



# Equality Forum

Agenda and Reports

For consideration on

## Thursday, 23rd April 2009

In the Lancastrian, Town Hall, Chorley

At 6.30 pm



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Dear Councillor/Colleague,

14 April 2009

## **EQUALITY FORUM - THURSDAY, 23RD APRIL 2009**

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Equality Forum to be held in the Lancastrian, Town Hall, Chorley on Thursday, 23rd April 2009 commencing at 6.30 pm.

### **AGENDA**

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair will welcome everyone to the meeting.

2. **Apologies for absence**

3. **Minutes (Pages 1 - 10)**

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Equality Forum held on 21 January 2009 (enclosed). The schedule is enclosed outlining queries raised at the last meeting and since the last meeting. Please note that several queries requiring a more detailed response will be updated at the meeting.

4. **Neighbourhood Watch 6.40pm**

David Melhuish, the Chair of Chorley and District Neighbourhood Watch Association (CADNWA), will present this item.

What is the purpose of the item?

To outline the work undertaken by CADNWA.

Questions for the Forum

Are there areas where Forum Members would like to set up a Neighbourhood Watch.

What are we going to do with the information?

To take on board any information provided going forward.

David can be contacted on [David.Melhuish@lancashire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:David.Melhuish@lancashire.pnn.police.uk)

5. **Health Inequalities Strategy 7.00pm**

Claire Thompson, Performance, Partnership and Equality Manager at Chorley Council will present this item.

What is the purpose?

The Chorley Partnership's Health and wellbeing Group are producing a strategy and action plan to tackle Chorley's health inequalities. The first draft of the strategy, outlining our key priorities, will be presented to the Equality Forum for their comments.

Questions for the Forum

Do the priorities feel right for Chorley?

How can partners in Chorley work better together to tackle the health issues that affect the most disadvantaged people in our communities?

What are we going to do with the information?

Once we have finalised the priorities in the strategy, we will pull together an action plan to tackle health inequalities in Chorley.

Claire can be contacted on [claire.thompson@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:claire.thompson@chorley.gov.uk) or call 01257 515348.

6. **Neighbourhood Working Update 7.20pm**

Liz Morey, Neighbourhoods Co-ordinator at Chorley Council, will update the Forum on Neighbourhood Working.

Liz can be contacted on [liz.morey@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:liz.morey@chorley.gov.uk) or call 01257 515812.

7. **Networking break 7.25pm**

8. **Open Forum to discuss any issues for each equality strand 7.45pm**

- a) Age
- b) Disability
- c) Ethnicity
- d) Faith
- e) Gender
- f) Rurality
- g) Sexuality

9. **Notices / Feedback / Publicity 8.15pm**

Members of the Forum are welcome to inform other members of upcoming event, give feedback or notices.

If you would like to invite the Chair to attend a meeting of an equality group you are involved in please contact her on [hasina.khan@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:hasina.khan@chorley.gov.uk) or call 01257 460515.

10. **Dates of future meetings**

- Thursday, 9th July 2009
- Wednesday, 7th October 2009
- Tuesday, 19th January 2010
- Monday, 26th April 2010

The meetings are being held on a different day of the week to enable those who have fixed commitments on a particular evening to attend the majority of Forum meetings.

11. **Any other item(s) that the Chair decides is/are urgent**

Yours sincerely

*Donna Hall*

Donna Hall  
Chief Executive

Cathryn Barrett  
Democratic and Member Services Officer  
E-mail: [cathryn.barrett@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:cathryn.barrett@chorley.gov.uk)  
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**Distribution**

Agenda and reports to all Members of the Equality Forum for attendance.

