

MINORITY COMMUNITIES DIVERSITY FORUM 20 MAY 2010

Present: **Representing Derby City Council**
Councillor Berry

Representing Communities

Nasreen Sabir – Hadhari Nari Project
Matthew Allbones – Community Action
Zbigniew Wojcik – EMAC Derby Ltd.
Kamal Amier – Somalian Community
John Pearson – Derby Irish Association
M Sharief – Pakistan Community Centre
Valeed Ahmed – Derbyshire Black Police Association
Francis Ngosa – Derby African Association
Michael Mudzamiri – ZimDerby Community Group
Hazel Simpson – Family Action & Derby Black Parent Forum
Jaz Rai - Wellness Working
George Mighty – DWICA
Nezrine Hudson – DWICA
Kirit Mistry – Derby REC - Chair
Ferid Kevric – Derby Bosnian-Herzegovina Community Association
Joe Kupranec – Association of Ukrainians
Tony Walsh – Derby Irish Association
Ann Watts – Derby Refugee forum

Council and Other Officers

Adam Wilkinson – Chief Executive, Derby City Council
Pam Thompson – Derby City Council
Rod Wood – Derby City Council
Angela Cole – Derby City Council
Nigel Groom – Derby City Council
Pop Gill – Derby CSP
Ann Webster – Derby City Council
Hazel Lymberly – Derby City Partnership
Gill Collinson – Derby City Primary Care Trust

64/09 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Naitta and Shanker, Father Tim O'Sullivan, B Sandhu, N Iqbal, A Shahjah, A Mighty, I Wolociuha, D Mensah, S Lal and F Neghipooran.

The Forum thanked Councillor Naitta for Chairing the meeting for the last Municipal year and requested that in view of the change in political control of the Council, that

the Council appoint the Leader of the Council as the Champion for Minority Communities and therefore Chair of this Forum

Resolved to request that the Leader of the Council be appointed as the Champion for Minority Communities and therefore Chair of the Minority Communities Diversity Forum.

65/09 Late items to be introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

66/09 Question and Answer Session with the Chief Executive of Derby City Council

The Chief Executive addressed the Forum on the transformation programme, outlining how the programme would take an evidence based approach to deliver improved services and greater efficiency. He added that a review of employee performance was in progress, identifying the training needs and skills gaps of employees. It was reported that he expected the programme to result in better consultation with communities and a more direct relationship with Neighbourhood Boards.

The Chief Executive also congratulated the Forum on its excellent attendance levels and range of members, stressing that it would have an opportunity to help shape the future priorities of Derby City Council.

The Chair reminded the Forum of its duty to engage with the Council, suggesting that members should consider joining Neighbourhood Boards.

67/09 Notes of the last meeting held on 25 March 2010

The notes of the meeting held on 25 March 2010 were agreed as a correct record, subject to Shokat Lal being added to the attendance list.

68/09 Updates from previous meeting

Resolved to defer this item to the next meeting, as the relevant Officer was unable to attend.

69/09 Work Programme 2009/2010

Resolved to defer this item to the next meeting.

70/09 Question and Answer Session

There were no questions.

71/09 Welcome Pack: Community Safety Partnership

The Forum received a presentation from Pop Gill on the progress of the Welcome Pack. It was reported that the key headings and entries of the pack had been decided and that they were consulting with the relevant groups on the content. The Forum expressed concern that hard copies of the pack would only be available in English, with translations available on CD and electronically. Councillor Berry stressed the need for the pack to be understandable and in Plain English. Pop Gill said he would investigate producing hard copies in all languages, but that this may be difficult due to financial constraints. It was suggested that an executive summary of the pack in all languages would be helpful.

Resolved to note the presentation.

72/09 Funding for New Communities

The Forum received a presentation from Pop Gill on the Migration Impact Fund. It was reported that the initiative had originally secured funding for two years and concerns were raised regarding the sustainability of the project after this time, although it is hoped it would continue.

The Forum received a presentation from Nigel Groom on support for new arrivals. He reported that access to education and fear of discrimination in schools were problems for some families. It was suggested that it would be helpful to record incidents of discrimination in schools and officers stressed that they needed to be informed about such incidents in order to act.

The Forum received a report from Hazel Lymbery on the Be Inspiring Project Fund. It was reported that in addition to the projects listed, £20,000 had been allocated to a Teenage Pregnancy Partnership. The Forum welcomed the initiative, but questions were raised about why individual proposals were not allocated funding and how they were assessed. Hazel Lymbery undertook to respond on a case-by-case basis outside of the Forum.

The Forum received a report from Gill Collinson on Derby City PCT. The Forum heard that the PCT was operating in a difficult financial climate and a changing landscape due to the change of Government, with cuts in the NHS budget expected. The Forum enquired as to who was winning the PCT's commercial contracts and it was agreed that a list would be provided, without the value of each contract being disclosed due to commercial confidence.

The Forum resolved to note the reports.

Gill Collinson to provide the Forum with a list of organisations that have been awarded commercial contracts by Derby City PCT.

73/09 Next meeting: 15 July 2010

MINUTES END