

## **CRE issues call for evidence**

**The Commission for Racial Equality is consulting individuals, public sector organisations, private sector organisations and voluntary and community groups that have been affected by or worked on a regeneration project where race equality or race relations was an issue.**

Regeneration is a multi-billion pound industry which has an impact on every member of the community. The positive effects that regeneration can bring to local communities are clear - improving run-down areas, attracting new businesses and shops, and creating jobs and wealth in communities weighed down by poverty.

However, when a regeneration project takes place without local residents and businesses being properly consulted or included in the decision-making process, the consequences can be negative for everyone.

The CRE is using its legal powers to investigate whether physical regeneration projects are helping to build strong communities and promote race equality in England, Scotland and Wales. The type of physical regeneration projects that they are looking at include rebuilding or refurbishing public sector housing, building a new shopping centre, or providing facilities such as a school or a community centre. This general formal investigation will be looking at physical regeneration projects where things have gone well, as well as those where problems have arisen.

The CRE will produce a report with recommendations. To find out more information about the investigation or to make sure your contribution is included in their investigation report, visit their website at

<http://www.cre.gov.uk/about/regeneration.html>. Please contact them **before the end of January 2007**.