

Time commenced – 6.35pm
Time Finished – 8.30pm

MINORITY COMMUNITIES DIVERSITY FORUM 22 NOVEMBER 2007

- Present: **Representing Derby City Council**
Councillor Rehmat Khan – Derby City Council
Councillor Roy Webb – Derby City Council
Councillor Finbar Richards – Derby City Council
Councillor Asaf Afsal – Derby City Council
- Representing Communities**
Zbigniew Wojcik MBC – EMAC
Joe Kupranek – Association of Ukrainians
John Pearson – Derby Irish Association
Nezrine Hudson – DWICA
George Mighty – DWICA
Farhad Neghipooran – Persian Cultural Association
Fis Abdolla – Kurdis COA
Ferid Kevric – Bosnian Community
Kamal Amier – Somalian Community
Anna Gautama – Indian Community Association
Jangir Khan – Pakistan Community Centre
Nasreen Iqbal – Pakistan Community Centre
Shokat Lal – Pakistan Community Centre
Mohammed Yaqub – Pakistan Community Centre
Yassir Mahmood – HAC Trust
- Council and Other Officers**
Katherine Taylor – Derby City Council
Ray Cowlshaw – Derby City Council
Rod Wood – Derby City Council
Pam Thompson – Derby City Council
Rajesh Lal – Derby City Council
Cath Harcula – DCC Adult Learning Service
Catherine Guran – DCP
Alan Smith – Derby City Council
Henry Cipcer – Derby City Council
John MacKenzie – DCC - Peartree Office
David Brewin – Derby Advice
Dawn Robinson Ruane – CSP
Mike Murray – CSP
Sonia Rafferty - CSP

28/07 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dhindsa, Councillor Roberts, Tony Walsh, Kint Mistry, Mohammed Shirif, Shirley Howard and Angela Mighty.

29/07 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

30/07 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

31/07 Minutes of previous meetings

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 September 2007 were confirmed as a correct record.

32/07 Update on Actions from the Previous Meeting

An update report had been circulated on matters from the previous meeting.

33/07 Diversity Forum decision-making process

The Forum received a presentation from Rod Wood, Assistant Director – Human Resources about the decision making process of the Forum. It was noted that there were 3 ways for the discussions taken place at the meeting to be taken forward. There were in the form of minutes, Chair to raise with Cabinet Member, or the Cabinet Member to be invited to the meeting.

Ray Cowlshaw commented that he had committed to try and attend the Forum on a regular basis and that there would be regular feedback to the Directors Group.

Resolved to note the presentation.

34/07 MCDF Work Programme

The Forum considered the latest work programme and it was agreed that the Rosehill Market Renewal Strategy would be brought forward to the January meeting of the Forum. Pam Thompson, Consultation Support Officer invited any Members with specific issues to contact her directly.

Resolved to note the report.

35/07 Regeneration and Normanton

The Forum received a presentation on Regeneration and Normanton. It was noted that Derby had been allocated a total of £270,001 ESF split between the two main priorities of the Regional Framework of extending employment opportunities and developing a skilled and adaptable workforce.

Resolved to note the presentation.

36/07 Community Safety Partnership: Overview

The Forum received a presentation on an overview of the Community Safety Partnership. It was noted that the Partnership included a wide range of agencies and that their projects included reducing youth crime, anti social behaviour and preventing drug and alcohol misuse.

Resolved to note the presentation.

37/07 ESOL Provision within Derby City Council Adult Learning Service

The Forum received a presentation on the ESOL Provision within the Adult Learning Service. It was noted that from September 2007 there were new regulations and that the automatic right to fee remission was removed.

Resolved to note the presentation.

38/07 Derby Advice Welfare Rights Services and Minority Ethnic Communities

The Forum received a presentation on the Welfare Rights services to Minority Ethnic Communities. Concern was expressed that there was not a bank of interpreters in Derby. It was expressed to the Forum that if they knew of individuals who could provide an interpreting service to contact Pam Thompson.

Resolved to note the report.

39/07 Open Discussion

Resolved to defer this item until the next meeting.

40/07 Date of Next Meeting

Resolved to note that the next pre meeting for the Forum had been arranged for Thursday 13 December 2007 at 3.00pm and that the Forum would next meet on Thursday 31 January 2008 at 6.30pm.

MINUTES END