Foreword

As Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance Management, Economic Development and Housing, I am pleased to introduce Derby's first Black and Minority Ethnic – BME – Housing Strategy. This is an evolving document, which will be a key driver in making sure the city's BME residents receive equitable, accessible and culturally appropriate housing services. We believe that people from different backgrounds should have similar life opportunities and we want to foster strong relationships between people from different backgrounds in the workplace, in schools and within neighbourhoods.

According to latest Office for National Statistics Mid-Year Estimates, Derby's population currently stands at 233,200, with BME residents making up approximately 12.6% of this total.

This large and growing section of our community makes an invaluable contribution to the development, growth, evolution and economic life of the city.

We strive for social cohesion to make sure that the city is a place where racism, prejudice and discrimination are not tolerated and where everyone feels able to live safely.

The Council's vision for Derby is a vibrant, dynamic and culturally diverse city, which embraces difference and draws on the skills of all its residents.

The Council aims to demonstrate strong and continued commitment to providing equal and inclusive housing services, which are accessible to BME communities. We recognise that one of the ways of doing this is through developing a workforce, which is representative of the communities it serves and, consequently, able to deliver high quality services in a culturally sensitive and appropriate manner.

This strategy has been established and will progress through extensive research and consultation with the BME communities and in line with current legislation in the area of race equality.

Councillor Phillip Hickson Derby City Council Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance Management, Economic Development and Housing

Derby City Council's Black and Minority Ethnic – BME – Housing Strategy will:

- 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

This strategy covers the period 2005 – 2008. A progress report and updated action plan will be produced and published on an annual basis following a review of our previous year's performance, continued research and additional community consultation.

Derby City Council Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Strategy 2005 - 2008

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- BME Housing Strategy Action Plan
 BME Housing Needs and Market Study
 BME Consultation Summary

Introduction: Setting the scene for the strategy

Derby City Council's last Housing Need and Market Study, 2001 identified a number of distinct issues of inequality in relation to the housing needs of Black and Minority Ethnic - BME - households and related gaps in housing provision. BME groups are more likely to be living in housing which is unsuitable for their requirements than white residents. Also, Pakistani and Indian households are far more likely to be overcrowded than any other group. At the same time, BME households have far lower incomes on average than white households and so are more limited in their ability to remedy their housing problems.

The findings clearly prompted the need for more detailed research into the housing needs of BME households in the city, building upon the key indicators and linking into issues of income, health, tenure and overcrowding. The findings of this study, completed in 2003, sets out the identified needs of Derby's diverse BME population. The strategy is a result of the analysis of these findings, along with consultation with our partners, service users and residents and aims to provide a clear agenda for all housing providers in the city.

Based on latest estimates, over 1 in 8 of Derby's population is from a BME group. The emphasis the Council places on BME groups in Derby reflects the priorities in the East Midlands Regional Housing Strategy.

While acknowledging our commitment and action to date in policies and practices designed to act against racial harassment and promote equalities, the strategy also recognises the need for ongoing commitment and action to bring about real change.

The Strategy lists 24 key priorities for ourselves and our partners, spanning the provision of housing and advice services, making sure BME groups benefit fully from housing development and neighbourhood regeneration, and the provision of culturally appropriate housing management services.

Context

The overall context for this Strategy is underpinned by the Council's Corporate Plan, Corporate Equality and Diversity Plan and the objectives set within the Housing Strategy 2003/2006 for the provision of local services. The emphasis the Council places on BME groups in Derby is also a reflection of a number of national, regional and local priorities and policies, and this strategy is essentially linked to these priorities, including:

National priorities and policies

- The draft guidance from the Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions on Community Cohesion issued May 2002
- The duties under the Race Relations Amendment Act 2000 for all public service providers to:
 - Eliminate unlawful racial discrimination
 - Promote equality of opportunity
 - Promote good race relations
- The 2001 Census figures
- The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister report into 'Empowering Communities, improving Housing: involving black and minority ethnic tenants and communities.' 'Housing and Black Minorities' Report 2004

Regional priorities and policies

- Derby's BME Housing Needs and Market Study 2003
- The priorities identified in the East Midlands Regional Housing Strategy and the Housing Corporation's national 'Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Policy'.

Local priorities and policies

- The Council's adoption of the Equality Standard for Local Government standards, now working towards level two to be achieved by April 2005
- Derby's Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy 2002
- The Housing Needs and Market Study 2001, which identifies the specific housing needs, including those of BME groups and the housing inequalities that exist among different ethnic groups within the city
- The Housing Strategy Consultation events that took place in May 2002 with a wide range of stakeholders and residents of Derby. The residents' event had a particular focus on BME housing needs. There has also been additional consultation with BME residents during the formulation of the BME Housing Strategy
- The review of services and resources for homeless households and the identification of the specific needs of BME homeless households, to be addressed in Derby's forthcoming Homelessness Strategy
- Derby City Council Customer Care Standards

The Strategy is therefore set within the context of existing policies and strategies that seek to tackle discrimination and social exclusion. The Strategy is a living document that will evolve over time through the identification and prioritisation of needs within Derby.

Asylum seekers and refugees

Since the early 1990s, there has been a significant rise in the number of refugees settling in Derby under Government sponsored programmes. In 1994, a number of Bosnian refugees arrived in Derby and, since then, there has been a continuing programme of dispersal of asylum seekers originating from a diverse range of countries, with very different needs and priorities. The strategy will need to make sure that partners work jointly to understand and raise awareness of the specific needs of small numbers of households from an extremely wide range of minority ethnic backgrounds.

Demographics by ethnic group and wards

Information arising from the Housing Needs and Market Survey 2001, reveals that of the 20 pre-2002 wards in Derby, minority ethnic groups are most highly concentrated in the Babington, Blagreaves, Littleover and Litchurch wards, with the Babington ward having the highest level of minority ethnic residents by far. In addition:

- over 42% of households where the main wage earner is Pakistani, live in the Babington ward.
- over one third of households where the main wage earner is Black also reported living in this area.

Needs assessments

The BME Housing Needs and Market Study 2003 highlights a number of issues in relation to the housing needs and aspirations of BME communities in Derby. This strategy aims to ensure that this information is used to inform our key priorities, and is reflected in the Housing Strategy and other strategies across the council.

Demand for housing

Households from BME backgrounds are over-represented on the Housing Register. Performance data of September 2004 reveals BME groups represent 2729 of the 13177 -20.7%- of the applicants on the Joint Housing Register, compared to a BME population in the City of 12.6%.

