

**13<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2008 at 6pm**  
**Napiershall Street Centre**  
**39 Napiershall Street**  
**Glasgow, G20 6EZ**

**Attendance**

**Board of Directors**

Bailie Hanzala Malik; O P Khanna MBE; Brij Gandhi MBE; Vincent Chudy; Haji Munir; Mohammed A Zahid; Harriette Campbell; Sharon Schlesinger; Dr Malcolm Green

**Observers**

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Catriona Bryden | Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service       |
| Suzanne Greer   | West Dunbartonshire Council                    |
| Marin Petrov    | Glasgow City Council Work Placement from Spain |

**Staff In Attendance**

Mohammed Razaq; Michael Wilson (Minute Taker)

**Chair: Bailie Hanzala Malik**

**1. Apologies**

**Board of Directors**

Syed Jafri  
Linda McTavish

**Observers**

|                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Cllr Irfan Rabbani        | Glasgow City Council        |
| Cllr Jonathan McColl      | West Dunbartonshire Council |
| Cllr Marie McNair         | West Dunbartonshire Council |
| Supt. David Stewart       | Strathclyde Police          |
| Cllr Balwant Singh Chadha | North Lanarkshire Council   |
| Ian Fraser                | Inverclyde Council          |

**2. Welcome**

Chair welcomed all those in attendance to the 13<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors Meeting.

**3. Approval of Previous Minutes**

The minutes from the previous meeting of the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2008 were accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

**4. Matters Arising**

Mohammed Razaq (MR) reported that since the previous meeting WSREC had provided a seasonal lunch for staff, volunteers, Board members and Observers on the 29<sup>th</sup> of January 2008 at the Village Curry House at Bellahouston Park. This event was enjoyable and it is hoped this will become an annual occurrence.

Since the previous meeting where it was noted that WSREC would be meeting with the British Transport Police (BTP) to discuss possible partnership work a meeting was held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of January attended by Bushra Iqbal and Dr Malcolm Green of WSREC. This meeting identified the area of Stop and Search as an area the BTP would like to carry out engagement with minority ethnic communities and a WSREC plans to arrange a consultative meeting between minority ethnic community members and BTP to identify what work needs could be undertaken.

**5. Reports:**

Attendants were provided with staff reports from the following staff members (see below). MR advised attendants that due to an exceptionally heavy workload not all members of staff were able to provide a staff report for this meeting.

a) **Mohammed Razaq- Principal Officer**

1. Scottish Alliance of Racial Equality Councils (SAREC)

Since my last report one meeting of SAREC has taken place on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 08 at WSREC offices. It was agreed that SAREC would have a vice Chair and the MOU would be adjusted to take this into account.

SAREC was asked to apply for an extension for funding for the period April to end of June 08. This was duly undertaken by each REC and WSREC have been successful in being funded to extend the work of the Community to Community Project till June 08.

2. Connecting to Community (C2C) project

This project funded by the Scottish Government through SAREC is on course to meet its objectives; staff has been working very hard to make sure all tasks are completed on time. One of the successes of this project is that WSREC has been able to bring most of the Community Planning Partnership in the West of Scotland together by holding a Seminar which took place on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 08. This discussed how the CPPs could work together in the best interest of equality and cross border issue in particular for EM communities. It was decided by the CPP's present that a network is established and WSREC to provide report of the Seminar with a budget required to resource the network. The next meeting is to take place on the Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at 10.00am at WSREC offices

3. Web Launch Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 08

WSREC launched its website and approximately 50 individuals attended the event at the GO Offices at George Square Glasgow. This was a very successful launch with speech from the Deputy Lord Provost Allan Stewart and Elizabeth McQuade of Pastoral Care Trust the main funders of the work. The Website will put WSREC on the map in relation to having a very informative and useful information portal on equality issues in the West of Scotland. I would like to thank all staff for a team effort and in particular Michael Wilson for his work on updating the website and work on the launch day.

