

Time commenced – 6.30pm  
Time Finished – 8.02pm

## MINORITY COMMUNITIES DIVERSITY FORUM 24 SEPTEMBER 2009

Present: **Representing Derby City Council**  
Councillor Naitta  
Councillor Shanker

### **Representing Communities**

Anna Gautama – Indian Community Association  
Nezrine Hudson – DWICA  
Ferid Kevric – Derby Bosnian-Herzegovina Community Association  
Divine Mensah – Derby African Association  
George Mighty – DWICA  
Angella Mighty - DWICA  
Kirit Mistry – Derby Rec (in the Chair)  
Francis Ngosa – Derby African Association  
John Pearson – Derby Irish Association  
Tony Walsh – Derby Irish Association  
Zbigniew Wojcik – Eastern European Migrants Advocacy Committee  
Irka Wolociuha – Ukranian Cultural Centre

### **Council and Other Officers**

Christine Collingwood – Derby City Council  
Rajesh Lall – Derby City Council  
Pam Thompson – Derby City Council  
Ann Webster – Derby City Council  
Rod Wood – Derby City Council  
Mick Seller – Derby City Council  
Narinder Shehi – Derbyshire Police  
Dionne Gordon – Derbyshire Police  
Hazel Simpson – Black Parent Forum / Family Action  
Kam Basi – Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service  
Kim Morgan – Derby City Council  
Lisa Callow – Derby City Council

## 20/09 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dhindsa, Adam Wilkinson, Joe Kupranic, Lloyd Newby, Balbir Singh Sandhu, Trisha Gadsby, Mr Newby and Tim O'Sullivan.

## 21/09 Late items to be introduced by the Chair

There were no items.

## 22/09 Minutes of the last meeting held on 16 July 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2009 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

## **23/09      Updates from previous meeting**

Pam Thompson reported to the Forum that a response had been received from the PCT on the issues raised by the forum. A letter was attached to the agenda detailing the answers to the freedom of information request.

Members of the forum were disappointed with the responses received and felt that the answers were not acceptable. It was suggested that a sub group of forum member representatives arrange to meet with the Chief Executive of the PCT to discuss the matter again face to face.

**Resolved to note the update.**

## **24/09      Work Programme 2008/2009**

Pam Thompson informed the Forum that the recent work programme was attached to the agenda and that following the AGM any outstanding items would be rolled over.

**Resolved to note the report.**

## **25/09      Question and Answer session**

Pam Thompson reported to the Forum that there had been no questions received for this meeting.

## **26/09      BME Communities and Housing Points System**

The Forum received a presentation from Kim Morgan on the Housing Options Service.

Members raised concerns that the presentation did not provide enough detail on BME Communities. It was noted that the main concern was migrant workers, who had no recourse to public funds, although it was understood that this was a national issue. It was suggested that a sub group of representatives from the Forum meet with the relevant officers to discuss the matter in more detail.

Members questioned how medical cases were dealt with by the Housing Options team. It was reported that there was a medical priority form available for which a medical advisor would consider the banding of the application.

It was noted that Irish Origin was not included in the ethnicity information. It was reported that further detail could be provided on ethnicity.

The Forum were informed that allocation policy was being reviewed in November.

Members of the Forum were informed that if they wished to receive any further information from the officers they could contact them directly.

**Resolved to note the presentation.**

## **27/09      Raising the Achievement of Derby's Black Children and Young People**

The Forum received a report from Mick Seller on raising the achievement of Derby's black children and young people. It was reported that the aim included the establishment of a black achievement strategy and action and a black achievement board. It was noted that officers were looking for advice, support and direction from the Forum.

Members of the Forum suggested that officers should talk to children and young people at schools initially, as they could give examples of their issues.

It was suggested that any Forum members with other suggestions should contact the officer directly.

**Resolved to note the report.**

## **28/09      Derby's Black History Season 2009**

The Forum were provided with details of Derby's black history season 2009. It was reported that the season would run from September till December and that a programme would be produced soon providing details of the event planned.

Pam Thompson reported that a Sub Group were looking at future black history seasons and hopefully in the future this would include work with schools and statutory agencies for a partnership approach.

**Resolved to note the update.**

## **29/09      Annual General Meeting Update**

The Forum were informed of the scheduled Annual General meeting to be held on Wednesday 7 October at 6.30pm in the Darwin Suite at the Assembly Rooms. This would include an annual report from the Chairs of each forum and an opportunity to contribute to the work plan for the following year. There would be refreshments and entertainment on the evening. All members of the Forum were encouraged to attend.

## **31/09      Next Forum: 26 November 2009**

The forum noted the date of the next scheduled meeting and agreed for Kirit Mistry and Zbigniew Wijcik to represent the Forum at the pre meeting on Tuesday 20 October at 5.15pm.

## 32/09 Diversity Forum Meeting Dates 2009/2010

The Forum noted the remaining dates of the Forum for the 2009/10 Municipal year.

MINUTES END