**This information can be made available to you in larger print or on audio tape, or translated into your own language. Please telephone 01257 515118 to access this service.**

આ માહિતીનો અનુવાદ આપની પોતાની ભાષામાં કરી શકાય છે. આ સેવા સરળતાથી મેળવવા માટે કૃપા કરી, આ નંબર પર ફોન કરો: 01257 515822 01257 515823

ان معلومات کا ترجمہ آپ کی اپنی زبان میں بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ یہ خدمت استعمال کرنے کیلئے براہ مہربانی اس نمبر پر ٹیلیفون

کیجئے:

## Equality Forum

**Wednesday, 21 January 2009**

**Present:** Councillor Hasina Khan (Chair), Councillor David Dickinson (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Terry Brown, Rosie Russell and Iris Smith

**Officers:** Lesley-Ann Fenton (Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance)), Colin Everett (District Partnership Officer), Phil Davies (Principle Corporate Support Officer), Kerry Maguire (Emergency Planning Assistant) and Ruth Hawes (Democratic and Member Services Officer)

**Also in attendance:** Kiran Banati (Asian Women's Forum), Eileen Bee (Disability Forum Co-ordinator), Julia Berry (Heapey Parish Council), Cindy Bolton (Chorley & South Ribble CVS), Rev John Cree (Chorley Faith Forum), Diane Gradwell (Citizens Advice Bureau), Clamantina Finlayson, Agnes Gwilliam (Young People's Service), Alison Hansford (Withnell Parish Council / Chorley Wildcats), Deanna Hartley-Davis (Runshaw College), Teresa Harty (Anchor Staying Put South Lancashire), Fiona Hilton (Young People's Service), Miriam Iqbal (Asian Womens Forum), Harry Kelly (Villages in Partnership), Zafar Khan (Lord Street), Lavinia Mansfield (LCCPDSI), David Melhvis (CADNWA), Joyce Morris (Creative Minds), Marilyn Porter (Crossroads), Richard Stowe (Brothers of Charity Services), Salma Suleman (Asian Womens Forum) and Marel Urry (Hoghton Parish Council)

### **09.EF.28 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the people on the top table. People were reminded to say their name, the organisation they represent and to use the microphone when speaking.

### **09.EF.29 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Jane Burns (Duke St Children's Centre), Councillor Pat Case (Chorley Council and Lancashire County Council), Albert and Rita Jeffrey (Deaf Forum), Jeff Smith (MIND) and Arthur Parr.

**09.EF.30 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2008 were confirmed as a correct record.

**09.EF.31 EQUITY IN RESILIENCE**

The Chair welcomed Kerry Maguire, the Council's Emergency Planning Assistant who gave a presentation on the importance of a resilient community and the need for the public to be aware of what to do in the event of an emergency situation.

Kerry asked the Forum whether groups would be willing to disseminate civil resilience material to their group/associates and if there is interest from groups to receive information and/or the provision of assistance to engage with the various groups within the wider community of Chorley.

Kerry clarified that information collected would relate to organisations rather than individuals, for example, British Sign Language interpreters.

Lessons would be learnt from the recent gas explosion in Rossendale going forward. Information was provided on the Council's website, articles in Chorley Borough News and leaflets were available in libraries and sports centre, for both businesses and residents. An exercise had been held specifically for businesses last February.

The Chair thanked Kerry for her presentation. Kerry can be contacted on 01257 515125 or email [kerry.maguire@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:kerry.maguire@chorley.gov.uk).

**09.EF.32 INFORMATION FROM RUNSHAW COLLEGE**

The Chair welcomed Deanna Hartley-Davis from Runshaw College who outlined the work of the college to promote equality issues. Several course prospectus were made available.

A query was raised on how the college communicate with hard to reach families. Runshaw currently offer courses in Literacy and Numeracy to adults at community venues including Leyland Library and Clayton Brook Primary School. Runshaw have taught at a variety of venues across the Boroughs of South Ribble and Chorley over the years and are always happy to work



with community groups to deliver Skills for Life. This provision is for groups of learners (12-14). Runshaw offer a wide variety of classes at all levels in both Maths and English across three sites which are easily accessed by our communities, during the day and in the evening. Runshaw also have a vibrant ESOL provision for learners for whom English is not their first language. For further information or to arrange courses contact Joanna Frith-Jones 01772 622677.