The proportion of lettings to BME applicants from the Joint Housing Register is generally reflective of the composition of BME households in Derby. In council properties managed by Derby Homes, it is 18.8% in 2004/5, compared with 34% by Registered Social Landlords – RSLs.

Promoting housing development

New housing development and regeneration must meet the needs of BME groups. Our BME Housing Strategy therefore includes the following priorities:

- making sure that the Approved Development Programme ADP will enable the Council to meet the housing needs of Derby's BME communities
- supporting the development of a refuge for Asian women fleeing domestic violence
- bringing forward larger family accommodation in areas with high levels of BME need through grant programmes
- developing low cost and shared ownership schemes in recognition that home ownership is particularly valued among some Asian communities
- further researching BME communities' supported housing needs in recognition of their under-representation in current provision.

Summary of key housing issues and priorities for services

The Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Needs and Market Study 2003 clearly identifies a number of housing priorities the Strategy needs to address. The current priorities for action are generally summarised here:

Housing and advice services

- 1. Introduce improved performance targets for allocations to BME groups and, in particular, Pakistani households.
- 2. Review and monitor allocations to make sure that BME households are offered representative proportions of new housing schemes.
- Develop advice and support services for smaller and emerging BME communities to make sure that refugees leaving National Asylum Support Service - NASS - accommodation are able to access mainstream services and housing.
- 4. Make sure that welfare benefit advice to lower income Black and Pakistani households is accessible and that their incomes are maximised to help sustain housing and heating costs
- 5. Ensure that energy efficiency measures are promoted among BME households.
- 6. Continue to undertake further, more detailed consultation with BME communities on their housing needs and aspirations.
- 7. Develop existing services such as Care Link to be sensitive to the needs of BME elders with the aim of increasing awareness and interest in sheltered housing.

Culturally sensitive housing management services

- The provision of culturally sensitive housing management services that take into account the particular needs of various client groups. A specific focus needs to be given to the provision of housing services in the areas where BME communities live and want to live, because of their family links and social infrastructure.
- 2. The provision of information to service users in an accessible and meaningful way, including information being available in appropriate languages. A review of existing services will need to be undertaken.
- 3. Make sure that effective policies are in place to deal with incidents of racial harassment and anti-social behaviour, including the development of best practice and joint working protocols.
- Encourage and promote BME led Registered Social Landlords to meet the needs of BME communities and provide culturally sensitive housing services in both design and management.

5. Promote existing sheltered and supported housing services to BME elders and increase awareness of their housing needs and aspirations to inform the development of appropriate and sensitive schemes.

Housing development and regeneration

- 1. Make sure that the ADP will enable the Council to meet the housing needs of Derby's BME communities as part of its strategic enabling role.
- 2. Support the development of a refuge for Asian women and their children fleeing domestic violence.
- 3. The need to develop large family accommodation three bedrooms plus in areas with high levels of BME residents, in particular Indian and Pakistani households to alleviate overcrowding among these groups.
- 4. Incorporate 'design' elements in new build schemes which are sensitive to the cultural requirements of the BME communities they aim to house.
- 5. Target low cost shared ownership and affordable rented housing schemes at BME groups, and in particular at Pakistani and Black households, who have significantly lower annual income levels than other ethnic groups.
- 6. Review how Derby City Partnership's Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy will meet the physical and social needs of Derby's BME communities, including a consideration of combined physical and social regeneration programmes.
- 7. The prioritisation of larger family housing to meet the needs of larger BME households in identified areas for residential development.
- 8. Continue to research the needs of Chinese elders and explore the provision of specialist services for small minority ethnic groups, which may include specialist supported housing and floating support services in the city.
- A general recognition that BME communities remain under represented in supported housing and floating support services, for which further research and analysis is required.
- 10. Continue to work with specialist agencies to assess demand and identify potential for service development.
- 11. Make sure that the support needs of BME groups are appropriately met and that the Supporting People programme identifies priorities for future development.
- 12. Make sure that the City Council's Housing Renewal Programme is publicised locally and in appropriate languages in areas with a large BME population.
- 13. Continue to address issues of ill health among BME households, including asthma and other respiratory illnesses known to be exacerbated by cold, damp housing, through energy efficiency measures and the Affordable Warmth Strategy.

Effective consultation on the BME Housing Strategy included full and extensive consultation with the key stakeholders, including housing and service providers and residents. Our engagement with stakeholders included...

- Establishing a BME Housing Strategy Steering Group to oversee and implement the strategy, action plan and related milestones and targets.
- A comprehensive BME Housing Needs and Market Study, making sure that the provision of information is part of the consultative process.
- Consulting with BME groups as part of a programme of community consultation aimed at providing residents with an opportunity to have a greater depth of direct influence.

The BME Housing Strategy review group will oversee the full implementation of the action plan and identify further areas of research to make sure gaps in provision continue to be identified and addressed. Please contact us if you need help reading this document or any part of it translating.

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Black and Minority Ethnic – BME – Housing Strategy Action Plan 2005-08

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
1	Effectively monitor systems for Housing Advice Services	To establish performance targets and a comprehensive	Monitoring system in place by	Kim Morgan - Housing Register Manager	Monitoring system established to cover the areas of
	Follow good practice guidelines laid down by the Chartered Institute of Housing and Department of Transport Local Government and the Regions	monitoring system for Housing Advice Services as shown in actions 4 – 7.	March 2005		Supporting People, Homelessness, Domestic Violence and Allocations & Nominations

SUPPORTING PEOPLE

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
2	 Provide support for vulnerable BME households There is a significant BME population with above average levels of housing needs with support. A general recognition that BME communities remain under- represented in supported housing and floating support services. 	Prioritise the development of Supporting People services that will address the needs of BME groups within the Supporting People 5-year strategy.	March 2005	Andy Humberstone – Supporting People Manager / John Sheil – Housing Strategy Officer –	Supporting People 5 year strategy prioritises the development of Supporting People services for BME households

OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
	Investigate opportunities to establish a programme of further research and analysis to understand the extent of the issue and consider measures to remedy this	March 2005	Andy Humberstone - Supported Housing Manager / John Sheil – Housing Strategy Officer	Programme of further research planned in order to better understand the issues on BME supported housing needs

HOMELESSNESS

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
3	 Improve consultation and monitoring among BME Households Govt requirement for P1E returns Collation of stats required for the for the Housing Investment Programme To gain an accurate breakdown of BME households To provide a proactive service to members of BME 	Provide a regular homelessness monitoring report which takes into account all current homelessness monitoring information	March 2005	Trish Thomas - Housing Services Manager	Agreement gained on type of monitoring report required.

