

**3rd Meeting of Board of Directors 2006
26th July 2006 at 6pm
Napiershall Street Centre**

1. Present

Bill MacKenzie
Vince Chudy
Harriette Campbell
Staff
Mohammed Razaq

Mohammed Zahid
Masud Khan
Atif Naim

Marisa Meechan

Linda McTavish
OS Jandu
Prince Obike

2. Apologies

O P Khanna
Shahin Naz

Hanzala Malik

Syed Jafri

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (Thursday 28th June 2006)

Minutes were approved as true and accurate once the deletion of the duplication of Brij Gandhi's name and the removal of Prince Obike's name from the Membership Panel.

4. Matters Arising

- With regards to CRE Casework, outcomes are currently in the process of being negotiated.
- All Board members were asked to produce a passport photo of themselves and hand it into the office for it to be used in publications.

5. Reports

Principal Officer – Mohammed Razaq

New communities

As members will be aware due to the expansion of the European Union we have recently had a quite a large Eastern European community in particular the Polish settling here in Scotland. Most of the new communities have settled in Glasgow.

We have heard through the community that are number of issues: -

1. Tensions between indigenous BME and the new communities
2. exploitation of the new communities in employment etc
3. Accommodation issues leading to health and safety issues.

Therefore WSREC will be looking at what it can do to foster good community relations along with empowering the communities to deal with the other emerging issues and hence the setting up by WSREC its 'new community links committee'. This committee will discuss the way forward in addressing the above issues. It is also envisaged that we will approach other

agencies in particular Glasgow City Council to assist with the work that will required to be carried out.

Development of a National Monitoring System for Racist Incidents

I was along with Directors of other REC's, PF, and Strathclyde Police were invited to a meeting on the 8th June at the Scottish Executive in Edinburgh to discuss the Development of a National Monitoring System for Racist Incidents Chaired by Yvonne Strachan, Head of the Equality Unit. This was through a commitment made after the SE review of the race equality work in Scotland which stated "the Executive will explore the development of a national monitoring system for racist incidents, the development of an appropriate framework to maximise effective intervention at the local and national level, and with others, tackle the under-reporting of racist crime". All present were in favour of the development of such a system; however they had certain reservations as to how it would operate locally and the difficulties that would require being overcome i.e. resourcing the additional work that would be created for organisations in particular the voluntary sector. It was agreed that another meeting may be required to help to take things forward.

Casework

From 1st April 06 to 30th June 06 WSREC staff,

Dealt with **21 Enquiries** in relation to advice and information on R/H and R/D
Worked on **18 cases** - of which 13 were of racial discrimination and 5 of racial harassment.
The breakdown of the cases in terms of individual's ethnicity is as follows:

Pakistani	8	44%
Mixed Heritage	4	22%
Indian	3	16%
Black African	1	6%
Gypsy Travelers	1	6%
Scottish White	1	6%

University of Paisley/Training

The next course starts in September 06 if any Executive committee member is interested in studying for this course costs for the course will be borne by WSREC.

6. Co-options to WSREC's Board

Co-options will take place at next meeting. MR will try and seek out any interest from the Polish community for this matter, in light of their growing presence in the community.

7. Correspondence

A list of correspondence was tabled for the Board. All interested parties received copies of the items they were interested in.

8. **Funding**

The Counselling Project has applied for £50K of funds between the Lloyds TSB, Awards for All & the Abbey Trust.

9. **AOCB**

PO – Suggested that sub-committees should meet in defined cycles, preferably before a full Board Meeting and each sub-committee should be given a slot on the agenda for their Chair to report their activities. MK & VC – did not agree with this. It was suggested that this should be raised as an agenda item at the next meeting.

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

Meetings for the whole year were agreed below all to take place in WSREC offices:

Thursday 14th September 06	at 6.00pm
Thursday 9 th November 06	at 6.00pm
Thursday 11 th January 2007	at 6.00pm
Thursday 8 th March 2007	at 6.00pm
Thursday 10 th May 2007	at 6.00pm

Signed:

Date: