

Northampton Diverse Communities Forum

on Thursday, 27 November 2014 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. **Healthwatch Northamptonshire**
4. **Hate Crime**
5. **Action Plans**
6. **Diverse Communities Forum Action Plan**
(A) Project Diversity
7. **Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting**
NBC Budget Consultation – Cllr Bottwood
8. **Date Of Next Meeting**
Thursday 15th January – 6:30-8:30pm

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

For more information about this meeting please contact:
Alice Morgan, Community Development Officer



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Tel: 01604 837795



More information about the Forum generally is at: www.northampton.gov.uk/dcf



Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthamptonDiverseCommunitiesForum>

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 Equalities Forum

Thursday, 18 September 2014

Present: Cllr Malpas (Councillor Co-Chair, NBC), Rutendo Nyatsine (Community Co-chair, Zimwomen Association)*, Martin Kelly (Inspiration FM), Inebster Makavi (United African Association), Matthew Toresen (VIN/FAN), Robert Henry (Nubiwise), Rachel Packman (Northants Police), Neelam Aggarwal Singh (IHWO/BMESRP/NIFF), Anne Wankiiri (Zimwomen Association), Elene Masendu (UAA), John Rawlings (Quakers), Godwin Kativu (ROHR Zimbabwe/UAA), Alaa Abouzanad (ANSS/Arabic Community), Ivor Agbemenyale (Northampton Ghanaian Union), Lee Johnson (Changing Minds NHFT), Simon Favell (NBC), Vicki Rockall (NBC), Alice Morgan (NBC)**

*Chaired the meeting

**Took minutes

1. WELCOMES, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Jenny Campbell and Viv Dixen.

2. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record.

Following the meeting, Mick Stamper asked for the below amendments to be made to the minutes of the last meeting:

Item 5 paragraph 1 – *‘The force is happy to look into this decision in another 6 months’ time and will continue to review the service as they do for all other areas’*. Northamptonshire Police will review the new arrangements in place for Hate Crime in six months, not the overall decision to remove the hate crime unit.

Item 5 paragraph 11& 14 - Rather than *‘Community Impact Assessment’*, this should read *‘Equality Impact Assessment’*.

Matters arising

It was discussed that it is important that personal experiences with Hate Crime are fed back to the Police, in order for them to pick up on issues as they go through the next six months.

3. SIMON FAVELL (NBC) - COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Northampton Borough Council is bringing together a partnership between 38 organisations with the task of putting together a wellbeing partnership bid. SF is looking to expand this partnership. All issues within each community are largely the same, employment, education, mental health etc. Difference is that some

communities know how to access services, and services are easy to access. Other communities may find it difficult to access services. NBC would like to partner with local organisations in order to deliver services and to ensure all are able to access these services. NBC would act as a broker and coordinator in order to bring organisations together. SF would like to engage with wider organisations – please get in touch with SF if interested. NBC are also working with VIN, to engage with community groups that are experts in their fields.

It was noted that NHFT have also put in a bid. Both organisations will work together whatever the result of the bid. The commissioning outcome will be decided by 22nd October, and we expect the new service to start by 1st April next year.

4. LEE JOHNSON (NHFT) - LEARN 2 B

Northamptonshire Heath Foundation Trust as an organisation is responsible for mental health and wellbeing services. The Learn 2 B service is now run by the NCC adult education department. Learn 2 B offers free groups and classes, including wellbeing, yoga, fishing, crafts etc.

Changing Minds (NHFT) is set up to help people, aged 16 and over, with mild to moderate mental health difficulties. It is recognised that there is a stigma around mental health difficulties in some communities, and as a result that Changing Minds staff work in a culturally sensitive way. Changing Minds has a firm view of how mental wellbeing is maintained, and offers a number of services and therapies to improve mental wellbeing.

In order to access the Changing Minds service, individuals need to ask to be referred to the wellbeing worker in their doctor's surgery. At this point, the individual will be asked to complete a form, which will score the level of need the person has. These forms are in a number of languages, and all staff at Changing Minds are trained in working with interpreters, and provide free interpreters if needed.

If after having a session with a wellbeing worker the person feels better, they can be signposted to other services, support services and also to VCS support organisations. If the person does not get better, they can be stepped up to a longer term therapist service.

Changing Minds does not offer a specific service for family members in coping with someone with a mental health difficulty. However, if appropriate, family carers can come along to appointment. Furthermore, it may be that the family carer may score high enough themselves for support services.

The services offered by Changing Minds vary depending on the needs of the individual – some people are seen on a 1 to 1 basis, others are referred to group work sessions. Changing Minds are also looking into the possibility of offering some telephone groups, and online internet groups, in the future – this is not currently offered.

The forum discussed the service further, raising difficulties with getting to see a GP, having to go through receptionists before given an appointment, gaps for young

people with mental wellbeing difficulties etc. JR advised that Healthwatch are doing a survey on GPs and these issues should be fed into this. VR advised that NBC now fund the Lowdown who offer counselling services to young people, however there is still a big gap in the system for young people with mental health difficulties.

