



Meeting Agenda & Actions

Location: National Zakat Foundation, 41 Fieldgate Street, Whitechapel, E1 1JU

Date: Tuesday 6 March 2018

Time: 6pm – 8pm

I. Attendees:

Alan Green; Nicky Cornell; Nat Roos; Leon Silver; Sigrid Werner; Jon Dal Din; Christine Hall; Ingrid Cruickshank; Ibrahim Lawson; Sonya Sier; Shahanaz Begum; Sufia Alam, Clare Kopp & Iqbal Raakin.

Apologies:

Jan McHarry

II. Welcome – Alan Green, Chair

III. Event report and reflection on THIFF Manifesto (6 February 2018) - Alan Green, Chair

- Attendees were very happy with contribution of young people as well as refreshments.
- The launch was meaningful and it set the tone to show what the forum's aims are.

The event was well attended by a mix of faith group representatives and individuals. We do not have faith details for all who attended but of those who did give these, we had:

- 24 – Christians
- 1 – Jew
- 1 – Buddhist
- 6 – Muslims

- 16 – no faith

There were Sikh representatives registered to attend, but they did not attend/].

Feedback from the workshop sessions was positive. People engaged with the idea and those asked were happy to have had the opportunity to give feedback. There will be short report that will be on the website, which will use the feedback 'action' the Manifesto. There was also a comment about workshops being too short.

People were interested in most of the themes. Social Mixing and Migration were the most popular but there were crosscutting themes on each. English language, for instance, came up in all. Across all too there was a suggestion that THIFF should aim to do more work in engaging with young people and/or giving them voice on the Forum itself.

The majority of practical suggestions of action were based on two things. These are:

1. THIFF advocating on behalf of the faith sector/faith communities
2. THIFF working in partnership with others who deliver

IV. Community Plan consultation - Shahanaz Begum, Tower Hamlets Council

- The Tower Hamlets Partnership brings together key stakeholders to provide and improve services and outcomes for local residents.
- In January 2017, the Mayor initiated a reinvigoration of the Tower Hamlets Partnership providing a unified voice for the borough
- Over the last 12 months, the partnership has been exploring how key organizations can work together more effectively to address local challenges and what key opportunities/challenges in the borough are.
- The Summit workshop last month touched on things such as: managing demand, improving civic participation, reducing crime and creating trust.
- Mental health came up as a huge issue. The council are also looking at building capacity amongst local people, making work pay and a better deal for young people.

Question for attendees: What do you think the partnership should be focusing on short term and long term?

Some of the answers that came from this were:

- The multi-generational aspect is important - unless you get older generation on board with young people, the perceptions of young people won't change. It needs to be a collective community drive.
- We need integration, and integration begins with language.
- Lack of green spaces in Tower Hamlets
- Working with businesses - Canary wharf is in tower hamlets (residents that work in top firms)

For further information, contact Shahanaz Begum on Shahanaz.Begum2@towerhamlets.gov.uk

V. Hate crime analysis and regular report – MET Police

- The numbers for faith hate crime in Tower Hamlets over the 12-week period are fairly low
- In the last 12 months, the total number has decreased by 108.

Overall, the numbers are reducing - there is a Faith Officer as well as a Hate Crime Officer.

Contact details are below:

Faith Officer: PC Shay Miah – shihab.miah@met.pnn.police.uk

Hate Crime Office: PC Lee Hawkins - lee.hawkins@met.police.uk

VI. A.G.M Planning - Alan Green, Chair

The next forum meeting will be our AGM meeting.

- To be on the steering group, it is not a requirement to have attended a forum meeting.
 - However, to be eligible to vote, you must have attended three THIFF bi-monthly forum meetings in the past 12 months.
 - You will be contacted in April if you are eligible to vote in the next AGM.
- **ACTION: Emily to look through previous attendees and identify who is eligible to vote**

VII. General Information

- Community hate crime ambassadors training - 22 march
- Some of the attendees featured in Bethnal Green tube disaster TV programme - available on BBC iplayer.

VIII. AOB

THIFF Calendar will be reprinted as Jewish dates were incorrect.

Next meeting: Tuesday 8 May 2018, 6pm – 8pm, National Zakat Foundation, 41 Fieldgate Street, Whitechapel, E1 1JU