Scottish Parliament Cross Party Group on Racial Equality in Scotland

Minutes of meeting held on 6th November 2019

Attendance:

Fulton MacGregor MSP  Member of the Scottish Parliament (Convener)
Christina McKelvie MSP  Minister for Older People and Equalities (Speaker)
Richard Lyle  MSP
Cllr Dickie
Parveen Khan  Cemvo Scotland (Secretariat)
Harry Dozier  Scottish Government
Hilary Third  Scottish Government
Harriette Campbell  African Caribbean Women’s Association/WSREC
Fiaz Khan  CEMVO Scotland
Martin Hayward  Equality and Human Rights Commission
Naseem Anwar  Network Rail
Chris Campbell  Pheonix Group – MOSAIC
Imran Khan  Pheonix Group– MOSAIC
Mohammed Razaq  West of Scotland Regional Equality Council
Anita Shelton  Individual
Lord Apetsi McMensa  Individual
Jatin Haria  Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights
Khaleda Noon  Intercultural Youth Scotland
Lana Abbas  Intercultural Youth Scotland
Rabyya Akhtar  Phoenix Group- Mosaic
Mrs Rebecca Lubega-Bukulu  Buganda-Scotland
Eyram Ahadzie  The One Big Family
Franklin Jacob Babu  UWS/NUS Scotland
Apologies

Rohini Sharma Joshi  Trust Housing Association
Davidson Chademana  Individual
Shasta Ali  Score Scotland
Trishna Singh OBE  Sikh Sanjog
Keiran Gilmore  Central Scotland REC
Milind Kolhatkar  Score Scotland
Martin Hayward  EHRC
Danielle Bett  Jewish Leadership Council
Nikhat Yusaf  City of Edinburgh Council

Welcome & Introductions

Convener Fulton MacGregor called the meeting to order at 18.25 and welcomed speakers and members.
As there was a larger than normal turnout the Convener dismissed with Introductions.

Race Equality Action Plan Update – Christina McKelvie MSP

The Minister for Older People and Equalities thanked the Convener and stated that equality and diversity is in the heart of everything the Scottish Parliament do.

The SG are halfway through delivery of Race Equality Action Plan (REAP) and a review is being carried out.
A new race advisor has been appointed and Kaliani Lyle will continue to advise for the life of the plan.

The Minister updated the group on Commitment of REAP- prioritisation of actions. Fair Work Directive has been set up to address the ME employment gap and a civil servant has been appointed and will start on the 18th November. Once in post the appointee will contact the CPG and listen to members contributions.
Members raised the following topics;

- Engagement of Asylum Seekers and Refugees
- BME under representation in work force
- Lack of black representation in black history month

The Convener then closed that part of the meeting and introduced the next presentation.

**Intercultural Youth Scotland**

Khaleda Noon launched a report ‘In Sight’ that looks at BAME young people’s experience in Scottish schools.

**AGM**

Fulton stepped down as Convener and Anas Sarwar as Vice Chair. Richard Lyle MSP nominated Fulton McGregor as Convener and Anas Sarwar as Vice Chair and this was accepted.

**Adoption of New Secretariat**

Fulton McGregor thanked CEMVO Scotland for all their hard work and commitment as outgoing secretariat. Colin Lee Director of CEMVO thanked the Convener and nominated West of Scotland Race Equality Council (WSREC) as the new secretariat. This was seconded by Harriet Campbell. WSREC accepted and a new meeting date will be set in February 2020. There will be a handover meeting set up between The Convener CEMVO and WSREC in the next few weeks.

**AOB**

The meeting was concluded due to lack of time and the Convener has asked for any items to be sent to him directly.

**DONM**

This will be set for the new year by the new secretariat.