

Time commenced – 6.30pm  
Time Finished – 8.40pm

## MINORITY COMMUNITIES DIVERSITY FORUM 26 NOVEMBER 2009

Present: **Representing Derby City Council**  
Councillor Naitta (Chair)  
Councillor Dhindsa

### **Representing Communities**

Nasreen Iqbal – Pakistan Community  
Ferid Kevric – Derby Bosnian-Herzegovina Community Association  
Joe Kupranec – Ukranian Cultural Centre  
Divine Mensah – Derby African Association  
George Mighty – DWICA  
Kirit Mistry – Derby Rec  
Narinder Shahi – Derbyshire Black Police Association  
Francis Ngosa – Derby African Association  
John Pearson – Derby Irish Association  
Tony Walsh – Derby Irish Association  
Zbigniew Wojcik – Eastern European Migrants Advocacy Committee  
Hazel Simpson – Black Parent Forum & Family Action

### **Council and Other Officers**

Rajesh Lall – Derby City Council  
Pam Thompson – Derby City Council  
Ann Webster – Derby City Council  
Rod Wood – Derby City Council  
Perveez Sadiq – Derby City Council  
Laura Butler – Derby City Council  
Valeed Ahmed – Derbyshire Police  
Ruby Shanker – Derbyshire Police  
PC Ben Mekin – Derbyshire Police  
Tracy Arnold – Derby City Council  
Matt Allbones – Community Action Derby

## 33/09 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Berry, R Khan and Shankar. Abdul Ghaffor, Nezrine Hudson, Jangir Khan, Shokat Lal, Angella Mighty, Lloyd Newby, Father Tim O'Sullivan, Mohammed Riasat, Dawn Robinson-Ruane and Irka Wolociuha.

## 34/09 Late items to be introduced by the Chair

There were no items.

## 35/09 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2009 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

## 36/09 Updates from previous meeting

### **BME Communities and Housing Points System**

Kim Morgan to supply a breakdown by BME Nationality report which would be distributed before the next meeting. Forum members to discuss any issues from the report at the next meeting.

### **Agreed to receive and discuss the report at the next meeting**

## 37/09 Work Programme 2009/2010

Pam Thompson informed the Forum that the recent work programme was attached to the agenda. If any Forum Members want to change or add anything to let Pam Thompson know.

### **Resolved to note the Work Programme**

## 38/09 Question and Answer session

The Forum received a question from Tony Walsh as follows 'This Consultation Exercise is of such serious import that it should be put formally to the next meeting of MCDF. What is its purpose, which communities have been consulted, who made the decision and who takes,(or intends to take the decision), the final decision?'

Perveez Sadiq attended the meeting to answer Mr Walsh question. He informed the Forum that the survey is the normal practice for getting feedback. It was reported that the survey was difficult to fill in and most felt it need to be more sensitive to people's views. Perveez Sadiq confirmed that this is the first time this mythology has been used and the survey should have gone to all organisations not individuals. The Forum felt the survey should have first been presented to the Forum before it was sent out to the organisations. Perveez Sadiq informed the Forum that he was quite happy for this to happen in the future.

## 39/09 Working for the Council

The Forum received the Council employment statistics for the last financial year. The statistics covered recruitment and selection, workforce profile, training and development, disciplinary, grievances, improving employee performance and moving forward with equality aims and objectives.

The Forum welcomed the statistics, and also raised the question of breakdowns of recruitment for Minority Workers and how the minority groups can access the job vacancy lists. Ann Informed the Forum that there is a Minority Communities job register distributed to all Minority Communities.

Kirit Mistry raised concern that from last years report all the figures representing the senior figures seem to be white, so what initiatives are set up for more Minorities being senior people. Ann Webster answer informing that there are minorities within the succession planning pools.

**Resolved to note the presentation.**

## 40/09 Youth Gangs

The Forum received an update on gang issues from Tracy Arnold and PC Ben Mekin. A multi-agency gang's team had been set up and running since April 2009, they are based within Community Safety Partnership. The aim of the team is to prevent escalation in gang activity. The role of the team is to do risk assessments on all referrals, also intelligence gathering and sharing. They also visit school and deliver programmes on gangs and violence.

Members of the forum asked for details on the ethnic breakdown of gangs, and were told it would be reported back to the forum as soon as it's available.

Kirit Mistry raised the query on what other communities are being engaged with, he brought the same question up a year ago and was disappointed that there was nothing to report on. Councillor Dhindsa thinks it is a great concern that commitments made over a year ago haven't been followed through.

The Forum Members felt that it is positive what's already been done, but feels that the community should be involved. It was stressed that Forum members and Ward Councillors felt they should be involved in their areas instead of people from outside the communities doing it. The Chair agreed and believes that when others from outside the community get involved it causes the gang problems.

**Resolved to note the update.**

## 41/09 3rd Sector Participation

The Forum received a presentation from Matt Allbones on increasing 3rd sector engagement in the community. Their aim is to remove duplication and add value to existing work, such as communication in the sector and to ensure that those representing the 3rd sector are accountable to those they represent.

Membership of community action group is now free and they have just launched a new website which helps groups to understand what would be happening in the city and how their groups can get involved. They would be invited to comment on documents, also they would have easy access to helpful information and on the website have their own web pages to display their own photos and contact information.

The Forum Members noted the presentation and agreed to contact Matt Allbones for more information if required.

**Resolved to note the presentation.**

42/09      Next Forum: 26 November 2009

The forum noted the date of the next scheduled meeting.

MINUTES END