

**Notes of 2011/12 AGM of**  
**Scottish Parliament Cross Party Group on Racial Equality**  
**held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2012**

**Present:**

Bob Doris	MSP (Convener)
Jamie McGrigor	MSP (Vice Convener)
Patrick Harvie	MSP
Carol Young	CRER (Secretariat)
Sagarika Gnanaolivu	CRER
Naren Sood	EMCC
Surjit Singh Chowdhary	EMCC
Arun Gopinath	ELREC
Mohammed Afzal Chaudhery	BLIP
Nahid Aslam	Individual
Shaben Begum	SIAA
Davidson Chademana	UCU / Black Workers Committee
Khalida Hussain	Voluntary Action Scotland
Mahmud Al-Gailani	VOX / Mental Health Foundation
Mohammed Razaq	WSREC
Harriette Campbell	WSREC / ACWA
Eleanor McKnight	CEMVO Scotland
Rohini Sharma Joshi	Trust Housing Association
Vicki Burns	Show Racism the Red Card Scotland
Carly Wasserman	Office of Bob Doris MSP

**Apologies:**

Drew Smith	MSP
Hanzala Malik	MSP (Vice Convenor)
Jatin Haria	CRER (Secretary)
Meg De Amasi	Stirling Multicultural Partnership / CeSAU
Chris Oswald	EHRC
Naseem Anwar	Strathclyde University
Audrey Coltart	Individual
Pat Elsmie	Migrants' Rights Scotland

## **Welcome**

Convenor Bob Doris MSP welcomed attendees to the 2011/12 Annual General Meeting, sixth meeting of the Parliamentary session.

## **Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising**

The minutes of the previous meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> October 2012) were noted. Bob Doris MSP advised that any points of accuracy or enquiries relating to the minutes could be submitted to Carol Young by email. In relation to matters arising, Carol Young advised that there were no issues to report.

## **Annual Report 2011/12**

Carol Young presented a brief overview of some of the highlights of the CPG's activities over the year 2011/12. A written report was provided for further reference. Bob Doris MSP noted that work on Modern Apprenticeships and the June meeting which featured discussion on the destitution of Asylum Seekers in Glasgow had been particularly successful.

## **Election of Office Bearers**

Bob Doris MSP conducted the election of CPG office bearers for the year 2012/13. Bob Doris MSP (Convenor), Jamie McGrigor MSP (Vice-Convenor), Hanzala Malik MSP (Vice-Convenor) and Jatin Haria (Secretary) stood unopposed and were re-elected for the coming year (subject to final confirmation of acceptance from those who were standing but not present).

Bob Doris MSP noted that Humza Yousaf MSP has resigned as Vice-Convenor of the CPG following his recent Ministerial appointment. Members agreed that a letter of thanks and congratulations should be written.

## **Guest Speaker: Paul Zealey, Glasgow 2014**

### **Race Equality and the 2014 Commonwealth Games**

Paul Zealey provided a presentation setting the context for his organisation's work on community engagement and legacy issues. This note provides a brief overview, including points raised by CPG members.

Paul explained that Glasgow 2014 is taking a pro-active approach to ensuring equality across the work it does, with consideration of equality impact at all stages. There is strong leadership on equality, accessibility and inclusivity at Glasgow 2014. An equality, accessibility and inclusion strategy is being used to report on diversity in recruitment, volunteering and procurement at a senior level on a quarterly basis.

Paul highlighted the desire for the Games to leave a long term legacy with regard to health and wellbeing, sustainable communities, regeneration of Glasgow's East End and building a positive civic environment.

Some of the key areas discussed included:

**Volunteering:** Volunteers can apply in the early part of 2013 only. Support will be available for applicants, with recognition of barriers and intersectional issues. Volunteers will receive role specific training, working with organisations with training expertise and covering inclusive customer service practice.