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
4	 Increase the supply of temporary and permanent accommodation available to homeless households Although at present there is sufficient temporary accommodation, there is still an acute shortage of permanent accommodation in the city 	Hostels to address the 'single homeless' problem within the city by providing short term accommodation and references to help in accessing permanent accommodation	Ongoing from 2005	Martin Brown – Housing Standards Manager	% increase in the supply of temporary and permanent accommodation available to homeless households
5	Improve the standard of temporary accommodation	Housing Options Centre to examine ways of using ex-NASS accommodation which will become available in April 2005	April 2005	Martin Brown – Housing Standards Manager	Report to show options for use of ex-NASS accommodation

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
6	 Ascertain current levels of BME households accessing Domestic Violence services Highlight any gaps in service Police crime stats show that about 13% of Domestic Violence victims were of BME origin, reflecting Derby's demographics. It should be noted that women from BME backgrounds may have greater difficulties accessing support services owing to language barriers and cultural differences 	 Monitor current levels of BME approaches to DV services including: Calls to DVU Homeless approaches to HOC Advice requests to DV workers Accommodation providers P1E returns to highlight : differences between BME and white households levels of approaches/ acceptance 	Ongoing	Shelley Davies – Domestic Violence Officer –	Levels of BME households accessing Domestic Violence services obtained and monitored

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
7	Make sure that advice to customers from BME groups reaches at least the local BME percentage	Monitor usage of services including those now provided at: Peartree Clinic Sure Start, Osmaston/Allenton Housing Options Centre	Ongoing	Shelley Davies – Domestic Violence Officer –	Usage of Domestic Violence services monitored
8	Make sure that non-English speakers are aware of homeless legislation relating to DV and of the advice and information	Translate Domestic Violence literature into the seven cluster languages.	February 2005	Shelley Davies – Domestic Violence Officer –	Domestic Violence literature translated into 7 cluster languages
	 Provide equality of access to information 	Circulate the translated Domestic Violence literature	March 2005	Shelley Davies – Domestic Violence Officer –	Literature distributed to all area housing offices and appropriate venues
9	 Bring all Derby agencies up to date with the various options available to those suffering from DV Advising practitioners will extend 	Write to all Housing Associations within Homefinder to make aware of training available from the Council's DV Unit	September 2005	Shelley Davies – Domestic Violence Officer –	Increase in number of agencies accessing training
	 choice for customers More referrals from BME groups				
10	Provide support for vulnerable BME households	Monitor women's Refuges providing on- going floating support	Ongoing	Shelley Davies – Domestic Violence Officer –	Monitoring in place for women's refuges
	 Households surviving DV need specialist advice on Muslim divorce Immigration Tenancy support Refuge provision 				

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
11	 Ensure that Domestic Violence survivors with no recourse to public funds get suitable support and protection including survivors of DV from Asylum Seeker households This is an existing action from the DV strategy, several people from overseas have already approached DCC 	 Make places of safety available to those with no recourse to public funds Work by the DV and BME working group is ongoing -sub group of the DV Forum- Social Services are currently developing a protocol for making sure that DV survivors with no recourse to public funds are treated consistently 	Ongoing	Hazel Lymbery Domestic Violence Forum	% increase in places of safety Place of safety made available to survivors of DV within 24 hours
12	 Instigate a multi-agency approach to working and information sharing Better support for survivors of DV Existing action for DV partnership members 	Develop guidance and procedures for information sharing by promoting this issue at the next meeting of the DV Forum Lead Officer's Group	Ongoing	Shelley Davies – Domestic Violence Officer –	Strategy for multi agency approaches developed

ALLOCATIONS AND NOMINATIONS

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
13	 Ensure that both the allocations policy and the Derby Homefinder system are not disadvantaging BME groups So that there is no direct or indirect discrimination towards BME groups 	Review the Derby Homefinder allocations policy	March 2005	Kim Morgan – Housing Register Manager –	Derby Homefinder allocations policy reviewed
14	Make sure that all BME groups are aware of our policies and systems and can easily access Derby Homefinder • ALL BME groups including new	Promote Derby Homefinder to ALL BME groups -including users and non- users of the service-	Autumn 2005 and annually thereafter	Jamie Eaton – Derby Homefinder Marketing Manager-	% increase BME applications through Homefinder
	 and developing BME communities that are emerging in Derby are aware of and can access Derby Homefinder 	Develop a marketing strategy to promote Derby Homefinder to all vulnerable groups including BME applicants	To be agreed	Jamie Eaton – Derby Homefinder Marketing Manager-	Marketing strategy produced
		Review Derby Homefinder surgeries to make sure that BME and other vulnerable applicants can access Derby Homefinder.	To be agreed	Jamie Eaton – Derby Homefinder Marketing Manager-	Number of Derby Homefinder surgeries held

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
15	 Ensure that applicants from BME communities have equality of access to the housing register and that access is representative of the BME population in Derby BME groups can easily access Derby Homefinder Allocations are representative of the BME population on the Housing Register 	Develop effective monitoring systems to analyse lettings to BME groups through Derby Homefinder for DerbyHomes and our Registered Social Landlord partners, action to include: • Monitor allocations made to BME households to evaluate the 'RSR' of BME groups to achieve an allocations outcome which is more reflective of Derby's population. • Introduce improved performance targets for allocations to Pakistani households in particular	To be agreed	Jamie Eaton – Derby Homefinder Marketing Manager-	Monitoring system in place which enables analysis of lettings to BME groups

CULTURALLY SENSITIVE HOUSING MANAGEMENT

IMPROVED SERVICES

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
16	The provision of culturally sensitive housing management services that take into account the particular needs of various client groups	Explore the improved provision of housing services in the areas where BME communities live and want to live, due to their family links and social infrastructure	2005 onwards	John Sheil – Housing Strategy Officer/ Shahid Ashrif - Derby Homes Housing Equalities Adviser-	Report produced which identifies opportunities for improving service provision to BME communities
		Compile satisfaction levels of BME communities in the city in conjunction with other social landlords. The information to be used to examine weaknesses in the provision of services	2005	John Sheil – Housing Strategy Officer/ Shahid Ashrif - Derby Homes Housing Equalities Adviser- to obtain information from Housing Associations operating in the city	Baseline information available showing satisfaction levels.

