

INTER-FAITH RESEARCH PROJECT STEERING GROUP

Notes on meeting 25th June 2007

Terms of Reference

The Project Steering Group exists to oversee the Religious Communities Research Project and those appointed to fulfil its aims, viz.

- 1) *To investigate the full range of religious communities in the City and Borough of Cardiff, and their relationship to civil society, in particular to local government.*
- 2) *To publicise the research findings, and make them available to religious groups and public bodies.*
- 3) *To organise a conference around the research findings that will bring together members of religious communities and representatives of local government and other public bodies.*

Its purpose is to oversee the management work of the Public Trust Partnership and the University Regeneration Institute's research team, and report back to City Centre Churches Together, the City Parish of St John the Baptist, and the Faith Capacities Community Building Fund project manager.

1. Present

Prof Paul Ballard (PB), Chris Daley (CD), Revd Keith Kimber (KK), Revd Monica Mills (MM), Mr Malcolm Thomas (MT) Mr Roy Thomas (RT).

2. Membership

PB reported that Dr Mohammad Seddon of the University Centre for the Study of Islam had recently left Cardiff, so he had not been contacted.

RT proposed the names of Dr Singhal, a leader of the local Hindu community and Muhammad Jabbar, a civil servant in the region, to be approached to join the steering group. (*Action RT*)

KK proposed the name of Soad Hamdi, director of 'Women Connect First', a Cardiff organisation working to empower ethnic minority women, experienced in the realm of funding relationships to Local Government. (*Action KK*)

3. Project management

RT reported on the appointment of Rebecca Siân Edwards (RSE), a post Doctoral student, by Cardiff University Sociology Department's Regeneration Institute, to work on project data gathering under the supervision of Bob Smith (RS). PB reported he, as a University 'insider', had recently briefed Bob Smith. RT & PB remarked on enthusiasm shown for the project and its aims. The contract between the Project and the University is still being drawn up and will be presented for consideration as soon as it is available. The meeting agreed to meet with RSE & RS to confirm the aims and framework for the research. The date proposed: 9th July, 6.00pm at the University's Glamorgan building. This arrangement will be confirmed by email. (*Action KK*)

4. Research procedure

KK reported that he had compiled a contact database of over two hundred religious community organisations, of which about ten per cent represented non-Christian faith communities within the city and county of Cardiff. This has been sent to RSE for reference. KK also presented two maps that could be used to aid data gathering

- 1) Representing the research constituency, and suggesting priorities for investigation.
- 2) Representing the various tasks to be undertaken by both the steering group and the research workers, in order to deliver a) the final report; b) the conference agenda.

5. Next meeting - **Monday 9th July at 6.00pm, at Cardiff University Glamorgan building .**