

## **Cross Party Group on Racial Equality meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

### **Minutes**

**Present:** Fulton MacGregor, Richard Lyle, Harriette Campbell, Nikhat Yusaf, Davidson Chademana, Mohammed Razaq, Madhi Sakhi, Kai-Kai Mary, Phakawan Gibson, Imran Khan, Khaleda Noon, Rabya Akhtar, Lana Abbas, Jatin Haria, Sandra Deslandes Clark, Keiran Gilmore, Fiaz Khan.

**Apologies:** Safia Ali, Oluwatoyin Opeloyeru, Yasmeen Hussain, Naseem Anwar, Faten Hameed, Mahmudd Al-Gailani, Martin Hayward, Eileen Prior.

**Minute taker:** Parveen Khan – Cemvo Scotland

Fulton opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and following a round of introductions he then asked for any formal apologies. Richard Lyle agreed to become a member of the group.

The previous minute was approved and seconded however an amendment to the minute was proposed by Harriette. No food or sandwiches was provided for the attendees. No food was provided for the attendees at the previous meeting.

**Item 4-** Fulton apologised for Jamie Hepburn not being at the meeting and informed members that he had only just received written responses to the questions posed to the Minister at the previous meeting in May. He asked the group if they wanted time to read the 15-page document and then discuss as there was time or if they would like to read at their leisure and email any feedback later? This was agreed and will be discussed at a future meeting.

**Item 5 –** Fulton thanked CRER and CEMVO for the secretariat support in the last few years and opened the role up to the group. WSREC showed willingness to become the new secretariat and will confirm before the next meeting.

**Item 6-** Fiaz was asked to speak about the upcoming CEMVO awards. He circulated a paper asking for nominations for awards by the **1<sup>st</sup> October**. The awards will be held at the **Crowne Plaza on the 1<sup>st</sup> November**.

**Item 7-** Safia had submitted apologies.

### **Item 8 – AOB**

**Refugee Survivor Trust (RST)** raised issues of increasing destitution and poor mental health due to evictions and slow Home Office decision-making processes leaving 300 refugees destitute and vulnerable with no recourse to public funds. Fulton welcomed a discussion on the topic and asked RST members to email key points that he can use to raise a letter and have the Minister responsible for refugee issues attend a future CPG meeting.

**Intercultural Youth Scotland** raised issues re BME young people's experiences of racism in schools. The main issues and areas of concern discussed amongst the members was that teaching staff in Scottish schools' lack:

- knowledge of racism and racist bullying
- good quality teacher training in anti-racist practice
- evidence of the implementation of anti-racist practice in Scottish schools

Intercultural Youth Scotland (IYS) are producing a report that they will share with the CPG members. They are also due to present in the next CPG meeting.

CRER have also produced resources on the topic of racism in schools. **Racist Incident Reporting in Scotland's Schools (December, 2012) and Racist Incident Reporting in Scotland's Schools Analysis and implications for practice (May, 2018)** which can be found on their website, however there was a feeling that teachers either don't use them or are unaware that the resources exist.

RST provide presentations and training free to schools.

**Black History Month was discussed.** IYS to send details re an event that they will be holding for circulation to members

**Digital devices consultation.** Member raised this issue with the Chair. Fulton to share information with the CPG about the justice subcommittees recent work on the issue of Cyber Kiosks for future discussion.

**DONM: 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019**