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
17	 Promote existing sheltered and supported housing services to BME elders Improve take up into sheltered housing schemes by BME elders 	Increase awareness of BME elders' housing needs Identify appropriate agencies and support systems in order to promote existing sheltered and support services to BME elders Disseminate literature in appropriate languages to client groups Promote sheltered and supported housing schemes to BME elders through presentations	2005 onwards	John Sheil – Housing Strategy Officer/ Shahid Ashrif -Housing Equalities Adviser-	Number of leaflets distributed to client groups Number of presentations held at appropriate venues Identification of appropriate agencies gained
18	Work to further identify housing needs through additional research and consultation with BME client groups	Develop a programme of research and consultation to further identify housing needs within BME client groups	2005	Housing Strategy and Development Unit as directed by BME Housing Strategy Monitoring Group	Programme of research and consultation written

RACIAL HARASSMENT

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
18	Promote a workforce which is culturally sensitive and is aware of equality issues and how they may effect BME households	Identify what training has been undertaken and identify gaps in training Develop an ongoing programme of cultural understanding and equality training for all key housing providers in the city	By end of 2005 to identify training undertaken and identify training needs	John Sheil – Housing Strategy Officer/ Shahid Ashrif - Derby Homes Housing Equalities Adviser-	On going program of cultural understanding and equality training for all key housing providers in the city developed
19	Encourage and support RSLs to improve their policies and procedures as a baseline for promoting improved racial harassment services	Undertake an audit of all RSLs policies and procedures in Derby in dealing with racial harassment with a view to devising comparable reporting procedures To work with Derby Association of Community Partners to plan and host an event 'Tenants against racism'	2005 2005	John Sheil – Housing Strategy Officer/ Shahid Ashrif -Derby Homes Housing Equalities Adviser- to work with relevant partner organisations	Audit undertaken and assessment of providing comparable reporting procedures undertaken An event held at a suitable venue

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
20	Accurately record and encourage people to report racial harassment in the city particularly amongst tenants and to promote racial harassment good practice across the city	Identify and explore opportunities to use models of good practice, including the Derby Homes racial harassment reporting model	2005	John Sheil – Housing Strategy Officer/ Shahid Ashrif -Housing Equalities Adviser-	Measures in place to accurately record racial harassment in the city Measures in place to deal effectively with perpetrators of racial harassment
21	Promote areas in the North of the City to BME groups and increase number of BME households in the area	Work with Derby Homes and other RSLs in the City to establish support mechanisms for BME residents wishing to move to areas in the north of the City Consider examples of community cohesion best practice and work as appropriate to implement best practice Specifically monitor satisfaction levels of BME residents in the north of the city	2005	Housing and Equalities sub- group led by Farooq Malik – Area Housing Manager, Derby Homes	Support mechanisms in place for BME residents moving to areas in the north of the city Increase in BME residents moving to the North of the city Increase in satisfaction levels of BME residents in the north of the city

INFORMATION, TRAINING AND SUPPORT

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
22	Make sure that all DCC Housing and Advice staff are equality and cultural awareness trained and all staff briefed on 'Understanding Diversity' report	Develop an on going program of cultural understanding and equality training for all DCC staff	April 2005 onwards	John Sheil – Housing Strategy Officer/ Shahid Ashrif -Derby Homes Housing Equalities Adviser/ Tariq Iqbal – Training and Development Adviser	All DCC Housing and Advice staff equality and cultural awareness trained
23	Tenants and Residents Associations should be briefed and equality trained	Develop an ongoing programme of cultural understanding and equality training for all Tenants and Residents Associations	2005 onwards	John Sheil – Housing Strategy Officer/ Shahid Ashrif -Housing Equalities Adviser-	Cultural understanding and equality training for all Tenants and Residents Associations developed
24	Promote information sharing between relevant Equalities groups throughout the city	Ensure representation by Housing Strategy Unit on relevant Equalities groups	2005 onwards	John Sheil – Housing Strategy Officer-	Number of relevant meetings attended

HOUSING AND HOUSING ADVICE

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
25	Increase the awareness of home energy efficiency in BME communities	Monitor usage of home energy advice by BME residents through satisfaction surveys	Ongoing	Richard Murrell – Home Energy Advice Manager -	BME resident usage monitoring in place
26	Increase the uptake of home energy	Increase usage of energy advice services by BME residents as reported on satisfaction surveys	Ongoing	Richard Murrell – Home Energy Advice Manager	Number of BME residents accessing energy advice services
	efficiency grants and discounts by BME households Provide equity of	Satisfaction monitoring for Derby Energy Advice service to include ethnicity monitoring	Satisfaction levels report to be available by May 2005	Richard Murrell – Home Energy Advice Manager -	Satisfaction data to include breakdown by ethnicity
27	service for all BME households	Increase satisfaction levels with Derby Energy Advice by BME groups	2005 onwards	Richard Murrell – Home Energy Advice Manager/ John Sheil – Housing Strategy Officer	Satisfaction of BME residents with advice given by Derby Energy Advice service

OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
	Distribute home energy efficiency booklet in Urdu, Hindi and Punjabi to key BME community venues	March 2005	Richard Murrell – Home Energy Advice Manager	Number of leaflets distributed and venues distributed to
	Run 2 awareness raising presentations to BME groups to be attended jointly by Derby Advice and Derby Energy Advice Service	March 2006	Richard Murrell – Home Energy Advice Manager/ Joanna Roberts – Welfare Rights Manager -	Presentations held
	Run 2 energy advice surgeries in Normanton	March 2006	Richard Murrell – Home Energy Advice Manager -	Advice surgery held

WELFARE RIGHTS

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
28	Improve access to welfare rights and money advice services by BME households Increase benefit take	The provision of specialist welfare rights advice to BME households	On going to be monitored on a 6 monthly basis	David Brewin – Derby Advice Manager – to liaise with the Community Legal Service Partnership	Number of BME households accessing welfare rights and money advice services
	up by BME households	Joint presentation with Welfare Rights teams to BME groups	On going to be monitored on a 6 monthly basis	Dave Brewin – Derby Advice Manager -	Number of presentations held
		Maintain number of outreach surgeries targeted at Asian communities in Normanton through LPSA	On going to be monitored on a 6 monthly basis	Dave Brewin – Derby Advice Manager	Number of new benefit entitlements to BME households

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
30	Investigate the emerging BME households from the asylum seeker and refugee populations in Derby	Produce city-wide Resettlement Good Practice Guide	Draft to be written February 2005. Document to be completed during 2005	Sharon Squires – Director of Derby Community Safety Partnership -	City wide Resettlement Strategy written
		Keep up to date with government guidelines, regional/national issues, international migration trends	Ongoing	Tricia Gadsby	Updates disseminated to relevant staff
31	Promote the positive contributions of asylum seekers and refugees and foster Community Cohesion	To achieve this objective through the work of the BME Housing Strategy, the Homelessness Strategy and the Resettlement Strategy	Ongoing	Housing Strategy/ Housing Options	Documents clearly illustrate the positive contributions of asylum seekers and refugees in the city
32	Monitor housing need within the asylum seeker/ refugee community	Monitor need through the work of the BME Housing Strategy, Homelessness Strategy and Resettlement Strategy	Ongoing	Housing Strategy/ Housing Options	Information on the housing needs of asylum seekers and refugees to be available for analysis
33	Provide strategic direction to include homelessness prevention among refugees	Work with NASS housing providers to reclaim empty properties previously occupied by asylum seekers, especially in the Normanton and Peartree areas	Ongoing	Housing Strategy/ Housing Options	Number of properties reclaimed

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
34	Make sure that destitution amongst refugee households does not become a major problem	Derby CC to work with Leicester CC to pilot a scheme with Refugee HA where 10 families given leave to remain will not be immediately removed from their accommodation and become homeless but will be allowed 28 days to find new accommodation	Ongoing	Refugee HA	Number of families allowed 28 days days to find new accommodation
		Refugee Action to hold a weekly outreach session in Derby, hosted by Derby Advice	Ongoing	Refugee Action	Outreach sessions established
		Refugee Advice Centre to be open 2 days a week	Ongoing	Refugee Action	Record of Advice service opening at least 2 days per week
35	Ensure that Domestic Violence survivors with no recourse to public funds get suitable support and protection including survivors of Domestic Violence from Asylum Seeker households	Make sure that individuals with no recourse to public funds are offered a place of safety within 24 hours	Ongoing	Domestic Violence Forum	All survivors of Domestic Violence with no recourse to public funds offered a place of safety within 24 hours

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
36	OUTCOMES Affordable rented accommodation provided for BME residents which is integrated into wider community facilities and support • Link with requirements of the Sustainable Communities Plan	Earmark a proportion of new housing development through the Approved Development Programme - ADP - for BME households	DATE Ongoing - progress to be reported to the BME Housing Strategy Monitoring Group annually	Martin Laidler – Housing Development Manager	MEASURE % increase in new housing development targeted at BME households
	 Requirement to respond to the needs of BME households as identified in the BME Housing Needs Survey 				

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
37	Bring forward larger family accommodation in areas with high levels of BME need through both our LA Grant programme and the ADP	Work with RSL partners to bring forward proposals and assist in funding opportunities for the development of larger properties	Ongoing - progress to be reported to the BME Housing Strategy Monitoring Group annually	Martin Laidler – Housing Development Manager	% increase in larger family accommodation developed in the areas of the city with high BME housing need
38	Develop low cost and shared ownership schemes	Work with partner RSLs to provide shared ownership through the ADP	Ongoing - progress to be reported to the BME Housing Strategy Monitoring Group annually	Martin Laidler – Housing Development Manager	% increase in low cost and shared ownership schemes
39	Support the development of a refuge for BME Women fleeing domestic violence	Work with partner RSLs and specialist BME housing providers - Tuntum/Refuge/Karma Nirvana/Hallmark.	2005	Martin Laidler – Housing Development Manager	Development of a refuge for BME women fleeing domestic violence

	OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	ACTION	TARGET DATE	LEAD OFFICER	OUTCOME MEASURE
40	Bring existing BME housing into use	Work with partner RSLs to earmark a representative proportion of rehabilitated developments through the ADP for BME households	Ongoing - progress to be reported to the BME Housing Strategy Monitoring Group annually	Martin Laidler – Housing Development Manager	% increase in existing BME housing brought into use
41	Incorporate design elements in new build schemes which are sensitive to the cultural requirements of the BME communities they aim to house	Be more responsive to BME housing need in relation to designing new housing	Ongoing - progress to be reported to the BME Housing Strategy Monitoring Group annually	Martin Laidler – Housing Development Manager –	Design elements incorporated into new build schemes which clearly reflect the requirements of the BME households they aim to house

Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Needs and Market Study 2003

Key Findings

- 39.0% of the BME population live in the Normanton/Peartree Housing Market Area (Census, 2001 ONS) check
- 43.1% (244) out of 570 BME households surveyed are in housing need, compared with 19.4% (17,651) of white households.
- 58.7% of BME households are living in terraced accommodation, compared with 21.9% of white households.
- 66.7% of BME households own their own home, compared with 63.9% of white households.
- 31.1% (177) of BME households want or need to move within the next three years, compared with 20.1% of White households.
- 48.8% of BME households have an annual income of less than £12,000 of which 24.7% rely solely on benefits. For White households, 35.8% have an annual income of less than £12,000.
- 24.1% of BME households wanting/needing to move have an income of less than £12,000 a year, compared with 21.4% of White households.
- 34.3% (195) BME households are identified as being overcrowded, compared with 20.9% of White households.
- 42.5% of BME overcrowded households have an annual income of less than £12,000 a year, compared with 25.6% of White households.
- 11.1% (63) BME households contain someone with one or more special needs, compared with 14.8% for White households.

A. Research aims and methods

During the first half of 2003, a comprehensive survey was conducted to explore the housing needs and aspirations of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) residents in Derby. Derby City Council based the BME Housing Needs Study on the general Housing Needs & Market Study – HNMS - conducted in 2001.

The HNMS provided some information on BME households in Derby. It identified that further research was needed and provided key indicators for further research into BME households:

- Overcrowding was found to be a problem for households across Derby notably for:
 - ➢ 63.1% of Pakistani households
 - ➢ 54.5% of Indian households
 - > 20.9% of White households
 - 20.0% of Black households
- 66.7% of BME households have a gross annual income from earnings and benefits of less than £15,000, compared with 46.3% of white households.
- Unsuitable housing, that is a house which does not meet the needs of the household, for example, is too small. Notably for:
 - > 30.0% of Black households
 - > 24.6% of Pakistani households
 - ➢ 22.7% of Indian households
 - ➤ 19.4% of White households

The BME study focused on the needs of Pakistani, Indian, African and Caribbean households. Further research will be considered with other BME needs, taking account of relevant information and Strategies such as the Homelessness, Resettlement, and Supporting People Strategies.

