

5th Meeting of Board of Directors 2006

9th of November 2006 at 5pm

Napiershall Street Centre

1. Present

Cllr Hanzala Malik JP	Chair
Syed Jafri	WSREC Board Member
Harriette Campbell	WSREC Board Member
Onkar Singh Jandu	WSREC Board Member
Bilal Ahmed	WSREC Board Member
O P Khanna	WSREC Board Member
Alex MacDonald	Observer: Strathclyde Police
Catriona Bryden	Observer: Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal
Robert McGerty	Observer: Renfrewshire Council
Mohammed Munir	Observer: Independent

In attendance

Mohammed Razaq	WSREC Staff
Michael Wilson	WSREC Staff
Bushra Iqbal	WSREC Staff
Janet Weir	WSREC Staff
Rosemarie McIlwhan	Presenter: Commission for Equalities and Human Rights

2. Apologies

Linda McTavish	WSREC Board Member
Vince Chudy	WSREC Board Member
Prince Obike	WSREC Board Member
Brij Gandhi	WSREC Board Member
Masud Khan	WSREC Board Member
Mohammed Zahid	WSREC Board Member
Najeeb Atif Naim	WSREC Board Member
Rob Hastings	WSREC Staff
Shahana Noor	WSREC Staff
Catherine Robertson	Observer: Strathclyde Fire & Rescue
Edelweisse Thornley	Observer: Glasgow City Council
Kofi Tordzro	Observer: East Renfrewshire Council
George McSorley	Affiliated Member: Unity Enterprise

Chair: Hanzala Malik

3. Chair informed those present that Mohammed Zahid was unable to attend the meeting due to illness and that with the Boards approval should send him a get well card and flowers. This was approved.
4. **Welcome:** A welcome was extended to all those present by the Chair.
3. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (Thursday 14th of September 2006).**
Minutes were approved as true and accurate. It was also agreed that where possible those who can receive minutes by email should not also receive a copy by hard mail to avoid postage overspend.

4. Matters Arising

Harriette Campbell informed the Board that she did not attend the Voodoo event as stated in the previous minutes but instead attended the GARA event which she found very informative.

5. Reports

Principal Officer – Mohammed Razaq

- **CRE Funded – Capacity Building Course by BTEG:** attended the BTEG courses on funding; this was a four day course taking participants through the funding cycle for an organisation. Will be putting into practice the learning points from the course and will endeavour to put together a funding committee (made up of staff, Board of Directors and volunteers) in view to putting a three year funding plan together for WSREC. There are still two days of staff training and two half days training for Board of Directors, staff and volunteers. The later will take place early in the New Year.
- **CRE Getting Results funding round 2007/08:** Completed application was posted on the 17th of October 2006 before the deadline of 20th of October 2006. WSREC has applied for three outcomes one for conflict resolution (casework) and two to work with new EU communities on integration.
- **Casework 1st April to end September 2006:**
CRE Casework
53 enquiries dealt with
25 Cases being assisted (8 employment related)
29 Face to face interviews

(Chair requested that in future the figures and the definitions behind the terms used above be clearly stated so to avoid confusion)

- **ILM Course – ‘Introductory Diploma in Management’:** Have successfully completed Level 3 of this course and began Level 5 on the 23rd of October 2006. This will finish at the end of March 2006.
- **WSREC has been represented at the following events/meetings since the last Board of Directors Meeting:**
 - Central Glasgow CAB AGM
 - Central Glasgow CAB Board of Directors Meeting
 - GARA Board of Directors Meeting: Glasgow
 - Active Life Club (Eid Party)
 - Scottish Business Awards
 - North Glasgow Asylum Seeker Project
 - SAREC – Aberdeen
 - CRE forum
 - Input at University of Paisley Course
 - WSREC Strategic Forum
- **Introduction to Professional Practice in Racial Equality with Paisley University:**
The next course starts in February 2007 if any Board member is interested in studying for the course the course costs will be borne by WSREC.

Chair – Hanzala Malik

- Chair did not have a report to give but commented on the recent Kriss Donald murder trial. He stated that at the time of the murder WSREC had offered assistance to the family of Kriss Donald but this had been declined and as a result of this WSREC has kept quiet to respect the family's wishes. He further wanted to highlight that his appearance on BBC Scotland Newsnight programme on Wednesday 8th of November where he was shown to represent WSREC was an error on the part of the BBC as he had wished to represent himself as a city councillor. He summed up saying that communities had wanted to see a positive end to this case and it was important not get caught up in culture of blame where people lash out but instead we need to remain positive for the future.

