

# ITEM 10



## MINORITY COMMUNITIES DIVERSITY FORUM (MCDF)

DERBY CITY COUNCIL 16<sup>th</sup> September 2010

Review of the Black & Minority Ethnic (BME) Housing Charter

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 A review of the BME Housing Charter is carried out
- 1.2 A new performance framework is developed to support and inform this review

### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

#### 2.1 Background

The BME Housing Charter was developed as an outcome of Derby's BME Housing Strategy. This focussed the Strategy's commitment towards engaging BME led Registered Social Landlords (RSL) in the development and management of affordable housing within the city.

In summary, the Charter sought to ensure that 20% of properties delivered through the Housing Corporation (now known as the Homes and Communities Agency) 2006- 2008 National Affordable Housing Programme (NAHP), in areas designated as high demand areas for BME residents, should be owned or managed by a BME led RSL.

This was very much in tune with Housing Corporation funding policy at the time, which required bidders in areas with significant BME communities to set out how they intend to work with BME led RSLs.

The requirement of the BME Housing Charter has remained during the current NAHP bid round 2008- 2011 and ownership or management of the following schemes/ units have been transferred to a BME led RSL since the Charter has been in place.

Scheme	BME RSL	Units	Type
Java Court, Wilmorton	Tuntum	9	3 & 4 x bed houses
Cannock Court, Uttoxeter New Road	Tuntum	2	2 x bed flats
Greyfriars Place, Mickelover	Tuntum	9	1 & 2 x bed flats
Old Baseball Ground	Hallmark	5	5 x bed houses

[NB- Tuntum also provide rent collection services for Millpoint, Rowditch Place, Pride Park. However this arrangement will cease shortly]

## 2.2 Performance Review

We have been asked to review the BME Charter and wish to ensure that the review is conducted with the support and guidance of the MCDF.

There is a set of performance indicators appended to the Charter. However, there are concerns that the current set of indicators does not provide the information required to fully assess the benefits for both BME and non-BME tenants of being managed by a BME led RSL. The indicators have an organisational focus as opposed to a focus on the added value of the management service and development advice provided. Therefore as a prerequisite to the review of the BME Housing Charter, we would seek to develop a more customer and stakeholder driven performance framework which will form a critical element of the review of the Charter itself.

There are a number of additional factors that make this review timely. For example, over the last few years, both nationally and locally, the RSL sector has seen a period of mergers and the consolidation under larger group structures. Smaller specialist RSLs, including BME led RSLs, have become less and less viable as standalone entities and have been absorbed into larger group structures or have simply merged with mainstream RSLs. A review needs to consider the continuing added value of BME led RSLs within the local area in light of these developments within the sector.

**For more information contact:** James Beale, Temporary Housing Development Officer, 01332 287239, james.beale@derby.gov.uk

**Background papers:** None  
**List of appendices:** BME Housing Charter