Following the HNMS in 2001, a steering group was established to assist in the direction of the BME study. The group consisted of representatives from Derby City Council, Derby Homes and nine Registered Social Landlord's including Hallmark and Tuntum. These two associations are dedicated to providing homes that are appropriate to the needs of BME residents. The findings of the study will be used to inform Derby's BME Housing Strategy, which will be monitored by the steering group.

The BME Housing Needs & Market Study set out to complement the HNMS and discover the:

- suitability of existing BME households
- number of BME households in housing need
- number of BME households with special needs
- needs and aspirations of BME households wanting to move home
- characteristics of BME households within Derby's housing market
- need for additional affordable accommodation, broken down by tenure, required size and location for BME residents in Derby.

The study used a number of research methods to ensure a comprehensive picture of local housing circumstances for BME households. The approach comprised:

- 1. a personal interview survey of 390 BME households consisting of:
 - a random sample of 240 BME households from the Housing Register
 - a randomly selected sample of 75 BME members of the Derby Pointer, the Council's 1000 strong Citizen's Panel
 - 75 on-street recruits

Derby's Joint Housing Register – JHR - had 10,176 applicants for social housing in December 2001. 1,566 of these applicants were BME applicants, accounting for 15.3% of applicants on the Housing Register and 4.5% of the BME population of Derby Census, 2001. 4.6% of the total White population in Derby are on the JHR.

Table 1 shows the approximate time on the JHR waiting list by ethnic group at December 2003.

		6	•			
	Less than	Months -	1 – 2	2 - 5	5 years	Total
	6 months %	1 year %	Years %	Years %	+ %	No. (100%)
Asian	30.4	17.7	32.9	15.6	3.4	559
African Caribbean	31.2	22.9	31.2	12.6	2.0	689
Chinese	41.2	5.9	23.5	23.5	5.9	17
Dual	26.9	22.6	34.2	15.3	1.0	301
Other	44.6	38.8	14.4	2.2	0.0	139
No Info provided	10.2	31.7	44.8	12.6	0.8	382
White	26.7	19.1	30.0	19.8	4.4	8610

Table 1: Time on JHR by Ethnic Group

Source: JHR – Academy, December 2003

Table 2 provides a snapshot of BME and White households on Derby's Housing Register at December 2003.

Table 2: Summary of time on JHR by Ethnic Group

		Less than 6 months %	6 Months - 1 year %	1 – 2 Years %	2 – 5 Years %	5 years + %	Total N. (100%)
		00.0	20.0	20.2	112	2.4	1566
-	BME	30.2	20.8	32.3	14.3	2.4	1500

Source: JHR – Academy, December 2003
- 2. focus groups held with:
 - Pakistani Under 25 years old
 - Pakistani Over 50 years old
 - African Caribbean Under 25 years old
 - African Caribbean Over 50 years old
 - Indian Under 25 years old
 - Indian Over 50 years old and
 - Chinese Over 50 years old
- 3. a quota for area of residence across the whole sample comprising (1) the inner area of Derby and (2) the outer area of Derby.

Using data from the Housing Needs and Market Study the report will also draw comparisons between BME and White households in Derby. The comparisons will identify any inequalities with and among BME households in Derby.

All figures relating to White Households are sourced from the HNMS, 2001.

B. Housing Market Area

The total BME population in Derby is approaching 13% - Census, 2001. Out of the 570 BME households surveyed, 66.2% are currently located within the Normanton/ Peartree housing market area.



BME Households by Housing Market Area

43.1% (244) of all (570) BME households surveyed are in housing need compared with 19.4% of White households.

Housing Market Area	% of BME population (Census 2001)	% of BME Households Surveyed	% of BME households in housing need	% White households in housing need - HNMS
Central Derby	9.8	4.0	3.3	3.9
Normanton/Peartree	39.0	66.2	75.0	6.7
Osmaston/Allenton	6.2	6.5	8.2	4.3
Mickleover/Littleover	10.0	4.6	2.9	5.2
Chaddesden	1.8	0.5	0.8	5.8
Alvaston	3.1	1.7	0.0	13.4
Derwent	2.5	0.9	0.4	4.9
Mackworth	1.0	0.2	1.2	6.0
Chellaston	2.6	2.3	0.4	10.0
Allestree/Darley	3.3	0.4	1.2	7.0
Sinfin/Sunnyhill	17.5	12.5	0.4	6.1
Spondon	1.0	0.2	7.8	12.5
Oakwood	2.2	0.0	0.0	6.7
ALL	100	100	43.1	19.4%

Table 3: Housing Market Area breakdown

Cases: BME households in housing need (4 non responses)

C. Type of property

- 58.7% of BME households are currently living in terraced accommodation, compared with 21.9% white household HNMS
- 10.1% of BME households are living in detached accommodation, compared with 21.7% of White households.
- 75% of BME households have 3 or more bedrooms, of which just over 20% of households are living in four or more bed properties.

Number of bedrooms	BME %	White % (HNMS, 2001)
One	6.9	10.4
Two	18.8	27.3
Three	53.8	48.9
Four+	20.6	13.2

Table 4: Number of Bedrooms in Existing households

D. Tenure

Table 5: Tenure Tenure	BME %	White % (HNMS, 2001)
Owner/Occupied	66.7	63.9
Housing Association rented	12.5	6.9
Council rented	8.6	19.6
Private rented	9.1	8.3
Other	3.1	1.3

 Only 8.6% of BME households are living in Council rented accommodation, compared with 19.6% of White households. Cases: BME - 568 (2 non-response)/ White HNMS, 2001



E. Culturally specific housing needs

The BME housing needs study set out to explore the specific cultural needs of Pakistani, Indian, African and Caribbean residents in Derby. Households were asked if certain features in their home, relating to cultural practices, were important in their current home and when moving to a new property.

- Separate living rooms for male and female members of the household 19.8% of BME households said they 'need' this feature in their home
 56.8% of Pakistani households stated they must have this feature
- Gas fuel for cooking rather than electric 16.8% of BME households said they needed gas fuel in the home for cooking
 - 52.8% of Pakistani households stated they must have this feature

- Enough storage space for large/bulk food purchases
- 21.3% of households said they 'need' storage space in their home - 36.9% of Pakistani households stated they must have this feature

F. Major repairs

Tenure - major repairs	BME %	White % (HNMS, 2001)
Owner/Occupied	76.2	58.7
Housing Association rented	6.0	5.6
Council rented	9.0	25.4
Private rented	8.9	8.9
Other	0.0	1.5

Table 6: Major Repairs needed by Tenure

• The most commonly reported problems across all tenures, are the need for roof repairs, window and door replacement/repairs.



