

# Daniel McArthur

General Manager, Ashers Baking Company

## THE SUPREME COURT, WEDNESDAY 10 OCTOBER 2018

"I want to start by thanking God. He has been with us during the challenges of the last four years. Through the Bible and the support of Christians, He has comforted us and sustained us. He is our rock and all His ways are just.

"We're delighted and relieved at today's ruling. We always knew we hadn't done anything wrong in turning down this order. After more than four years, the Supreme Court has now recognised that and we're very grateful. Grateful to the judges and especially grateful to God.

"We're particularly pleased the Supreme Court emphatically accepted what we've said all along – we did not turn down this order because of the person who made it, but because of the message itself.

"The judges have given a clear signal today. In fact it couldn't be clearer. Family businesses like ours are free to focus on giving all their customers the best service they can – without being forced to promote other people's campaigns.

"I know a lot of people will be very glad of this ruling today, because this ruling protects freedom of speech and freedom of conscience for everyone.

"On behalf of my family can I say thank you to everyone who has helped us and supported us and prayed for us through all of this.

"I do want also to thank the whole legal team for all of the work that they have put in over the last four years. And also to thank the entire Christian Institute staff for their help and support especially Simon Calvert, Sam Webster and Callum Webster.

"We want to move on from this now, and I'm sure Mr Lee does as well. And let me finish by saying he'll always be welcome in any of our shops.

"Thank you".