4. Funding/Projects

This is to report that the meeting with British Transport police was undertaken Dr Malcolm Green and Bushra Iqbal. The meeting was arranged to in relation to how WSREC was able to assist in their work. I am advised that the meeting went well and areas of partnership work were identified and that a further meeting will be arranged to progress this.

 Her Majesties Revenue & Customs


An application was made in December 07 for funding to the take up of their products to the 'hard to reach' communities. It has to be reported that we have been unsuccessful with this bid.

 Roma Young People Project

This bid was completed and forward to BBC Children in Need for consideration on the 27<sup>th</sup> November 07. A telephone assessment of the bid was undertaken on 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 08. We will hear of the outcome be end of March 2008.

 Crown Office and Procurators Fiscals Service (COPFS)

A Procurement application was prepared and forwarded to COPFS before the deadline of 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008. The next stage is for a presentation to be made to COPFS if WSREC is selected as one of the preferred bidders to take place the week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> March 08. Bushra Iqbal and I worked on this bid with assistance from Ingrid Clements (our former Chair) and Calum Guthrie of CVS who worked very hard to make it a very good bid. WSREC would like to thank both individuals for their tremendous support. The outcome of the bid will be known by the end of March 08 and work to start May 2008

 Migrant Workers Project (Esmee Fairbairn, Tudor Trust, Lloyds TSB Scotland and the Robertson Trust)

This project is quiet a lager project and we have identified 4 funding organisations to match fund the work.

Applications were completed and posted to Esmee Fairbairn Foundation and Tudor Trust on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> February 08 and it is hoped that applications will be completed and forward to Lloyds TSB Scotland; Robertson Trust by end of next week.

 British Transport Police

Further to meeting with Superintendent Mellis by Bushra Iqbal and Dr Malcolm Green in relation to working in partnership. To further the above work a meeting has been suggested to Superintendent Mellis be attended by WSREC/BTP representatives and representatives from various minority ethnic communities during the last week of March or first week of April 2008.

CEiS

As reported in the last meeting CEiS has started consultancy work on assisting WSREC with funding bids on identified gaps in service. The following provides information on progress made so far:-

- Advice was received on this application with the following applications Inland Revenue, Roma Young People Project and Crown Office and Procurators Fiscals Service (COPFS)
- Good Community Relations, Equality and Casework (EHRC, section 17 Funding)  
Assistance was provided on this bid for this. The bid was sent on time for deadline of 5<sup>th</sup> February 08 with announcement of results being end of March 08
- An updated draft Mentoring (Volunteers) Project (comic relief) project application was provided to the consultant. The consultant has revamped 2 whole sections to 'fit' with funder guidelines. This was completed and sent to Comic Relief. Match funding will be sought from the Big Lotteries it is envisaged that this application will be completed and forwarded to the funder by the end of March 2008.

**5. Meetings/ events attended since the last Board of Directors meeting in January 2008**

Events attended

- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 08 Board of Directors and Staff Lunch
- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 08 Chinese New year (GRCH)
- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 08 Input into WSREC/ UWS Course (Paisley)
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 08 EMEC new office launch (Glasgow)

Meetings attended

- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 08 Glasgow CPP Seminar for EM Voluntary sector Orgs
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 08 BLN meeting with Chair of ACPOS in Stirling
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 08 Calum Guthrie, CVS re: COPFS bid
- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 08 SAREC meeting at WSREC

**b) Financial Summary**

A copy of WSREC's income and expenditure report to 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2008 was passed out to attendants for discussion.

|                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Income</b>           | <b>£225,843.87</b>       |
| <b>LESS Expenditure</b> | <b><u>£169424.46</u></b> |
| <b>Balance</b>          | <b>£56419.41</b>         |

Dr Malcolm Green requested that for future meetings a more precise table with understandable headings was provided.

c) **Chair**

Bailie Hanzala Malik (HM) firstly commented on the launch of WSREC's re-developed website on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2008. HM praised the content of the website and the hard work of staff both in preparing the website and organising the event. However HM noted his disappointment at the low turn out from Board members at the event but stated that any comments anyone would like to make about the content and presentation of the website would be very welcome.

