local people, our businesses and town centre.

We are strongly opposed to it taking place and call on the organisers of the event to cancel this unnecessary demonstration.



Councillor Anne Millward
Conservative



Councillor David Sparks
Labour



Councillor Dave Tyler
Liberal Democrat



Councillor Malcolm Davis
UKIP