**Recruitment:** 1,200 staff will be employed by Glasgow 2014. Some experienced international staff have been recruited which impacts how good the workforce profile looks in terms of ethnicity, but work is ongoing to improve the profile of the Glasgow workforce. There is also a focus on apprenticeships, including engaging with agencies working with BME people.

**Citizenship and race equality:** The Games provide an unparalleled opportunity for improving cultural, educational, trade and tourism links internationally. A unique cultural programme will draw on experiences from throughout the Commonwealth, with local communities and schools as key partners. Concerns about culturally insensitive service provision from transport providers and other local businesses are recognised; methods of influencing practice are being explored. The Commonwealth Baton Relay across the world will be used to link diasporas in Scotland and improve engagement locally.

**Sports engagement, health and wellbeing:** Gaps in sports provision for BME communities are being addressed by working with Local Authorities and Voluntary Sector organisations to build knowledge.

**Procurement:** Procurement at the Games is being actively used to create community benefit locally; three quarters of the procurement contracts awarded so far have gone to companies based in Scotland. Companies

(including BME led businesses) can access support to compete for contracts. Procurement clauses will be used to encourage positive outcomes in areas such as apprenticeship provision. The procurement portal is dealing with contracts on an ongoing basis, with more coming on-line soon.

**Access and inclusion:** Access and affordability are vital concerns; the Games must be accessible and family friendly for all of Glasgow's communities. Social exclusion is being considered as part of the equality and accessibility agenda. Efforts will be made to ensure diversity is reflected in the Baton Relay's Scottish leg. Methods of making the Games accessible to people who cannot afford tickets, especially young people, are being explored through a new sponsorship programme called Gift of the Games. The possibility of Glasgow 2014 publishing a cross-strand update on equality issues was raised.

**Education:** Children and young people are seen as the key to engagement, including with the wider communities. Education Scotland, Glasgow 2014 and other partners will work together to bring educational, citizenship and wellbeing initiatives into schools across Scotland and the Commonwealth.

The importance of community engagement in ensuring equality of outcome for Glasgow's diverse communities was stressed throughout. It is recognised that large networks will be needed and that approaches need to be tailored to fit organisations with less capacity for engagement. Interested parties can contact Paul for more information on getting involved, or to suggest ways of engaging.

Bob Doris MSP proposed that CPG members could assist in promoting engagement to our networks through a large scale event. All were in agreement. The Secretariat will explore this with Glasgow 2014.

Paul Zealey was thanked for his thought provoking and comprehensive input.

### **Legislative Process Monitoring and Forthcoming Consultations**

No submissions for this item had been received in advance. However, CPG members Shaben Begum, Rohini Sharma Joshi and Eleanor McKnight were able to offer input on areas their organisations are working on. In particular, consultations on Self-Directed Support, Integration of Health and Social Care, the Independent Living Fund, Procurement and Community Empowerment and Renewal were raised. Shaben Begum offered to share SIAA's work with any interested parties. With regard to Community Empowerment and Renewal, it was agreed to explore this in more detail once a Draft Bill is published.

Naren Sood raised the possibility of a Scotland wide race equality audit. Although Cross Party Group rules prohibit the Group from instigating this at Parliamentary level, it was felt that member organisations may wish to come together to discuss. Carol Young will contact non-Parliamentary members about this at a later date.

### **Any other Business**

Harriette Campbell requested that a DVD on Sickle Cell Thalassaemia be brought to members' attention; arrangements will be made for this at a later date.

Mahmud Al-Gailani offered copies of the VoX DVD screened at a previous meeting to interested members.

### **Actions**

- Letter to be written to Humza Yousaf MSP
- Secretariat to explore options for holding a large scale event with Glasgow 2014 and feed back to members
- Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill to be added to a future agenda
- Arrangements to be made for members to access DVD on Sickle Cell Thalassaemia

### **Dates of Future Meetings:**

The next meeting will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2013. Members will be notified of further meeting dates for 2013 in due course.