It was noted that a larger number of images of students with disabilities should be used for promotional materials. The IT skills bus, a mobile internet and learning centre visits venues across Chorley, South Ribble and Preston, and is fully accessible for wheelchair users. Runshaw is a wholly inclusive college and welcomes all learners. Runshaw use a wide range of materials to publicise the college of which the prospectus is one. The images used across the range reflect an inclusive approach.

The number of current students with special education needs are:

MLD	176
Dyslexia	270
Dyscalculia	3
Aspergers Syndrome	44
Dyspraxia	30
Severe Learning Difficulties	3
Multiple Learning Difficulties	3
ADHD/EBD	31

A "Respect Week Festival" would be held and if Forum members would like to get involved please contact Deanna on 01772 643014 (ext:3082) or email [Hartley-Davis.D@runshaw.ac.uk](mailto:Hartley-Davis.D@runshaw.ac.uk).

### **09.EF.33 FORWARD PLAN OF AGENDA ITEMS**

The Forum considered the enclosed forward plan of agenda items. Further items were requested relating to: a breakdown of resources dedicated to Equality and Diversity, a presentation on Health Inequalities Strategy and Neighbourhood Watch.

If there are any other items Forum members would like please contact Ruth Hawes on 01257 515118 or [ruth.hawes@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:ruth.hawes@chorley.gov.uk).

**09.EF.34 NETWORKING BREAK**

The Forum members took a short break.

**09.EF.35 OPEN FORUM TO DISCUSS ANY ISSUES FOR EACH EQUALITY STRAND**

Responses to queries will be presented as a schedule to the minutes on the next agenda.

**(a) Age**

Joyce Morris advised that Creative Mind and Help the Aged have funded a number of Jazz events with dancing, singing and foot tapping. If anyone would like further information call 01257 452059.

Victoria Hansford requested use of the Lancastrian room and ballot boxes for elections for the Youth Council on 26 February. Officers undertook to make contact with Victoria to make arrangements.

Fiona Hilton drew attention to a pot of available funding, with a closing date end of January. If anyone would like further information call 01257 517240.

Alison Hansford queried whether the charges for use of leisure centres by parent organisations, such as Chorley Wildcats, could be reduced. This would be queried with the Corporate Director (People).

**(b) Disability**

Some of the walk ways in the town centre are cluttered. At a previous meeting a walkabout had been discussed – has this taken place? If not, please could Eileen Bee and the Disability Forum be invited. Officers undertook to look into this.

**(c) Ethnicity**

No issues were raised.

**(d) Faith**

Janette Hickey advised that meetings were ongoing regarding a Street Pastors initiative. Some funding and volunteers were in place.

It was reported that Livingwaters were involved in community work and would be invited to attend the next meeting.

**(e) Gender**

Information was requested on the provision of support for victims of domestic violence. Information would be presented to a future meeting.

**(f) Rurality**

Officers advised that the next meeting of the Rurality task and finish group would be held on 25 February 2009 at 5.30pm.

Support for rural business was queried. Details of a redundancy task force, funded through the Local Strategic Partnership, would be provided at a future meeting.

**(g) Sexuality**

It was noted that the LGBT youth group POUT were not able to attend the Forum as they also meet on a Wednesday night. A solution to this would be researched.

**09.EF.36 NOTICES / FEEDBACK / PUBLICITY**

Eileen Bee advised that the Reach event would be held on Thursday 30, Friday 31 July, and Saturday 1 August. The event would be a similar format to last year. If anyone would like to be involved in the planning groups or having a stall contact Eileen on 01772 518000 or email [csr@disabilityforum.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:csr@disabilityforum.freeserve.co.uk)

Reverend John Cree advised that United Utilities had not changed their stance regarding water bills for voluntary organisations, but the company have shown concerns regarding the bad publicity.