LJ offered to come to talk to other community groups if this would be beneficial. They have spoken to NBA and Dostiyo, willing to come to others. VR recommended visiting residents groups, talking to Councillors etc. for their surgeries. LJ said that the service has an average of 11-12,000 referrals a year, and is therefore not short of referrals, but they are trying to get to the people who haven't heard of the service before.

5. ACTION PLANS

Project Diversity

As Suzanna Storey was not present, it was agreed to defer discussion on this project to the next meeting.

As an overview, the vision of project diversity is to celebrate and recognise diversity and differences within the community, in the form of a documentary. Suzanna had ideas around turning this into a stage production and film.

Action: VR and AM to pull together a working group.

Diwali

Saturday 18th October will see the 14th annual celebration of Diwali in Northampton. Following a successful arts council bid there are new builds to add to the parade. If anyone would like to bring a display, or if any groups/performers who would like to come and do a performance, please let Neelam know.

World War 1 project

Event is scheduled for 23rd October, in the evening. In terms of funding, the bid to NCF was unfortunately unsuccessful, but RH still determined to deliver the event. RH looking for venues currently, but the evening will involve a key note speaker, poetry and music. RH will send leaflet to AM to circulate once ready.

Action: AM to support in looking for money.

Multi-cultural festival

This event is taking place next April or May – the date is still being finalised. Zimwomen would appreciate participation from as many communities as possible. Zimwomen are hoping to hold the event in the market square in the day and Guildhall in the evening. VR advised Zimwomen to avoid Purdah, which runs 5 weeks before the general election on May 8th.

6. COMMUNITY INFORMATION EXCHANGE

GW – UAA will be holding an event to celebrate Africa Day on Monday 24th May.

NA – Navarati – 9 days festival. **Action:** AM to circulate flyer. NIFF interfaith week –

will be providing lunch at hope centre Tues 18th November, and on Weds 19th or Thurs 20th there will be an evening event – details to follow.

IA – representative from Northampton Ghanaian Union. NGU is trying to contact anyone at the Black History association to discuss Black History month plans. IA advised to speak to RH.

AA – Eid-Al-Adha will be on 5th Oct or 4th Oct, will know 9 days before. The plans for this are for prayers to be held at the Racecourse, but there will not be the big celebration after. There will be different communities involved. There is also an ANSS student achievement award ceremony - will send dates to AM.

AM – International Coming Out Day event Saturday 11th October, Royal and Derngate. Also, Guildhall tours are being held 13th-17th October for Local Democracy Week – if anyone is interested please contact AM to book on.

RH – Nubiwise – can deliver education programmes in schools

Cllr Malpas – Guide dogs – 9th Oct world vision day – street collection around the town centre.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT MEETING

AW would like the forum to share information, resources, venues etc. for member organisations to access.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 27th November 6:30-8:30pm, The Holding Room

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

Thursday 12th March 6:30-8:30pm, 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
Develop a platform for all community information to be promoted and published, ensuring its reaching all our communities	NVC – Matthew Toresen/Northampton Borough Council/Alice Morgan	NBC and NVC to work with the forum to look at existing communication methods, ensure these are fit for purpose and widely promoted.	September 2014		Number of communication methods, numbers of groups receiving information	June 14
Diwali	IHWONeelam Aggarwal-Singh	On the day workshops, marketing, insurance, volunteers expenses etc	18 th October 2014	£15,000	Deliver a successful Diwali event with workshops to attract maximum participation.	June 14

<p>We were there World War 1 centenary Celebration</p> <p>7</p>	<p>NubiWise</p>	<p>The planning and delivery of a big event and several smaller ones on a road show in Northampton to celebrate contribution from commonwealth people to the war efforts.</p>	<p>Early July. Road show afterwards</p>	<p>£6,000</p>	<p>Improved social cohesion through shared history</p> <p>Increased awareness of contributions commonwealth people made in WW1</p> <p>Creation of links so young people can learn from elders through oral history</p>	<p>June 14</p>
<p>cHIValry</p> <p>R U + UR NOT +</p> <p>HIV Testing awareness and sessions in Northampton</p>	<p>Solar-Northampton hire</p> <p>Wendi Buchanan</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>To pay for resources to improve and extend our display. 'Pocket info cards' with info about HIV and local testing and anti-stigma messages.</p> <p>Organise two events in Autumn to raise awareness of the increasing number of transmission in Northampton and how to get</p>	<p>August – end December</p>	<p>£5,900</p>	<p>Number of groups and individuals engaged. Online surveys completed, register of attendance.</p> <p>Visitor number at stands at events</p> <p>Report and feedback</p>	<p>July 14</p>

		<p>tested and maintain your status. Including with local media and statutory 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>				
<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</p>	<p>NBC – Suzanna Storey/Pauline Woodhouse</p>	<p>Opportunity to increase the attendance at the forums, by engaging community groups, this will also provide research for the film/play</p>	<p>March 2015</p>	<p>£30,000 (bid to be submitted to the Arts Council)</p>	<p>Film produced, Play produced, No of community groups engaged, representation at the forum</p>	<p>June 14</p>
<p>Multi-Cultural Festival</p>	<p>Zimwomen – Rutendo Wyatsine</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>May 2015</p>	<p>£3,000</p>	<p>Event delivered – number of attendees</p>	<p>June 14</p>