

Northampton Diverse Communities Equalities Forum

on Thursday, 15 January 2015 at 6:30 pm until not later than 8:30 pm

in The Holding Room, The Guildhall, St. Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE

Agenda

1. **Welcomes, introductions and apologies**
2. **Minutes and matters arising**
3. **Cllr Bottwood - NBC Budget Consultation**
4. **Luisa Jepson - Hate Crime Coordinator (Northants Police)**
5. **NHFT - Ebola Awareness**
6. **Action plans**
7. **Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting**
8. **Date Of Next Meeting**

Thursday 12th March, 6:30-8:30pm, the Holding Room

Map and directions at: www.northampton.gov.uk/guildhall

For more information about this meeting please contact:
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More information about the Forum generally is at: www.northampton.gov.uk/forums



Facebook page: www.northampton.gov.uk/dcf

Please note that this Forum is supported and funded by Northampton Borough Council. The Forum may work in partnership and collaboration with other community groups, councils and local services from time to time. The views expressed and decisions taken by the Forum are not necessarily those of Northampton Borough Council.



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Code of Conduct for the Forums

This Code of Conduct sets out the standards that the Forums expect of its members. It aims to provide members with an effective ethical framework in which to do business. It is not intended to be exhaustive, or to cover every eventuality, but sets out some common sense requirements to enable the forums to function smoothly and successfully.

It is the responsibility of the Chair to encourage and enable input from forum members, to ensure all voices are heard.

1. Meeting Etiquette

As an attendee you must comply with the following requirements and any others that may be stated from time to time:

- 1.1** Contribute positively to discussions concerning the issues of the meeting
- 1.2** Be friendly, polite, courteous and respectful at all times to fellow members, and others present
- 1.3** Not insult, abuse or use offensive language or behaviour
- 1.4** Comply with Northampton Borough Councils Equal Opportunities Policy
- 1.5** Demonstrate actively that you are interested in and care about the issue that you are discussing and want to make a positive difference
- 1.6** Show respect for buildings, facilities and equipment being used
- 1.7** Speak only through the Chairman of the meeting and not interrupt, heckle, make distracting noises or gestures
- 1.8** Speak clearly into any microphone provided and comply with any instructions given about its use

2. Being Objective

- 2.1** Your own experience and views should inform, but not dominate or dictate how you participate.
- 2.2** If you have a specific issue with regards to a service matter to raise these can be discussed with a member of staff at the end of the each meeting or you can ask for the appropriate officer details. Meetings attended by other residents are not the place to raise any issues of this nature.
- 2.3** Be Fair
- 2.4** You must have and show respect for the people you deal with, and take their circumstances and personal differences into account. This is about putting equality into practice. The key is simply to respect differences fairly, so that you do not exclude anyone, or treat anyone inappropriately or unfairly because of their particular circumstances.

Breaching the Code of Conduct

If any person's behaviour breaches this Code of Conduct, they will be required to leave the meeting and vacate the premises where it is being held. They will not be permitted to attend future meetings unless they provide satisfactory evidence to Northampton Borough Council that they will comply with the Code – e.g. a letter of apology.

If you would like further information or if you would like to discuss the Code of Conduct please contact Vicki Rockall, Partnerships and Communities Manager at vrockall@northampton.gov.uk or on 01604 837074

Northampton Borough Council - Northampton Diverse Communities Forum

Thursday, 27 November 2014

Present: Cllr Chris Malpas (Councillor Co-Chair, NBC), Rutendo Nyatsine (Community Co-chair, Zimwomen), Anne Wankiir (Zimwomen Association & UAA), Bethel Tadesse (Zimwomen Association & UAA), Anjona Roy (NREC), Jenny Campbell (Inspiration FM & Parent), Pauline Woodhouse (BMESRP), Chriss Majwega (Rainbow Community & UAA), Abade Ahmed (Somalian Community), Godwin Kativu (ROHR Zimbabwe & UAA), John Rawlings (Northampton Quakers), Matthew Toresen (VIN/FAN), Rosie Newbigging (Healthwatch Northamptonshire), Vicki Rockall (NBC), Alice Morgan (NBC, took minutes)

1. WELCOMES, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Suzanna Storey, Rachel Packman (Northants Police), James Kitchener (NBA) and Neelam Aggarwal (BMESRP/IHWO/NIFF).

2. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record

Matters arising

Pauline Woodhouse apologies not included. **ACTION: AM to include.**

AR asked about the Community Wellbeing tender. VR commented that there is no update; a contract has not been awarded by NCC currently. **ACTION: Cllr Malpas asked for a statement to be give regarding an update and circulated with the minutes before the next meeting if possible.**

3. HEALTHWATCH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Healthwatch is a statutory organisation, established as a social enterprise to ensure the organisation can generate an income to fund activities. The objective of Healthwatch is to find out what people think about health and social care with a view to making improvements and recommendations to commissioners and providers about how services and care can be improved. Healthwatch can go into most health and social care premises and observe what is going on, talk to patients, carers and staff – they will usually announce they are going to visit but can do unannounced visits. Healthwatch have 9 members staff and around 200 volunteers.

Healthwatch run engagement campaigns, such as the current campaign Make Your Voice Count Too. They are working closely with the Northamptonshire Young Leaders, who represent each district and borough of the county on a project focused on CAMHS. The Young Leaders are hoping to get around 20,000 young people to complete the survey, which they have designed themselves. Healthwatch try to engage with as many groups and communities as possible, to raise awareness of the organisation, and how people can get involved. If anyone is aware of a group/organisation that would like Healthwatch to visit, please get in contact.

Healthwatch are always looking for volunteers, and would like to encourage more diversity in the volunteer base. Healthwatch are currently recruiting board members, and would like to encourage more BAME representation. The makeup of the board is as follows: three members will be elected by volunteer base, two members will be elected by Voluntary and Community Sector and two members will be elected by the local health and wellbeing fora. In order to be on the board, no particular health and wellbeing expertise is required, but the person must have an interest in health and social care. JC commented that the title itself of 'board member' may put people off. RN continued to explain what board members do, which includes improving strategy, setting out operational plans and overseeing their implementation. Full induction and training is provided for board members.

ACTION: RN to send details on becoming a board member to AM to circulate.
(See below*)

***Healthwatch are recruiting board members now; details on how to apply can be found here :** <http://www.healthwatchnorthamptonshire.co.uk/are-you-interested-becoming-healthwatch-northamptonshire-board-member>

AR suggested that Inspirational FM is a good way to get message out to BME communities.

JR and RN talked about a Health Equalities group, which works to ensure equality and diversity legislation is being implemented in health and social care. ***ACTION: RN to send more information about this to AM to circulate.***

Cllr Malpas raised with RN that there is only 1 person for the whole county registering people as Blind or visually impaired. This is provided by Olympus Care. ***ACTION: RN will take this back to look into this.***

4. HATE CRIME

AR commented that NREC have had a number of clients who have enduring issues with Hate Crime that have not been resolved. The route they would take for this would be to take the issues to the HIRG (Hate Incident Review Group) however these have not met since February, despite the reassurance that these were being re-established. The only other route forward is to submit complaints, but AR felt that a satisfactory resolution has not been found. AR commented that three NREC clients have claimed to have been told by the Police not to report. AR has been working with Luisa Jepson (Hate Crime Co-ordinator for Northamptonshire Police), and AR felt more support is required. Cllr Malpas questioned whether the situation is the same throughout Northamptonshire. AR continued to state that one particular client has faced issues with both the Police and Council, and therefore this is not solely a Police issue. AR felt that other bodies need to play their part also with hate crime and racist incidents.

VR commented that issues and individual cases need to be sent through to Mick Stamper, as he previously requested at the July forum meeting. AR advised that the

above issues have been sent to Mick Stamper. NS reaffirmed VR's point - incidents need to be raised to either NS or a senior police officer.

The forum **agreed** that a letter should be sent from the chairs of the forum with regards to the HIRGS, along with an offer of support in getting these sorted. **ACTION: VR to draft a letter.** (This has been drafted and sent to Mick Stamper). The forum also **agreed** that Hate Crime will be kept as an agenda item going forward until the issues have been resolved.

ACTION: AM to chase both Andy Cox and Mick Stamper regarding their actions from previous meetings.

5. ACTION PLANS

The forum discussed issues around BME organisations applying for funding. It was stressed that support is available in applying for funding for all organisations through VIN and NCF.