Perceived need for Major repairs by Ethnic Group

G. Energy efficiency

Wide ranges of energy efficiency measures are already in place in BME households. The measures vary by tenure:

- 60% of BME households have loft or roof insulation
- 57.6% of properties have double-glazing
- one in four households have a hot-water tank jacket
- 43.1% of private rented properties appear to have no energy saving features in their home.

H. Heating

• 46.0% of BME households report 'sometimes' or 'always' limiting heating to one or two rooms to keep fuel bills low. For White households, the figure is 28.6%.

• 42.2% of all BME households keep the heating turned off for longer than they would like to keep bills low. For White households, the figure is 24.7%.

Households on the lowest incomes, below £15,000 a year gross from earnings and benefits, are most likely to report this. 20.7% find it 'fairly' or 'very difficult' to find money to pay for fuel bills, compared to 8% of White households.

Income

- Out of all BME households surveyed, 24.7% rely solely on benefits.
- In total, 48.8% of BME households have an income of less than £12,000 a year. For White households, the figure is 38.4%.



Annual Houshold Income

- 47.9% of BME households are unable to afford to move home except into rented accommodation, compared with 50.3% of white households.
- 18.8% of all BME households receive housing benefit and 3.4% receive income support.
- Therefore there appears to be a greater degree of need for rented accommodation.

J. Moving Home

- 31.1% (177) of BME households (567) reported that they want or need to move home within the next three years. The figure for white households is 20.1%
- 50.8% (90) of those BME households wanting/needing to move anticipate they will actually move home during the three-year period, compared with 66.6% of White households.
- 51 concealed BME households were identified as also needing to move within the next three years, bringing the total to 141 BME households needing to move from their existing accommodation.
- 81.5% of those BME households wanting to move require a three or more bed property, compared with 59.8% of White households.



Number of bedrooms required by those wanting/needing to move

Cases: BME Households wanting/needing to move (1 non response)

- 43.1% (244) of BME households are identified as in housing need, compared with 18.4% of White households.
- Of these, 52.4% (128) households state they want or need to move. For white households the figure is 50.0%.
- Overcrowding is given as the main reason for wanting to move by each ethnic group notably:
 - > Pakistani 60.9% which is significantly higher than any other group
 - Indian 24.3%
 - > African Caribbean 27.5%
 - ➢ White 25.8%

The following areas within Derby have been identified as aspirational for BME households, that is, more people want to live there than expect to do so. The Aspiration score given in Table 7 indicates which areas in Derby BME households aspire to live in -only the top seven preferences are listed.

Area	Want %	Expect %	Aspiration (Want – Expect =)
Littleover	36.5	26.6	9.9
Normanton	11	4.5	6.5
Sunny Hill	5.5	3	2.5
New Sinfin	11.2	9.5	1.7
Heatherton Village	5.2	3.8	1.4
Alvaston	5.8	5.2	0.6
Mickleover	4.8	4.6	0.2

 Table 7: BME households Aspirations for Areas in Derby

Cases: BME households wanting to move

A higher number of BME households want to move to Littleover and Normanton than expect to do so. For White households in Derby, a higher number of households would ideally like to move to Allestree and Darley Abbey than anticipate actually being able to move there.

- 59.1% of BME households needing to move have a household income of less than £12,000 a year, compared with 43.2% of White households.
- 40.6% of those wanting to move home would like to buy their next home however, 37.2% have an income of less than £12,000 a year. For White households 58.4% of those wanting to move would like to buy their next home; of which 17.1% have an annual income of less than £12,000.

K. City Centre living

Only those households stating they want or need to move within the next three years (177) were asked if they would consider living in Derby City Centre.

• 22.5% (40) of BME households planning to move said they would consider living in the City Centre if properties were available, compared with 17.6% for White households.

Those BME households who would consider living in the City Centre are more likely to be currently living in rented accommodation.

Of those BME households that would consider city centre properties:

- 12.5% will require a one bed property
- 54.1% will require a home with 3 bedrooms
- 12.5% a 4-bed
- 12.5% a 5-bed property.

L. Unsuitable housing

All BME households were asked if they had a problem with their current housing. Only those problems relating to housing needs, rather than aspirations; such as a school catchment area, counted towards the calculation of housing need.

- 45.1% stated this is reported as a reason for wanting to move.
- 63.9% of BME owner-occupiers report a housing need-related problem, followed by Social rented properties at 24.2%.

% of Households in Housing Need by Tenure



Cases: BME Households in Housing Need

• 43.1% (244) of BME households are experiencing a housing need-related problem of which, 53.3% are Pakistani households, 27.6% African Caribbean and 19.1% of Indian households.

M. Overcrowding

The Housing Needs and Market Study conducted by Derby City Council in 2001 identified that 15% of all households who are overcrowded have a main wage earner from an ethnic background.

It is necessary to distinguish between self-reported overcrowding and a more rigorous calculation that takes additional factors into account.

Taking a simple calculation of overcrowding as fewer bedrooms than occupants, with couples requiring just one bedroom, the BME Housing Needs and Market Study 2003 identified that 34.3% (195) of BME households are overcrowded.



% of Overcrowded Households by Ethnic Group

• 64.6% of those households found to be overcrowded (195) are owner occupied compared with 62% of White households.

Cases: Overcrowded BME households

- 42.5% of overcrowded BME households have a household income of less than £12,000 a year; the figure for White households is 21%.
- 64.1% of overcrowded BME households are in receipt of housing benefit.

N. Concealed households

In the assessment of housing need one of the key elements is the housing needs of concealed households. These are individuals or families currently living within another household who require separate accommodation. Examples of such households include grown-up children living with their parent(s) and families forced to share with friends or relatives.

- 6.3% (36) BME households were confident that someone would be moving out and needing separate accommodation in the next three years. Compared with 4.9% (4453) of White households.
- A total of 8.9% (51) of households were identified as needing separate, new accommodation. 24 of these households contained one concealed household, 9 households contained two concealed households and 3 households contained 3 separate households needing to move.
- 80.1% of the concealed households anticipate setting up their own new home, while only 3.9% anticipate moving in with someone else.

32.3% of BME households identified as containing one or more concealed households have an income of less than £12,000 a year, compared to 20.4% of White households.

O. Special Needs housing

- 11.1% (63) of BME households contain someone with one or more special needs. Compared with 14.8% of White households.
- 70% of special needs households answering a question about their income have an annual income of less than £12,000.

