

Committee: Joint Consultative Committee with Ethnic Minority Organisations

Date: 9 December 2015

Wards: All

Subject: Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Voice – Update

Lead officer: Evereth Willis, Interim Head of Policy, and Strategy & Partnerships

Lead member: Councillor Edith Macauley, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Equalities and Engagement

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Recommendations:

- A. That members of the Joint Consultative Committee with Ethnic Minority Organisations (JCC) note the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Voice activity that has taken place since the last meeting.
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. To provide members of the Joint Consultative Committee with Ethnic Minority Organisations with an update on the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) voice activity that has taken place since the last meeting.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. The steering group met on 26 November 2015 and has produced draft terms of reference for BAME Voice (attached at appendix I).
- 2.2. At the meeting Hannah Neale from the African, Educational Cultural and Health Organisation (AECHO) was elected the Chair of the steering group and Slawek Szczepanski elected Vice-Chair.
- 2.3. A launch is planned for the 4 February 2016 and will be held at Vestry Hall. The programme is being developed and will include themed workshops. Invitations to the event will go out shortly to voluntary and community organisations, councillors and senior managers from the public agencies in the borough.

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 3.1. Community members could choose not to take this work forward but this would lose the momentum and commitment of those involved to date.

4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

4.1. The public event will be publicised through the council's website, Merton Connected website and newsletter, and various community mailing lists held by the council.

5 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

- Draft Terms of Reference

6 BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1. None