

Bristol Somali Forum Meeting (BSF)

Date: 06 November 2010

Time: 11.00 am – 1.00 pm

Venue: Barton Hill Settlement

Type of meeting: BSF monthly meeting

Chaired by: Latif Ismail

Present : Bill Clark (ONS), Latif Ismail (Chair & Minutes), Richard Pearce (Somali Advice Project), Jayne Mills (BCC), Said Burale (Somali Forum), Ismail Omar (Somali Forum), Roger Allen (BCC), Valerie Russell Emmott (Business Link / Equalities South West), Mahmoud Matan (Amana / UWE), Abdullahi Farah (Somali Resource Centre), Claire Littlejohn (Bristol Link), Mike Shepherd (Bristol Link), Ahmed Abdi (Towfiq Mosque), Steve Vaughan (Police), Charlotte Pritchard (UWE), Omar Sabriye (Somali Resource Centre).

Apologies: Dheeho Yusuf and Abdi Mohamed (Somali Forum), Steve Wilms Hurst (Jubilee Trust), Cllr Sue O'Donell

		Actions
Somali Community Calculator	Jayne Mills Consultation, Research and Intelligence From BCC reported the following: Somali Community Calculator A wide range of estimates of the Somali population in Bristol are regularly quoted, with some estimates of up to 30,000 Somalis living in Bristol. It is known that there has been a significant increase in the number of Somalis in Bristol, however, it has been difficult to produce any reliable estimates. Bristol City Council's consultation, research and intelligence team have developed a methodology for estimating the size of the Somali community within Bristol called the Bristol Somali Community Calculator. The estimates are based upon number of variables including information from the 2010 School Census and ONS Birth Statistics, combined with information from a local survey undertaken in 2007/8. A large number of different scenarios were run using the Bristol Somali Community Calculator and the results were that there are an estimated 6,600 - 10,000 Somalis living in Bristol. This is the first time Bristol has had a reliable evidence based estimate of the size of the Somali population.	Jayne to send a brief summary of the Somali Community calculator Latif to circulate it to the members and partners

	Further information will be included in the new version of BCC's "The Population of Bristol" document to be released later this year.	
2011 Census	Bill Clark from ONS told the forum the following: • That Census is the biggest social programme in the UK. • It is how central Government allocates funds to local authorities in the region of £100 billion a year. • It is understood that the last census underestimated the population of Bristol by 10,000. Which is equivalent to a loss of half a million pounds for every year over a 10 year period. • The information from the Census tells us what kind of houses we need to build, the size of older population, family structures etc. • It can be filled on line, it can be posted, or collected. • The date that the Census will take place is 27th March 2011 • ONS will be recruiting a lot of people in Bristol including area co-ordinators, and 200 collectors. • The message for the Somali community is to write SOMALI on the forms.	All – to encourage people to fill in their forms and take part in this important social project Bill Clark – to attend Forum meeting whenever possible Forum – to remind the community to engage with the Census
Somali Advice Project (SAP)	Richard Pearce – the co-ordinator of the project come to the Forum with two requests: SAP is only funded until March 2011 by BCC and currently facing financial issues. They need to approach other funds including the National Lottery. These funders would inevitably ask for evidence of the need for the project. Therefore Richard wishes to talk to most Somali led organisations and members of the Community to assess whether in their knowledge the project is still needed. Secondly, Richard needs Somali members to join the project steering group	Anyone who can help SAP to contact them directly
AOB	Ahmed Abdi – said the issue re the Mosque in Barton Hill hasn't been sorted yet. Matan – told the Forum that the problems with youth (Somali youth) still hasn't been addressed properly.	Roger & Abdullahi to present jointly on this issue at the next Forum meeting in December

	Roger Allen & Abdullahi Farah – Talk about the level of welfare up take in certain parts of Bristol and different ways of accessing Council services.	
Date for next meeting	Date for next meeting will be 2ndDecember 2010 at 11am at Barton Hill Settlement	