HM reported that the work to improve the capacity of SAREC is ongoing and gave a brief overview of the work and aims of SAREC as he felt it was particularly important for Board members to have an understanding of this body. Particular note was made to rotating Chair system of SAREC where each REC in Scotland will at some point in a four year have their Chair as the Chair of SAREC also. This rotation system allows fairness and ensures all REC's take a share in the running of SAREC.

HM finally thanked all staff again for their hard work in sourcing funding to secure the future sustainable work for WSREC.

d) **Staff Reports**

**Derek Prentice – Strathclyde Police Secondee**

As you are aware I work 20 hours per week at WSREC, the other 20 hours being spent working at The Diversity Unit, Force Headquarters.

In general, I have been concerned with casework. I have several cases ongoing at present, which include non-employment, such as re-housing, employment and direct discrimination.

I have been assisting other staff with funding bid submissions e.g. the recently formed Equality & Human Rights Commission and the development of a "training requirement" questionnaire.

I have also attended several Community Partnership related events and have assisted at those e.g. Govanhill.

As part of my role, I am Secretary of The Uniformed Services Partnership and maintain a good working relationship with that group.

**Farrah Rashid – Office Manager**

I am assisting staff with various pieces of work at present and dealing with daily office work. Office was busy with preparations for the Website Launch, which took place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2008. Forthcoming preparations will be for the PAREF launch, University of West of Scotland/WSREC/MOREIS Conference and sending out grant applications.

I also have to begin preparations for the end of year audit, the annual report and also the AGM.

e) **Partner Reports**

Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service: Catriona Bryden

- COPFS is continuing to broaden its diversity agenda across the four Strathclyde areas (Glasgow, Argyll & Clyde, Lanarkshire & Ayrshire)
- Senior PF staff recently received training on disability and gender equality and assistance was provided by WSREC secondment Bushra Iqbal in the provision of this training.
- COPFS have been working with the Police on information protocols regarding the wearing of Veil in Court. HM requested that if possible a draft protocol could be given to WSREC to look over and also offered the assistance of the Board at WSREC to assist in this area wherever they can.

West Dunbartonshire Council: Suzanne Greer

- WDC have been involved in the West of Scotland Community Planning Conference run by WSREC which was looking at a joined up approach towards equalities from CPPs in the West of Scotland.
- WDC are currently working on their single equalities outcomes
- WDC are rolling out their staff equalities training programme.
- Equality schemes are currently being reviewed and WDC is looking at ensuring ALL communities have an input in this process.

Strathclyde Police: Superintendent David Stewart

Supt Stewart had forwarded a report in his absence a copy of which was given all attendants.

HM asked if there were any questions on the report and MR suggested that it may be a good idea for the new BME Youth Engagement, Des Fick, to attend a forthcoming Board meeting to talk about the work he plans to do and identify possible ways where WSREC could assist.

**6. Correspondence**

The following correspondence was put to Board for discussion

|   | <b>Received From</b> | <b>Subject</b>   |
|---|----------------------|--|
| 1 | BEMIS                | Membership Renewal Notice  |
| 2 | BEMIS                | Training Program – Breaking New Ground for Training in Health Issues |

The Board considered item 1 which was a membership renewal to Black and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure Scotland (BEMIS). After consideration the Board was unanimous in its decision not to renew membership to BEMIS.

7. **SAREC Update**

Chair advised that information on SAREC could be found in the Principal Officer report provided.

8. **Funding**

Chair advised that information on funding could be found in the Principal Officer report provided.

9. **A.O.C.B**

Michael Wilson gave attendants a brief overview of the West of Scotland Community Planning Feasibility Conference which was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2008. This conference funded by West and East Dunbartonshire Community Planning Partnerships was looking at the feasibility of establishing a network from which CPPs and partners could share information and undertake collaborative work in the area of equality and engagement in community planning.

10. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> of May 2008 at 6.00pm**

All meetings will be held at the Napiershall Street Centre, Glasgow, G20 6EZ.