

Ethnic Minority Employment Task Force  
Senior Official's Group meeting  
14 May 2007 @ 12:00 – 13:30

Minutes

Attendees	Department
Dan Monzani	DWP (Chair)
Helen Grimshaw	CLG
Wilf Sullivan	TUC
Marion Seguret	CBI
Sukhvinder Singh	CRE
Tom Hart	HMT
Veena Vasista	NEP
Andy Griffiths	JCP
Matthew West	CLG
Louisa Maslin	DfES
Liz Mullen	DCMS
Valerie Allcock	DTI
Carol McDonald	DWP Secretariat
Viv Miller	DWP Secretariat
<b>Apologies:</b>	
David Seers	Scottish Executive
Teresa Clark	DfES

**Agenda item 1: Welcome and introduction.**

1. Dan Monzani chaired the meeting. Introductions were made with special welcome to Marion Seguret who represents the CBI and Louisa Maslin from DfES to give a presentation.

**Agenda item 2: Minutes of last meeting**

2. The minute was agreed and all action points cleared.

**Agenda item 3: Feedback from April's Task Force meeting**

3. Task Force has agreed to press ahead with four priorities: City Strategy, Employer Engagement, Olympics and Procurement which will become the focus of future TF meetings. Departments have agreed to lead on these priority areas supported by other departments and stakeholders as follows:
  - i. *City Strategy* - DWP to lead supported by CLG, Cabinet Office, NEP and EMAG at April meeting.
  - ii. *Employer Engagement* – DTI to lead, supported with DfES (in respect of skills) DWP/JCP NEP, CRE, CBI, TUC and EMAG at July's meeting.
  - iii. *Olympics* –DCMS to lead supported by the GLA and other key stakeholders at October's meeting.

iv. *Procurement* –DWP to lead supported by HMT, HO and DfES who have pilots in place, and key other partners like the OGC, NEP Business Commission and EMAG at January meeting.

4. The focus of the meeting was the City Strategy. Caroline Crowther (DWP) and Vicky Davis (ECOTEC) gave a joint presentation. Key points:
  - Expression of Interest exercise launched in 45 disadvantaged towns and cities and 15 Pathfinders were announced. The Pathfinders submitted their business plans and Ministers announced that all 15 pathfinders could move into the delivery phase.
  - TF was concerned that the Pathfinders have not targeted resources for ethnic minority groups and agreed that the Pathfinders should agree targets according to the needs of their local communities and should have proper governance arrangements in place.

#### **Agenda item 4: Work Programme**

5. TF agreed that four Focus Groups will be established for each of the four priority areas consisting of policy officials from across Government and other key organisations, including EMAG. The Focus Groups will have a key role in shaping the TF agenda and work programme.
6. The Employer Engagement Focus has been set up and will meet immediately after this meeting to discuss the work programme for presentation at the Task Force meeting in July. The other Focus Groups are being established and will meet over the coming months to do likewise.

#### **Agenda item 5: Presentation**

7. Louisa Maslin gave a brief update on DfES's response to the Leitch Review which. Key points:
  - An Implementation Plan is being developed and will shortly be circulated in time for the launch on 14<sup>th</sup> June.
  - A road show is in progress and DfES is working closely with the delivery partners to get as many employers as possible to sign up to the plan.
  - Work is ongoing with SSC to look at integrated work with DWP.
8. The group was concerned that equality did not factor as a priority and would like DfES to ensure that the issues faced by ethnic minorities in employment are taken into account and the plan is equality assessed. **AP1**.

#### **Ministerial Summit**

9. Following the Secretary of State's speech, *Ethnic minority employment in Britain – recognising women's potential*, he asked Jim Murphy, as Chair of the Ethnic Minority Employment Taskforce, to report to him with practical proposals for tackling employer discrimination and promoting ethnic minority employment. He wants the Task Force to consider the forthcoming recommendations of the Freud Review and the NEP Business Commission on race equality in the workforce and also to look at religious as well as ethnic discrimination.
10. DWP is working with the EOC and CLG to organise the event which will be held within week commencing 18 June at a venue in London, still to be decided. The logistics are being worked out with a contractor. Details will be circulated shortly. All ideas welcome.

#### **Agenda item 6: AOB**

11. There was no other business.

**Summary of Action Points:**

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Due</b>
<b>AP 1</b>	DfES to ensure that the implementation Plan is equality assessed	Loiusa, DfES	14 June

Please note the dates for the next meetings:

Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2007	12.30 pm Room <b>129 / 131</b> the Adelphi
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> July 2007	12.30 pm Room <b>129 / 131</b> the Adelphi