Reverend John Cree advised that a series of Lent Lectures were being held, including one by a Canon from Jerusalem. Details

would be uploaded to the Council's website along with other information from tonight's meeting.

Forum Members were reminded of the Holocaust event on Saturday at 11am Astley Park in Astley Park.

A Jazz concert would be held on 11 February at 7.30pm at St Laurence's Church to raise money for Chorley Homeless.

Cindy Bolton advised she had attended a meeting relating to women who are the victims of domestic violence and have no recourse to public funds. Any help or support would be gratefully received.

Chair

## Equality Forum 23<sup>rd</sup> April 09 Q& A

**1. Could there be a reduction in charges for the use of leisure centres by parent organisations such as Chorley Wildcats?**

The Council is working with Chorley Wildcats on their Clubmark accreditation, if it is successful they will become only the 2nd multisport disability club in the country to achieve this and the first in the North.

The organisation could register for CASC (Community Amateur Sports Club) and while they would not get the rate relief they would be able to gain gift aid – this would be discuss with them. The Council are also running a Funding for your Sports Club Workshop on May 12th they will be invited to attend.

Contact: Lee Boyer, Chorley Council on 01257 515816 or email [lee.boyer@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:lee.boyer@chorley.gov.uk)

**2. Street furniture clutter & a walkabout of the town centre**

We will have a response from Peter McAnespie (Chorley Council) at the meeting on when this will go ahead. The walk is being organised in conjunction with the Police and the Equality Forum will be asked for 1 or 2 representatives to participate in the walks.

**3. Provision of support to victims of domestic violence**

An update will be provided at the meeting.

**4. Support for rural businesses**

An update will be provided at the meeting.

## Queries raised since the meeting

### 5. Progress of the Pavement Café Policy

The policy was launched in February 2009. No premises have applied for pavement café license as yet. We think this could be due to the current economic climate rather than a lack of interest. Some promotional work is being planned to further promote the existence of the policy.

Contact Steve Culleton on 01257 515665 or email [steve.culleton@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:steve.culleton@chorley.gov.uk)

### 6. Road Crossings

The Forum raised the following issues at previous meetings. Below are the latest updates from Alan Capstick at Lancashire County Council).

- Eaves Lane near its junction with Seymour St. To get to a crossing it is a long walk down Eaves Lane.  
*A bid has been submitted for a zebra crossing to be funded from the pedestrian priority program 2008/09. There are many schemes competing for limited resources and we are awaiting the outcome of the assessment process.*
- Market Street junction with Saint Thomas' Road  
*A bid was been submitted for a zebra crossing to be funded from the pedestrian priority program 2008/09. This is now being built.*
- Could there be a crossing by the bus stop, at the junction of Oakmere Avenue and Blackburn Road in Higher Wheelton.  
*Having closely examined the site at this location, because of the relatively low number of pedestrians and to some extent the relatively low number of vehicles this location would not trigger the pedestrian / vehicle conflict criteria.*

*Whilst we share the concerns of the pedestrians who need to cross this road at busy times unfortunately there are far busier areas in the County and indeed on this road that would warrant a crossing before this location.*

- Could there be additional zebra/controlled crossing(s) on Bolton Rd as there is currently nothing between 'Skew Bridge' and the centre of Adlington.  
*We successfully applied for a pedestrian refuge at the Rawlinson Lane junction with Westhoughton Road. A new pedestrian refuge will be constructed on Westhoughton Road just north of its junction with Rawlinson Lane in the next 2 -8 weeks*

Contact: Lancashire County Council on 0845 0530011.

7. **Where is Lancashire County Council up to with concessionary travel for carers, using the cards on community transport before 9.30 and restrictions on use of the cards.**

A response has been requested from Lancashire County Council and an update will be provided at the meeting.

8. **Queries in relation to Rivington**

**Additional dog waste bins**

This will be actioned by our Neighbourhoods team.

**Disabled car parking**

A response will be provided at the meeting.

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