

Time commenced : 6.30pm
Time finished : 8.12pm

GENDER DIVERSITY FORUM 1 APRIL 2008

Present: **Representing Derby City Council**
Councillor Redfern (Chair)
Councillor Berry

Community Representatives

Arshia Iqbal – Normanton Women's Engagement Project
Nasreen Iqbal – Normanton Women's Engagement Project
Toni Montinaro – Derbyshire Friend
Emma Boyes – Derbyshire Friend
Charlotte Warren – Derbyshire Friend
Rebecca Ward – Derbyshire Friend
Vinnie Sanghera – Derbyshire Constabulary
Wivine E Maniata – Voice of Congolese Women
Shirley Howard-Johnson – Friday Friends for Women

Council and Other Officers

Pam Thompson – Consultation Support Officer
Dena Trossell – Derby Community Safety Partnership
Ann Webster – Derby City Council

49/07 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bolton, Higginbottom and Willoughby.

50/07 Introductions

The Forum members introduced themselves and welcomed new members.

51/07 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2008 were noted and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

52/07 Update on Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

Following the meeting held on 5 February 2008, Ann Webster reported a response to the forum regarding the Madam Mayor Latham in the Derby Evening Telegraph misquoted on a story about the sexuality of foster parents. A letter addressed to the forum was read by Ann Webster of which the forum were very happy with the response to put the record straight.

Ann Webster informed the forum that HR had produced some Equality Statistics. The aims and objectives had been analysed and looked at, in terms of how to improve the statistics, particularly in the Pakistani Community. The report gave

details of the figures the Council wanted to achieve. A report would come back to the forum in September.

Noted.

53/07 Work Programme 2007/08

The Forum discussed the forthcoming items on the work programme. It was agreed to bring items 17, 18 and 19 to the June Forum meeting. It was noted that in May the way that the Forums worked was being reviewed and that there would be an opportunity for members of the Forum to give feedback on whether they had felt the Forum had achieved what it set out to do last year. There was to be a special meeting arranged of the forum to review the arrangements.

Agreed to note the update and for Forum members to consider what actions they could take away from the different presentations.

54/07 Homophobic bullying / Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender – LGBT awareness

Toni Montinaro, manager of Derbyshire Friend gave a presentation to the Forum on working with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities. It was reported that the group were working locally with neighbourhood groups that usually would be not be easy to engage. It was reported that Derbyshire Friend were developing an initiative locally for children whose parents were gay/lesbian/bisexual or transgender.

Noted.

55/07 Equalities Impact Assessment

Ann Webster, presented a report to the Forum on the Equalities Impact Assessment. It was reported that training on the equality impact had been provided as part of the last 3 year review. The completed assessments were available on the Council's website and that a task group would be scrutinising any random assessments.

Noted.

56/07 International Women's Day

The Forum discussed the event of International Women's Day held on 8 March 2008. It was reported that there was a good turnout of over 300 guests. There had been a meeting following the event to discuss what could be done better and that for next year the planning process would need to start earlier. All members who attended the forum volunteered to be involved in the planning for the 2009 event.

Noted.

57/07 Next Forum Pre-Meeting

The next pre-meeting would be held on Wednesday 14 May at 4.30pm. Any Forum members interested in attending the pre-meeting were asked to contact Pam Thompson.

Agreed.

MINUTES END