Proposed call for nominations for membership of the Sikh roundtable

Officials in the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) hold roundtables three times a year with representatives from Sikh umbrella organisations and academics. These meetings provide the opportunity to hear the views and concerns of Sikhs so that they can be taken forward across Government. They also allow officials to share key Government policy messages and developments that are of particular relevance to Sikhs.

Roundtables are also attended by officials from other Government Departments such as the Home Office or the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, depending on the issues being discussed.

In order for the Government to hear a wide and representative range of views, we are refreshing the group and looking to appoint new members. This will give us a broad membership across England's Sikh community, bringing a breadth of opinion and representing a wide range of views. We anticipate the group will be made up of around 12 to 15 members.

We expect that the first refreshed roundtable will take place on 9 May, with further roundtables scheduled for 18 July and 19 November. The meetings will normally begin at 2pm.

Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference can be found here: https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/mhclg-sikh-roundtable-group

Application process

Officials from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government have been hosting roundtables since November 2017. These have brought together stakeholders from a number of Sikh organisations, as well as Sikh academics.

MHCLG are keen to ensure that the group remains representative of the Sikh community. We are therefore looking to appoint new members to the group. This will help Government to better develop policies that meet the needs of communities.

In February 2019, the Government published its Integrated Communities Action Plan. The aim is to create economically stronger and more confident and integrated communities where people, whatever their background - live, work, learn and socialise together, based on shared rights, responsibilities and opportunities.

Members will commit to attending three roundtables a year and to support the group across a number of workstreams that are being developed, for example around Hate Crime.

Appointments will be for a two year term, which will then be reviewed. In particular, applicants are expected to demonstrate the following criteria:

Criteria

- A proven track record of representing, working with or researching Sikhs; or have made significant efforts to improve community integration more broadly, including Sikhs;
- A strong personal commitment to work with Government to promote better community integration, including between those of different religions and beliefs;
- An awareness of the specific challenges faced by Sikh women, young people or other under-represented groups;
- A commitment to support the Terms of Reference for the group.

Prospective applicants are asked to provide a CV, and an Expression of Interest of no more than two sides of A4, which demonstrate their expertise and suitability in the areas detailed above.

If you are applying to be a member from an umbrella organisation, please provide details of your membership and representation.

Applicants are also asked to provide two suitable references.

Applications should be sent via email to <u>integration@communities.gov.uk</u> with the subject line "Sikh roundtable member application", or by post to;

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Faith, Race and Integration Division 2nd floor, Fry Building 2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF

Applications will close on 29 March 2019

See also:

Integrated Communities Action Plan https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/integrated-communities-action-plan

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Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government