

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FORUM**

**HELD AT COUNCIL OFFICES, WIGSTON ON THURSDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2016**

**COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM.**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chair: J Kaufman

Councillor: S. Morris

Officers in Attendance: V Quintyne

**Others in attendance:** Pat Tebbutt – Resident – Churches Together, David Tebbutt Resident – Churches Together, Jan Bryars – Oadby Stakeholders, Cathy Stevenson-Red cross , Salim Boodhu – Oadby & Wigston Muslim Association ,Iqbal Noormohomed – Oadby and Wigston Muslim Association, Arzu Yilmaz-Dialogue Society, Lisa Vine – Leicester Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transgender (LGBT) Centre

Ref	Narrative	Responsible Officer
1	<b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b> Chris Huscroft – Oadby & Wigston Lions and Food Bank Lesley Green - Oadby Church/Oadby Food Bank, Iris Lightfoot –TREC (The Race Equality Centre), B Gohil -Volunteer, Rev'd Gillian Gamble - Oadby Food Bank and Oadby Trinity Methodist Church	
2	<b><u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</u></b> The minutes of December 10 <sup>th</sup> 2015 were received and approved.	
3	<b><u>REVIEW OF THE EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY AGENDA</u></b> The Equality and Diversity work plan continues to be progressed. It is available via the following link. Colleagues are provided with a copy of it at each meeting. It is the working document of the Community Engagement Forum and is used to address equality and diversity issues pertaining to the borough supported by the work of Voluntary organisations and community groups which provide a service for people specific to Oadby and Wigston as well as Leicestershire wide. Such groups are addressing a wide cross section of the public including the most vulnerable as included in the nine protected characteristics of the Equality Act 2010.The nine groups are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Disability</b></li><li>• <b>Sex</b></li><li>• <b>Gender reassignment</b></li><li>• <b>Race</b></li></ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Age</b></li> <li>• <b>Religion and belief</b></li> <li>• <b>Sexual orientation,</b></li> <li>• <b>Pregnancy and maternity and</b></li> <li>• <b>Civil partnership and marriage</b></li> </ul> <p>It was explained that the Agenda is the Council’s framework to explore and map how equality and diversity issues are addressed in the Borough for planning and provision. This is focussed on all residents and other users of the Council’s provision but especially those most vulnerable and or at risk of not benefitting from such services and provision.</p> <p><b><u>CELEBRATING DIVERSITY CALENDAR – LUNCHTIME AND EVENING SEMINARS</u></b></p> <p>The Calendar Group has been working on is almost ready to be placed on the Council’s website following a few amendments.</p> <p>The calendar is to be used as a vehicle for providing bite size learning seminars relating to key festivals and how these are celebrated in Oadby and Wigston. This Group is not a replacement for the Oadby and Wigston Multi-cultural Group.</p> <p><b><u>ACTION:1</u></b> Check the dates for key Muslim festivals are added.</p> <p><b><u>ACTION:2</u></b> Add National Refugee week.</p> <p><b><u>ACTION:3</u></b> Source the correct date for the celebration of Navaratri Hindu festival.</p>	
4	<p><b><u>A SERVICE FOR TRANSGENDER YOUNG PEOPLE- LISA VINE – PRESENTATION</u></b></p> <p>This is a project funded by BBC Children In Need covering the Leicestershire region. It began 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015 and is funded for three years.</p> <p>The presentation explored what it means to be transgender for young people, including experiencing gender dysphoria to terminology used and support services for young people and how to access it. Following the presentation questions were taken.</p> <p>To access further information on this project contact:  <a href="mailto:lisa@leicestlgbtcentre.org">lisa@leicestlgbtcentre.org</a> or ring 01162547412.  Lisa can also be contacted by getting in touch @LisaCvine and @LeicesterLGBT.</p>	

	<p><b><u>ACTION:4</u></b> Circulate a copy of the presentation with the minutes.</p>	Veronika Quintyne
5	<p><b><u>EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY TRAINING &amp; EQUALITY ASSESSMENT TRAINING WORKSHOPS</u></b></p> <p><b><u>EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY TRAINING WORKSHOPS</u></b> Dates for Equality and Diversity workshops are being organised. They are to be provided to Council Members, Staff and CEF Members.</p> <p><b><u>EQUALITY ASSESSMENT TRAINING WORKSHOPS</u></b> Staff are to be offered Equality Assessment training workshops in April. Equality Assessments are also known as Equality Impact Assessments. Three sessions are planned for: April 5th, April 7<sup>th</sup> and April 14<sup>th</sup> 2016.</p> <p>These sessions will be attended by senior Council officers who have never undergone equality assessment training before or are undertaking it as a refresher session.</p> <p>It is important staff are not only aware of the legislation which requires these (Equality Act 2010) but also how to complete fit for purpose equality assessments that compliment and support development of the Council's business planning .</p>	
6	<p><b><u>LUNCH TIME SEMINARS</u></b> The Group was keen to see seminars made available at lunchtime and in the evenings. These seminars were viewed as having involvement from CEF Members in the planning and delivery and as a positive way of involving marginalised groups, for example refugees and asylum seekers. They were also seen as a way to build community cohesion and breakdown barriers among people in the community.</p> <p><b><u>ACTION:5</u></b> Work with colleagues and groups to host a series of lunchtime and /or evening seminars utilising the Celebration Calendar.</p>	Veronika Quintyne/Colleagues
7	<p><b><u>REFRESH OF EQUALITY PAGE INFORMATION</u></b> Change to equality information on the Council website is being progressed. Currently information on a selection of key new and updated Equality Assessments has been added. Other changes will include adding information on the Celebration Calendar and Oadby and Wigston's Equality Framework and rewording key equality information as appropriate. This is being done with the Council's communication media person.</p>	
8	<p><b><u>PR EVENT - WORKING TO RAISE AWARENESS OF PREVENT (WRAP) TRAINING WORKSHOP – UNITED KINGDOM COUNTER TERRORISM STRATEGY</u></b> This presentation was delivered by the Council's Community Engagement Officer. It covered the reasoning behind the Government's PREVENT Strategy and approach to working to prevent radicalisation into terrorist activity and safeguarding of vulnerable adults and young people.</p>	

	<p>The presentation was well received. However feedback suggested the voice range on the DVD used needs to be increased with the production of a new DVD or the Council's speakers require upgrading.</p> <p>Feedback on this event collected via evaluation forms is to be sent to the WRAP lead co-ordinator in London. The forms do not contain participants names.</p> <p><b><u>ACTION:6</u></b></p> <p>Further WRAP presentations are to be arranged. The audience is staff, community groups and voluntary organisations.</p>	<p><b>Veronika Quintyne</b></p>
<p>9</p>	<p><b><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></b>  <b>Wednesday 29 JUNE 2016</b>  <b>Time: 7pm</b>  <b>Venue: Council Office, Council Chamber, Station Road, Wigston, LE182DR</b></p>	