

Lambeth LGBT Forum Meeting 22 November 2006

Present

Tom Willets
Kevin Creed
Min Rodriguez
Tim Chambers
Jeffrey Doorn
David Philip
Paul Bakalite
Hazel Saunders
John Kerridge (Assistant Director Area Services) Regeneration & Housing
Department
Cllr. Lorna Campbell (Deputy Cllr for Social Cohesion)
Anton Johnson (Lambeth TUC rep)
Amy Donovan (Lambeth LGBT Anti-hate crime coordinator)

Apologies

Rose Donovan
Robert Brown
Simon Taylor
Carl Mills (UK Coalition)
Danny Fitzgerald
Chris D'Souza (Lambeth Community Safety Manager)
Gary Whiting (Lambeth Unison rep)
PC. Graham Alldus (Met. LGBT Liaison Officer)

Due to equipment requirements the meeting started 30 minutes late to relocate to another room.

1. Presentation by Cllr. Campbell and John Kerridge (copy of presentation is attached).

Key issues/themes following this presentation included:

- A white paper, called 'Strong and Prosperous Communities' is driving forward an agenda which sees service provision devolved to local communities.
- Part of this agenda includes developing action plans for geographical communities and communities of interest.
- The white paper includes a 'Community Call for Action' which would see councillors being responsible for lobbying on community issues.

- Inclusion of LGBT monitoring of service users is necessary to establish whether the services are responsive to the needs of LGBT people.
- Training on issues such as equalities was raised as an issue for councillors
- Housing was identified as a key concern, there is a real shortage and many lower income families are feeling this impact.
- Concern was also raised over the lack of consultation that is occurring in regards to the Council's intentions to turn housing into an Arm's Length Management Organisation (ALMO). It was expressed that tenants have intentionally not been engaged with the democratic process on this issue. More union involvement was requested.
- A point was made that if communities are tasked with delivering services how their responsiveness to other equality strands be monitored?
- John Kerridge identified that he was interested in developing a community of interest/identity action plan for LGBT people. Additionally, he was in a position to provide financial and human resources to look at issues such as membership and representation of the forum. This is with the intention of getting people from across the LGBT community engaged with the forum to assist in the development of a LGBT Community Action Plan.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Agenda (8:30-9pm)

1. Welcome and apologies
 2. Minutes from the last meeting
 3. Police report (cancelled)
 4. Social event (cancelled)
 5. Any other business
- 2. Presentation by Hazel Saunders (Area Manager for Lambeth Victim Support)**

Because of the time limitation it was necessary to move straight onto Hazel Saunder's presentation (please find the presentation attached).

Hazel highlighted the issues that the forum needs to consider in deciding whether to gain charity status. These included the time, energy and commitment of forum members to not only gain charity status but to manage an organisation.

Additionally, Hazel explained that considerable thought would need to be given to establish the purpose of the forum if it was to apply for charity status.

Those present felt that trying to obtain charity status at this point would be premature for the forum. There was consensus that it would be better for the forum and those involved, if the forum was in more of a position of strength before applying for charity status.

The opportunity to develop the capacity and membership of the forum was an option that the forum wished to explore further. John will be asked to attend a forum meeting early next year to discuss in more detail how the could work with the council to develop the forum.

Next meeting

7-9pm 23 January 2007, room 125 at the Lambeth Town Hall