

# ITEM 7

## **Report to Minority Communities Diversity Forum**

(pre-meeting 28<sup>th</sup> April for meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2009)

### **Update on the Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Strategy Equality Impact Assessment**

#### **Recommendations**

To note the contents of the report which gives an overview of the Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) of the BME housing strategy and proposals for next steps. This includes proposals for additional research on BME communities to inform the updated BME housing strategy.

#### **Supporting information**

##### **Reasons for the Equality Impact Assessment**

At the Minority Communities Diversity Forum meeting in September 2008, Members were advised that Housing and Advice Services were about to undertake an EIA on the BME Housing Strategy. This was to be done in order to examine the effects or impact of the Strategy on the six equalities groups of disability, ethnicity, race, age, sexuality and gender.

It should be noted that the EIA covers the overarching strategy document rather than considering specific housing services.

##### **Process**

The BME Housing Strategy EIA was undertaken with the assistance of a broad range of representatives from organisations representing people across the six equalities strands (a membership list is shown in appendix 1).

The Assessment Team and Principal Advisors considered the Equalities Impacts of the BME Housing Strategy at a workshop event in December. All of these comments were collated into the formal Derby City Council EIA template and distributed to the advisors for final comments prior to completion of the EIA.

##### **Outcomes of the BME Housing Strategy Equalities Impact Assessment**

Whilst the overall feedback from the EIA was positive, the following necessary actions were identified:

Work with the Private Sector Housing Team to develop monitoring mechanisms for private sector enforcement complaints for the 6 equality strands	April 2010
Review Community Safety Partnership research to consider possible implications for the strategy	April 2010

Increase the linkages with diversity groups to influence the development and monitoring of the strategy by holding an annual review of the BME Housing Strategy	Annual review starting April 2010 then April each year
Map services for non white British ex-offenders and identify supply and demand and current issues	April 2010
Undertake research on BME issues across the sub-region of Derby, South Derbyshire and Amber Valley.	December 2009
Update the actions in Derby's BME Housing Strategy to take into account current issues	April 2010

A key comment was that the strategy should consider the wider geographical areas around Derby and the implications of major new housing development in these areas. In recognition of these comments, the City Council successfully bid for a small amount of funding from the East Midland's Regional Assembly to further this action. Specifically, the research will ask:

- 1) Are there any perceived gaps in housing and housing related support services within the three Local Authority areas?
- 2) Are there any barriers for people from minority ethnic backgrounds to move between the Local Authority areas (and if so what are these and do they vary between ethnic group?)
- 3) What are the cross boundary area preferences for minority ethnic groups?
- 4) In developing new housing within Derby's Housing Market Area (Amber Valley, Derby City and South Derbyshire), what housing and housing related support services may be specifically relevant to BME communities?

We are looking for ways to ensure that the housing needs of all BME groups are considered as part of this research and would welcome comments and suggestions from members of MCDF.

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## **Appendix 1 – Membership of the EIA assessment team and principal advisors**

### **EIA assessment team**

Ian Fullagar, Housing Strategy and Performance Manager, Derby City Council  
Maggie Fennell, Housing strategy Development Officer, Derby City Council  
John Sheil, Housing Strategy Officer, Derby City Council

### **Principal advisors**

Ann Webster, Equality and Diversity Manager, Derby City Council  
Tony Walsh, Derby Irish Association  
Pat Fletcher, East Midlands Arthritis Self-Help group (EMASH) and  
Derbyshire Coalition for Inclusive Living (DCIL)  
Michael Goodison, The Roundabouts UK  
Trisha Gadsby, New Communities Advisor, Derby City Council  
Toni Montinaro, Derbyshire Friend  
Maureen Parker, Derbyshire Older People's representative  
Zbigniew Woscikmbe, Eastern European Migrants Advisory Service (E-MAC)  
Eileen Fry, Multi Faith Centre at the University of Derby City Council  
Phil Raffle, Derby Association of Community Partners (DACP)  
Harry Margett, Derby Association of Community Partners (DACP)