



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

## MINORITY ETHNIC COMMUNITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE 3 FEBRUARY 2005

Report of the Director of Policy

### **Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Strategy 2005-2008**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. To consider and comment on the Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Strategy, which is due to be considered by Council Cabinet on 22 February 2005.

#### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The Council's Housing Need and Market Study, 2001, identified a number of distinct issues of inequality in relation to Black and Minority Ethnic - BME - households and related gaps in housing provision, including primarily, but not exclusively ...
  - BME groups are more likely to be living in housing which is unsuitable for their requirements.
  - Pakistani and Indian households are far more likely to be overcrowded than any other group.
  - BME households have far lower incomes on average than white households so are limited in their ability to remedy their housing problems.
- 2.2 The Council's Housing Strategy 2002-2006, provides a commitment to produce Derby's first BME Housing Strategy, in order to tackle the issues highlighted in the Housing Need and Market Study.
- 2.3 Following publication of the Housing Strategy, the BME Housing Strategy Steering group was established to guide the formulation of the Strategy. The group comprised a range of representatives from the Council, partner organisations, and the local BME community.
- 2.4 The strategy has been written following extensive research and consultation with the local BME communities during 2004.
- 2.5 The Strategy focused around the following key principles ...
  - To have action plans which are achievable and deliverable.
  - Complement the Council's Housing Strategy and overarching Equality and Diversity Policy.
  - Demonstrate our commitment to making sure BME residents receive fair, accessible and culturally appropriate housing services.

- Be a key driver in developing positive and constructive relationships with BME communities.
- Be shaped and monitored by the local community.
- Respond to local needs and aspirations by providing services that are sensitive to cultural diversity.

2.6 A BME Housing Strategy Monitoring Group is being established to oversee the implementation of the Action Plan. Progress on each of the action points will be reported to the group on a six-monthly basis. From this information, the group will consider what further actions, research or consultation may be required.

2.7 A report will be published on an annual basis outlining progress of the action plan and detailing the key achievements during the previous 12 months.

<b>For more information contact:</b>	John Sheil 01332 258524 e-mail john.sheil@derby.gov.uk
<b>Background papers:</b>	None other than those already in the public domain
<b>List of appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – BME Housing Strategy

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial**

1. Funding to be met from existing budgets.

**Legal**

2. The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 puts a legal obligation on all public authorities to promote racial equality and good race relations between different racial groups.

**Personnel**

3. None.

**Equalities impact**

4. To further promote equalities throughout our diverse communities.

**Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 5.1 The proposal comes under the Council's objectives of **strong and positive neighbourhoods**, and **protecting and supporting people**.
- 5.2 The proposal furthers the priority of **enhancing our community leadership role through partnership working and listening to and communicating with, the public**.