Partners

Alex McDonald, Strathclyde Police:

- Chief Constable Sir William Rae is currently in Pakistan and feels it is appropriate to convey thanks to the police and government in Pakistan who secured the return of those accused of murdering Kriss Donald. Echo's the Chair's comments on how we need to focus on the positive outcomes of the Kriss Donald murder trial. Noted that there has been an absence of retaliation within communities and in particular there little extremism in the Pollokshields area. However following an attack on an Imam in a Glasgow mosque it is clear that problems exist. Strathclyde Police have had meeting with representatives from Glasgow's Mosques. Proposals for further action include information sharing between mosques and a review of security at all places of worship.
- There is also a joint inspection being carried out at the moment into the services provided to children of Asylum Seekers and a report on this should be available in 2007.
- Strathclyde Police have been carrying out an outreach programme to communities to assess how people are reacting to the Police Race Equality scheme. Recently there was meeting held with Hindu youngsters which went well. The next meeting will be with Muslim women; with this an invitation was extended to those who may be able to encourage Muslim women to attend this meeting.
- An internal forum has been set up to look at issues surrounding Gypsy Travellers. Alex MacDonald stated that any groups that work with the Gypsy Travelling community are welcome to assist with this forum.
- Ranjana Bell will be coming back to the diversity team twice a month to assist with diversity issues as of 1st of November 2006.

Bushra Iqbal reiterated the fear some people have visiting mosques with little or no security and asked how this could be allayed. Suggestions were made towards CCTV and secure entrance systems. The Chair however stated that moves of this nature had been made towards Mosques in the past and many had been unwilling to carry out security maintenance.

Mohammed Razaq pointed out that due to the Glasgow Refugee and Asylum Seekers information Project (GRIP) WSREC had experience of dealing with young people from those communities and therefore be happy to assist police where necessary. It was also stated that as a result of the Kriss Donald murder WSREC had helped resolve some issues in the Pollokshields area concerning individuals. Also in terms of assisting with Gypsy Travellers WSREC has only worked with this community in terms of individual cases.

Catriona Bryden from COPFS:

- At the PF in Glasgow Anne Currie has taken over as Chair of MARIM for the Southside of Glasgow and it is hoped that the MARIMs will go from strength to strength.

6. WSREC Annual Dinner

It was agreed that funds would be provided for WSREC to hold its annual dinner.

7. Co-options

There were three co-options applications to the Board by Haji Munir, Lizzie Mukerjee and Sharon Schlesinger. The chair suggested that for now only Sharon Schlesinger be invited to join the Board to re-establish representation from the Jewish community this was approved by those present. Chair requested that letters of apology be sent to the two who were not selected but to state that places would be available in the future. Chair also stated that co-options and new board members should be selected for the experience and expertise not just their background.

8. Correspondence

RECEIVED FROM	CONTENT
Learn Direct Scotland	Learning Uncovered
Lloyds TCB Foundation for Scotland	Application For Financial Assistance
Scottish Asian Action Committee	SAAC (AGM) +Membership Form
Commission For Racial Equality	Investigation into Regeneration
ELREC	Annual General Meeting
Women In The Jewish Community	Memorial Lecture
Equal opportunities programme	Invitation

Correspondence was offered to all those present. Chair made it clear that if a member wished to go to the ELREC AGM then it would be at the members own expense. The Chair agreed to attend the Judith Tanel Memorial Lecture on the 29th of November 2006. Harriette Campbell also agreed to attend. It was agreed that those travel without their own transport would be reimbursed. The Chair requested that a non-Pakistani individual be sought to attend as the third person.

It was indicated that should any other items of mail be sought then the interested party was to contact Michael Wilson at WSREC for further details.

9. Funding

Principal Officer referred to section of his report where it was stated that funding from the CRE Getting Results 2007/08 had been applied for. From this WSREC has applied for three outcomes, one for conflict resolution (casework) and two to work with new EU communities on integration.

Funding has also been sought from the Pastoral Care Trust of the Archdiocese of Glasgow for £2000. If obtained, this funding will go towards the development of the WSREC website. Match funding from the Allen Lane Foundation for £3000 will also be sought for this venture.

10. Draft GCC evaluation report on WSREC

Principal Officer reported that a copy of the Draft Report had been sent out to all Board members. He further reported that while there were a lot positive aspects there was a lot

points for WSREC to take away and learn from. It was noted that this was only a draft copy and a full report would be published.

11. AOCB
NONE

12. Dates and Times of Next Meeting

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

Thursday 11th January 2007	at 6.00pm
Thursday 8 th March 2007	at 6.00pm
Thursday 10 th May 2007	at 6.00pm

Harriette Campbell tendered her apologies for the next meeting on Thursday 11th of January 2006.