

Time commenced – 6.30pm  
Time Finished – 8.30pm

## MINORITY COMMUNITIES DIVERSITY FORUM 22 JANUARY 2009

Present: **Representing Derby City Council**  
Councillor Naitta (in the Chair)  
Councillor Nath  
Councillor Khan

### **Representing Communities**

Jasmin Faril – Community Safety Partnership  
Hazel Simpson – Family Action  
Joga Thimd - ICCA  
Kirit Mistry – Derby REC  
George Mighty – DWLCA  
Nezrine Hudson – DWICA  
Irka Wolociuha – Ukrainian Association  
Lloyd Newby – DWICA  
Jangir Khan – Pakistan Community Centre  
Agniescka Stawecka – EMAC – Derby Ltd  
Zbigniew Wijcik – Eastern European Migrants Advocacy Committee  
Ferid Kevric – Derby Bosnian – Herzegariug County Association  
Mohammed Jaqub – Pakistan C C  
Tony Walsh – Derby Irish Association  
Vinnie Sanghera – Derbyshire Black Police Association

### **Council and Other Officers**

Ray Cowlshaw – Derby City Council  
Tariq Iqbal – Derby City Council  
Jody Shelton – Derby City Council  
Pam Thompson – Derby City Council  
Ann Webster – Derby City Council  
Yvonne Wilkinson – Derby City Council  
Rod Wood – Derby City Council

## 32/08 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Holmes, Shanker and Roberts, Father Tim, Shokat Lal and John Pearson.

## 33/08 Election of vice-chair

Resolved to appoint Kirit Mistry as Vice Chair of the forum.

## 34/08 Notes of the meeting held on 13 November 2008

The notes of the meeting held on 13 November 2008 were agreed as a correct record.

## 35/08 Work Programme 2008/2009

The forum considered a report from Pam Thompson, Consultation Support Officer on the 2008/08 Work Programme.

The forum noted the report.

## 36/08 Questions and Answer session

The question that was raised by a forum member would be addressed during consideration of minute no 39/08.

## 37/08 Progress on the Pakistani Recruitment Project

The Forum considered a report from the Director of Resources on Progress on the Pakistani Recruitment Project. The Council's annual workforce and recruitment statistics showed reductions in people from this community securing employment and this was beginning to have a negative impact on representation. Positive action measures were needed as a priority because this community is the largest minority ethnic community according to 2001 Census and it is also one of the long established communities in Derby.

Members of the forum suggested that the Pakistani Centre be used for future workshops of the project and that members of the forum receive details of future events. It was also requested that statistics of people engaging with the project were provided to forum members.

The forum thanked Tariq Iqbal for his continued work on the recruitment project.

**Resolved to note the report.**

## 38/08 Derby Campaign Against Racism and Fascism DCARF

The Forum received an oral report from Zbigniew Wojcik on the Derby Campaign Against Racism and Fascism Conference. Members of the forum were invited to attend the conference on Saturday 21 February at the St James Centre. The campaign was launched in August and campaign on a wider basis against racism and fascism in the Derby areas.

**Members noted the oral report.**

## 39/08 Community Grants Budget

The forum received a presentation from Katy Wing, on the Grant Funding for Minority Communities. It was reported that grant funding was a partnership approach to support positive relationships. The forum were informed of the Council funding available for minority communities which included Community Grants Budget and Adult Social Services Grant Funding. It was noted that 23% of the Community Grants Budget goes to BME community groups and 56% of the funding to BME groups targets all BME Communities but the remaining 44% targeted specific BME Communities. Details of how to apply for grant funding were provided to the forum.

Members of the forum raised concerns the same community groups were accessing funding year on year. It was reported that to resolve this issue there would need to be further funding provided or some organisations currently funded would need to be decommissioned.

Members noted that the process to apply for funding could be made simpler as community groups who were applying didn't have the correct skills to fill in the complicated forms. It was agreed by the officer to ensure that the process was clear and transparent.

Members suggested that a review process should be carried out by officers during the final year of funding to decide whether to continue, change or stop the funding. It was also suggested that details of the groups that were currently funded were provided to forum members.

It was noted that there should be a mechanism to support new communities who should be guided and supported into mainstream funding.

The forum requested that the Chair of the Forum, Councillor Naitta to discuss these comments further with the relevant Cabinet Member and report back to a future meeting of the forum.

**Resolved to note the presentation and receive feedback from the chair at a future meeting of the forum.**

## 40/08 Regeneration funds coming to Derby and the impact on BME communities

The forum agreed to defer this item to a future meeting.

## 41/08 Open discussion

Members of the forum requested than item on homelessness be added to current work programme to include details of the night shelter on Green Lane.

42/08      Next Forum Meeting: 12 March 2009  
Pre-meeting: 16 February 2009 – 5.15pm

The forum noted that three representatives should attend the next pre meeting.

To be signed by the Chair of the next ensuing meeting