

Minutes of the Tenants' and Residents' Diversity Action Group Meeting on Tuesday, 18 October 2005 in the Town Hall, Room 101

Present:

Jamie Baker, Canterbury Gardens
Hazel Barlow, Sackville Estate
Diane Skidmore, Tulse Hill

Guests:

Professor Richard Tomlins

Officers:

Cathy Kempadoo, Resident Participation Officer

Apologies:

Lynda-Ann Garwood-Warren
Gary McFarlane, Partnering Director, Morrison

Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed.

Professor Richard Tomlins (RT) asked that an email be sent to all the Area Managers to ensure that the map highlighting where the Area Forum was being held was enclosed in the agenda pack.

Diane Skidmore put her name forward as a mystery shopper.

Following a discussion with the group, RT thought it would be beneficial for the group to know the roles and responsibilities of officers, for example Housing Officers, Caretakers, etc. A guest speaker will be invited for the meeting in February to outline the roles and the expectations around equality and diversity issues.

RT advised that there have been seven training sessions on the Equality Impact Assessment and that he will be advising the Impact Assessment Panel that the Tenants' and Residents' Diversity Action Group would like to be involved in the ongoing process.

Norwood Area Pilot

Cathy Kempadoo gave out reports on the ethnic make-up of estates, environment/play and sports schemes and the ethnic make-up of Tenants and Residents Associations (TRA).

RT asked for clarification regarding the true and false column on the ethnic make-up of TRA's report. Cathy Kempadoo (CK) advised that it could relate to disability and that she would confirm this at that next meeting.

RT asked CK to condense the above information into one report and to clarify if the ethnic category White Irish was classified under the black and minority ethnic group on the equality report. RT also asked CK to invite Joanne Hall, the Resident Participation Officer for the Norwood Area, to the next meeting.

Diversity Competition

CK asked the group for ideas concerning the diversity competition being run at the Annual Resident's Conference on 19 November. Diane Skidmore came up with the idea of 'my ideal community' whereby residents could bring photographs, words or drawings to sum up their ideal community. The group **agreed** with the suggestion.

CK asked for a volunteer to design the leaflet, which would be sent with the confirmation letters to residents. Diane Skidmore volunteered.

Letter to TRA's

CK gave out copies of the letter that was sent to all TRA's from the group, which explained why it was important to complete the ethnicity sheet on the registration form. The group asked for an update to be given in February, to see if the letter had made a difference.

Tulse Hill Project Update

RT advised that they were focusing on Westbourne Park at present but that an update would be given at the next meeting.

Black and Minority Ethnic Action Plan

CK asked the group for their ideas on how to involve young people and residents with disabilities. The group came up with the following;

- Film nights
- TRA could sponsor a Youth Worker/Community Worker
- TRA could organise theme based meetings for example, repairs one month, youth issues the next month, etc.
- Each TRA could have a youth member that was accountable to the TRA
- In terms of disability, the Council could ensure all venues were accessible
- Mobile phone texting

AOB

The group felt it would be helpful if the lead officer for the Service Improvement Group attended their meeting in January.

Jamie Baker advised that his guidelines would be ready for the next meeting.

The group thanked Hazel Barlow for producing the article on Youth Activities, which will be in the next 'Here for You' magazine.

The date of the next meeting will on Thursday, 17 November 2005.