

## INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE MENTAL HEALTH ACT: AFRICAN AND CARIBBEAN GROUP (MHARAC)

### Terms of reference

#### **Purpose**

The African and Caribbean group (MHARAC) has been established to support the aims of the independent review.

MHARAC will make recommendations designed to ensure that people of African and Caribbean descent with mental health challenges receive the treatment and support they need, when and where they need it, are treated with dignity, and that their liberty and autonomy are respected as far as possible.

To achieve this, MHARAC will:

- Give due attention to the implementation and practice of the Mental Health Act as experienced by people of African and Caribbean descent or heritage.
- Identify and critically evaluate a range of relevant evidence and data to support thinking and recommendation development.
- Identify and critically appraise aspects of relevant legislation, and consider issues that may particularly impact people of African and Caribbean descent.
- Identify effective practice and propose solutions to identified issues, which will work in the best interests of people of African and Caribbean descent.

#### **Membership**

<b>Name</b> (alphabetised by surname)	<b>Role</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Dr Dianne Aitken	GP commissioner	Vassall Medical Centre
Inspector Michael Brown	Mental Health Coordinator	National Police Chiefs Council
Cllr Jacqui Dyer (co-chair)	Chair Mental Health Equalities Advisor	Black Thrive NHS England
Dr Dawn Edge	Senior Lecturer (T&R) and Lead for Equality, Diversity & Inclusion	University of Manchester
Steve Gilbert (co-chair)	Vice-chair	Independent review of the Mental Health Act
Dr Martin Glynn	Criminologist and Lecturer	Birmingham City University
Tony Lingiah	Clinical Nurse Educator	
Anthony Salla	Race Equality Expert	University of Nottingham
Paulene Samuels	Carer and Approved Mental Health Professional	
Hári Sewell	Director	HS Consultancy
Dr Shubulade Smith (deputy chair)	Consultant Psychiatrist  Clinical Senior Lecturer	South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation King's College London

MHARAC will seek input from critical friends and influencers beyond its core membership, as and when required.

#### **Governance**

MHARAC will be co-chaired by Steve Gilbert, vice-chair of the independent review, and Jacqui Dyer. Dr Shubulade Smith will act as deputy chair of MHARAC.

MHARAC will provide findings to the review's advisory panel, but will report directly to the chair of the review, Professor Sir Simon Wessely.

#### **Frequency**

MHARAC will convene as required by the co-chairs, approximately once per month.