

NYSP Equalities Task Group

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2009

Present:

Neil Irving (Chair)	North Yorkshire County Council
Tony Clark	Richmondshire District Council
Helen Black	North Yorkshire Forum for Voluntary Organisations
Kay Ritchie	North Yorkshire County Council
Drew Fussey	Selby District Council
Jill Gathercole	North Yorkshire Police
Claire Ormerod	Broadacres Housing Association
Sue Seddon	Richmondshire District Council
Harriet Steventon	Craven District Council
Mike Simpson	Harrogate Borough Council
Kevin Brown	North Yorkshire County Council (for item 5)
Nick Hunter	North Yorkshire Police
David Young	Local Government Yorkshire and the Humber
Mark Hopley	Harrogate and District CVS
Keith Watts	Harrogate Borough Council
Emily Wilson	West Yorkshire Police (for item 10a)

Apologies:

David Walker	North Yorkshire County Council
James Walker	North Yorkshire Area Learning Partnership
Guru Naidoo	Broadacres Housing Association
Graham Purdy	NHS North Yorkshire and York
Jamil Bostan	NY Probation Service
Jez Rushworth	North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue

1 Minutes of the meeting held on 8 September

- 1.1 The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting. There were no matters arising not already included in the agenda.

2 Migration Impacts Fund update

2.1 Interpreter project

- 2.1.1 Emily Wilson provided an update on the interpreter project. Members were invited to comment on the languages selected for the project, in particular those for North Yorkshire. Those who did not pass final exam would still be encouraged to work with partners as volunteers in different roles. Interviews would take place in March 2010, with training in April-June and the exams would be held in July 2010. Up to 140 applicants would be put forward for the exam. Members were invited to forward contacts for promoting the opportunity to EW.

2.2 Harrogate project

2.2.1 The project was currently establishing the baselines to measure the performance of the project.

2.3 Conversational English classes – access courses to ESOL provision (NYCC)

2.3.1 Courses had been run this term and participation had been good.

2.4 Teaching Assistants in North Yorkshire Schools where children of migrant workers are enrolled (NYCC)

2.4.1 The remodelling of the service was underway and staff had been recruited.

3 NI1 and 3 update

3.1 Kevin Brown presented a breakdown of the NI1 Place Survey data across ethnicity, age, gender and disability, and across district boundaries. There were disparities between the views of cohesion on the basis of age and ethnicity. It was agreed that it would be useful to compare the data with similar authorities.

3.2 Sue Seddon shared the approach being taken to develop a delivery plan for NI3. There was considerable good practice across the county on community cohesion, but to date there had been limited reflection and targeting of the work based on the understanding of the data.

3.3 **SS agreed to undertake a further review of practice with LSP coordinators and work with the Performance, Research and Intelligence Team at North Yorkshire County Council to improve understanding of the data and effective interventions and share this with the Group at the next meeting.**

4 Strategic review of BME housing needs

4.1 KR reported that Professor Andrew Steele had been unable to attend the meeting to present the findings of the report and would be invited to attend the next meeting.

5 Proposals for a tension monitoring system for North Yorkshire

5.1 David Young and Mark Hopley presented an update of how a tension monitoring system for North Yorkshire might be shaped. It was agreed that most models of good practice available would not work in the North Yorkshire context. **It was agreed that tension monitoring mechanisms should be built into the community engagement**

mechanisms being established as part of the NYSP Community Engagement and Neighbourhood Management Framework.

6 Local Government North Yorkshire and York community cohesion summary implementation plan

- 6.1 KR presented the draft plan for discussion. It was agreed that the plan provided a useful starting point for discussion about how community cohesion issues might be identified and escalated. **It was agreed that the plan would be discussed with LSP coordinators as part of the discussion on NI1 and 3. The task and finish group would then reconvene to discuss comments.**

7 Strategic review of inward migration action plan update

- 7.1 KR presented an update on the implementation of the action plan. The Group noted the progress. **It was agreed that the leads for each section of the plan would review their actions and ensure that they were specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time bound.**

8 Sub-regional Gypsy and Traveller Forum/strategy update

- 8.1 KR provided an update on the development of the sub-regional Gypsy and Traveller Forum. Work undertaken by the Strategic Housing Board was noted. It was agreed that this was an important area of work and one where partnership working was vital, given the breadth of issues to address.
- 8.2 **It was agreed that each organisation would nominate a strategic contact for a NYSP-level meeting to discuss key barriers to meeting the needs of the Gypsy and Traveller Community. A meeting would be convened by the Policy and Partnerships Unit and would report back to the Group.**

9 Welcome pack update

- 9.1 Kay Ritchie presented an update on the use of the welcome pack, web statistics and distribution of promotional materials. More promotional materials were now available for distribution from the Policy and Partnerships Unit. It was noted that a number of partners, particularly health partners, had not yet indicated which resources they would need or quantities required.
- 9.2 The Nepalese version of the welcome pack had been commissioned and was expected to be available in February 2010.

10 Hate crime

- 10.1 KR presented a discussion paper on hate crime. **The Group agreed to receive a more detailed paper at its March meeting.**

11 Any other business

- 11.1 The Group noted that Race and Justice in North Yorkshire had issued invitations to a launch event for a recent piece of research relating to service provision for the BME community in North Yorkshire. Only a few organisations had received this to date.

- 11.2 The Group noted that the NYFVO would be holding an equality conference on 23 March 2010. Members were encouraged to attend.

12 Date of the next meeting: 16 March 2010 at 10.30 am, County Hall, Northallerton