JC commented that her suggestions for action plan items had not been included on the action plan. **ACTION: AM to include JC's suggestions on the action plan for the next meeting.**

PROJECT DIVERSITY

A working group has been set up, which includes Suzanna, BME SRP and VIN. The group are looking into submitting a bid to Heritage Lottery, focusing the documentary on 'Why is Northampton your home?' celebrating the diversity we have in our town. The idea would be to share the documentary with schools to be used as an educational tool about how diverse Northampton is. BME SRP has suggested they act as the lead for the project as they are the overarching body for BME groups. Suzanna will also be involved with her background in Film making.

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Cllr Bottwood – NBC budget consultation

7. AOB

It was raised by a forum member that following input to consultation, the forum does not hear the findings. **ACTION: AM agreed that the findings of consultations the forum have had input into will be brought to the attention of the forum at future meetings.**

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 15th January, 6:30-8:30pm in the Holding Room

The meeting concluded at 8:30 pm

Forum Action Plan						
Chair:	Cllr Christopher Malpas and Rutendo Nyatsine		Responsible Forum:	Diverse Communities Forum		
Outcomes identified within the Corporate Plan:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empowered local communities with a greater capacity to become involved in community life Promote integration and cohesion Appropriate support provided to those in most need Services are fair, accessible and responsive to individual needs residents and customers feel informed and engaged in service quality and design Future developments informed by the views of local people Delivery of events to celebrate and enjoy the Town’s heritage and culture 					
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bringing together statutory and voluntary organisations, diverse community groups and residents Promoting and encouraging equality Promoting partnership working by statutory and voluntary sector organisations and diverse groups and communities Identifying gaps in provision for diverse communities 					
Actions:						
Action	Owner	Activity (intelligence led)	Timescale	Cost	Measure	Last Updated
cHIValry R U + UR NOT + HIV Testing awareness and sessions in Northampton	Solar-Northamptonshire Wendi Buchanan	To train 4 volunteers to be ‘Rapid HIV testers’, including Lee G from DeafConnect LGBT, Stella O – student at University of Northampton and two other regular volunteers. To purchase sufficient Rapid Testing kits and resources, pay for centre/ room use to set up a twice weekly testing sessions (1 evening and one on demand – facilitate local groups) for 6 months To pay for resources to improve and extend our display. ‘Pocket info cards’ with info about HIV and local testing and anti-stigma messages. Organise two events in Autumn to raise awareness of the increasing number of transmission in Northampton and how to get tested and maintain your status. Including with local media and statutory	August – end December	£5,900	Number of groups and individuals engaged. Online surveys completed, register of attendance. Visitor number at stands at events Report and feedback	July 14

		<p>partners.</p> <p>Leading in to National HIV Testing week at the end of November and then to our annual events with NBC and partners for World Aids Day 2014.</p> <p>Create a positive message and dynamic spectacle with 'Flashmob' event and online viral ad.</p>				
Play and film to celebrate diversity – active culture of celebrations – focus groups/documentary to be produced actively promote the forum by engaging and visiting existing community groups	NBC – Suzanna Storey/Pauline Woodhouse	Opportunity to increase the attendance at the forums, by engaging community groups, this will also provide research for the film/play	March 2015	£30,000 (bid to be submitted to the Arts Council)	Film produced, Play produced, No of community groups engaged, representation at the forum	June 14
Multi-Cultural Festival 9	Zimwomen – Rutendo Wyatsine	To deliver multi-cultural festival – involving all diverse communities, to be planned and developed through the forum, encompassing Viv Dixon's visual platform for black artists into the event	May 2015	£3,000	Event delivered – number of attendees	June 14

Other items for consideration (from JC – Inspiration FM)

- Stop Search App
- Stop Search – Better method of communicating with local communities in advance and afterwards so residents are informed of the purpose and success of the operation
- Public Service Announcements to publicise local events supported by the Diverse Communities Forum
- Housing – BME Needs/Strategy
- Schools – Underachievement / Hate Crime
- Zero working hours
- Northants Police – BME Recruitment Drive
- HIMOs
- Northampton Faith Communities Profile and Places of Worship – Audit and needs assessment
- Northampton Carnival – changes to venue agenda item in advance not afterwards