The graph below shows the number of BME households containing one or more persons with a special need. The most common type of special need is physical disability. The levels of physical disability are not simply owing to the presents of elderly people in the household, the second column shows this by the reduction for those households containing a frail, elderly person. The highest number of special needs households is found within the 35-54 age group.

Special needs housing by ethnicity



• 24.8% of all special need households suggested the condition or design of their home had either caused this ill health or made it worse. The table below shows the current tenure of both BME and White households containing a person with special needs.

Tenure	BME %	White %
Own home outright	50.8	35.5
Owner Occupied – Mortgage	21.3	11.2
Social Rented	24.6	46.7
Private rented	3.3	5.2
Other	0.0	1.4

Cases: Households containing a person with special needs

- 33% of households containing someone with a special need would like to rent their next home from the Council.
- 52% would like to buy their next home outright.

P. Neighbourhood issues

There is a range of opinion regarding the neighbourhood in which BME households are located. BME households find:

- shops, public transport and the general appearance of the area to be mainly satisfactory
- facilities for children, young people and crime and anti-social behaviour are much less so.

The use of transport was explored and found that both the car, bus and walking were used by BME households.

- Local services and social activities are located within easy walking distance in the neighbourhood
- cars were used for shopping and commuting.

Recycling among the households surveyed was considered. The use of the 'paper back' service seems popular, as does the recycling of clothes. Less used methods of recycling include water butts and compost bins.

Q. Computer ownership and usage

BME households were asked about their use of computers:

- 39% of households own a computer.
- Two out of three users are under 25 years old.
- 70.2% of those households owning a computer have access to the Internet.
- 23.2% of households use the computer for between 4 8 hours a week, while 18% spend more than 15 hours a week using their computer.

Households use the computer for various purposes including, Word processing (71.7%), games (75.5%) learning and education (74.7%).

R. Focus Group - Summary

The BME Housing Needs and Market Study included five focus groups, two with each of the main ethnic groups and one involving Chinese elders. The findings from the focus groups centre on the same issues in all groups. The main differences came from the different age groups. This summary provides a brief overview of the issues raised, firstly by the younger BME generation and secondly the over 50 year olds.

Under 25 year olds - one Asian group / one African Caribbean group

General satisfaction was expressed towards Normanton. What the participants want to see is consideration of the Normanton area as a whole; improving the area, the environment and tackling crime. The groups liked the multi-cultural environment and amenities.

The groups would prefer to buy their own home however, were realistic about having to rent accommodation before it was possible to buy a house. The need for affordable accommodation, including shared ownership was of particular importance to this age group.

The groups discussed living in the City Centre. The City Centre needs to be made more attractive, and more affordable accommodation is needed in this central location.

Over 50 year olds

These groups varied in their needs. The Asian over 50 year olds reported more health problems and as a consequence were concerned about the suitability of their current home. Sheltered accommodation was discussed by this group and most thought it was a good idea but would prefer to remain in their home with the help of adaptations. Under-occupation was a concern as their homes were becoming increasingly difficult to manage.

Generally, both groups saw the inner area of Derby - Normanton and Peartree - as a good place to live. The group liked the proximity of shops and other facilities such as the doctors and places of worship. Concerns were raised about younger families wanting to move away from the area and the effect this may have.

The lack of bungalows in the Normanton area seemed to concern this age group. They were also aware that to obtain this type of accommodation would mean moving to different parts of Derby where house prices are more expensive.

Chinese elders

The main problem associated with this group is the language barrier, especially the older generations, who speak only Chinese. Their access to services is limited and relies almost entirely on the Chinese Community Centre for interpretation and translation.

The group did not express a need to live in any particular type of accommodation but did comment on the facilities required in the home, namely gas heating for cooking and good ventilation due to their use of the wok. The area in which they live also needs to be close to the Community Centre and other facilities.

Several participants within the group raised concerns regarding racial harassment, vandalism to property and noisy neighbours. The group felt these problems were worse in low Chinese populated areas. They liked the idea of CCTV and felt it would make them feel safer. Because of their language barriers, incidences of harassment and vandalism were less likely to be report to the Police.

The group raised the issue of sheltered accommodation specific to the needs of the Chinese community. Some participants had visited such a scheme in Manchester and liked the idea of sharing cultural practices and festivities with other Chinese people. They also felt it would reduce isolation as they would be able to communicate with the people they live along side.

Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Strategy Consultation Methodology

Consultation has been conducted throughout the development of the BME Housing Strategy. The steering group helped guide the BME research and the strategic document. The BME Steering Group comprised of the following members who represent both statutory and partner organisations:

Organisations Represented
Derby City Council – Housing Strategy Manager
Derby City Council – Consultation Support Officer
Derby Homes – Equalities Advisor
Refugee Housing Association
Derby City Council -Housing Options Centre
Derwent Housing Association
Hallmark Housing Association
Community Safety Partnership
Derby Racial Equality Council
FCH Housing and Care
Derby City Council - Equalities Unit
Tuntum Housing Association
Home Housing Association
Guinness Trust
Riverside Midlands
Walbrook Housing Association
Derwent Housing Association
Raglan Housing Association
External Funding Unit, DCC
Home Housing
The William Sutton Trust
Derby City Council - Supporting People
Amber Valley Primary Care Trust
Housing Corporation

Once the draft BME Housing Strategy was completed along with the action plan, consultation with the main BME communities was agreed by the steering group. The main aims of the community consultation were:

- to establish which actions within the action plan are a priority for individuals within the BME community.
- to enable BME people to say if they feel the strategy and action plan has failed to identify something that is relevant to their housing needs.
- to provide an opportunity for the BME communities to view the BME Housing Strategy and influence its developed prior to completion.

It was agreed that initially, consultation would be focussed around the three main ethnic communities in Derby the Indian, Pakistani and African-Caribbean communities. Consultation Events were held at the following locations:

- Thursday 7 October, Indian Community Centre from 6-9
- Sunday 10 October, Indian Gurdawa Temple 9 12
- Thursday 14 October, Pakistani Community Centre from 6-9
- Thursday 21 October, The Spot, 6-9
- Monday 15 November, West Indian Community Centre 6-9

Leaflets and posters were distributed and displayed in community-based venues and statutory organisations by the steering group to maximise awareness of the events. Community centres and leaders of the Indian, Pakistani and West Indian communities were consulted; they advised on the consultation methods for the events in order to capture the most people. A presentation of the key research findings and the Action Plan was either translated or presented in the appropriate language at each event. A short questionnaire was distributed at the events and pre-paid envelopes provided to those who wished to take the information home.