



**Ethnic Minority Employment Stakeholder Group
(EMESG) meeting notes and agreed actions
20 November 2012, 13.00 pm – 15.30pm
Rooms G.42 & 1.26 - Caxton House,
LONDON, SW1H 9NA**

SUMMARY

Item 1 - Welcome / Chair's opening remarks / overview of purpose of group

Sandra Kerr (EMESG Chair) welcomed everyone, and gave a brief overview of the purpose of group. All members gave a brief introduction including Doreen Kenny (representative from the GLA) who explained the GLA's position in terms of future representation.

Item 2 - Member's Introductions

Members gave short individual presentations on: who they are; why they applied for EMESG membership; what they are passionate about on this agenda; and what they can contribute to the group.

Common themes identified included:

- youth unemployment;
- appreciation of diverse groups under the umbrella of ethnic minorities in the labour market (e.g. Somali, Pakistani, Bangladeshi women, refugees, Gypsies, Roma, Irish Travellers).
- the impact on women's employment of reductions to child care provision;
- specific employment programmes including the Work Programme and New Enterprise Allowance scheme;
- the availability of published, monitoring data;
- discrimination in recruitment still exists;
- lack of quality jobs with career routes for progression.

The full list of members' specialist knowledge experience and areas of passion, will be used to identify future work streams.

Item 3 - Terms of Reference

Minor changes to the draft Terms of Reference were suggested and agreed, The final ToR will be sent to members and published on the EMESG website. DWP guidelines on travel re-imbusement will also be sent to members.

Item 4 - Youth Contract

Bill Thorpe from DWP's Labour Market Division gave a presentation on the Youth Contract, and invited questions. There was a discussion around 'troubled families' and what proportion of these were from an ethnic minority background. A summary of key questions will be presented to Labour Market Division for written response.



Item 5 - Forward Work Agenda and Ways of Working

EMESG members and DWP officials are invited to meet Race for Opportunity Youth Panel members and hear their feedback firsthand on 6th December, with a follow up EMESG meeting on the same afternoon.

The Group agreed to meet bi-monthly for the first half of 2013, to cover the group's work agenda at a high level. The group would meet quarterly thereafter and would aim to look into individual topics in greater depth.

The forward work plan will be agreed by group members on 6th December 2012 ready for submission to the DWP Minister for Employment.

AOB:

All members to be aware that dates of future meetings will be sent in advance to ensure advance travel is booked to reduce travel costs.

Minister of State for Employment Mark Hoban MP will attend the EMESG meeting scheduled for 17 January 2013.

Summary of Action Points:

	Action Point	Responsibility	Status
1	All members to send in bullet points of their introductions including areas of expertise, experience and main focus to the EMESG secretariat to inform future work streams.	All	Ongoing
2	Terms of Reference to be updated with contributions from members on 20 November 2012, circulated to members and posted on EMESG website.	DWP Secretariat	Cleared
3	Guidelines for re-imbusement of travel costs to be sent to members.	DWP Secretariat	Cleared
4	Details of EMESG meeting with members of the RfO Youth Panel on and to finalise future work plan 6 th December 2012, to be sent to members and DWP Officials.	DWP Secretariat	Cleared
5	Details of what proportion of troubled families is black to be sent to members.	DWP Officials	
6	Members to see a list of local Youth Contract Providers in Manchester, Leicester including –'20 hot spots'.	DWP Officials Bill Thorpe	
7	Youth Panel questions to be sent to Bill Thorpe.	Sandra Kerr	Cleared
8	Chair and DWP to prepare draft forward work plan for EMESG	Sandra Kerr DWP Officials	