



ANNUAL

REPORT

2010 / 11

Consortia of Ethnic Minority Organisations

MISSION STATEMENT

“To lead on establishing a strong and viable BME voluntary sector within the district of Bradford and West Yorkshire, which leads to equitable outcomes for all communities”

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

It seems that for the past few years I have always introduced the Annual Report highlighting the work COEMO has done as being exceptional and improving year on year. The truth is that the work of COEMO cannot be described in any other way. COEMO is a nationally recognised ISO, working in partnership with many other groups and takes a lead in many high profile projects.

Our membership remains diverse, representing all ethnic minority groups equally, and empowering them to support integration and cohesive communities throughout the District. Following the years of hard work to build a solid base, the results are there for all to see – a strong, well supported BME sector within the District and a business model that is being replicated in other parts of the country.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to sincerely thank all of our partners and members for their on-going support, commitment and encouragement. I would also like to thank all our staff, who continue to make us proud with their enthusiasm, commitment and the sheer willingness to assist organisations to the best of their ability. Their contribution is recognised and appreciated.

Imran Khan

ABOUT COEMO

BACKGROUND

In the Bradford district the BME sector is fairly sizeable, but, unfortunately, it is too fragmented to secure any lasting improvements to the quality of life of ethnic minority communities.

WHO ARE WE?

COEMO is an umbrella organisation and was formed in October 2000 by a number of community organisations from the black and ethnic minority voluntary sector who felt that a representative umbrella body was now crucial if the black and ethnic minority sector was to survive and develop in a climate, which required an increasing amount of collective collaboration.

WHAT DO WE DO?

- We raise the profile of BME organisations
- We provide Infrastructure support to BME front line organisations
- We organise networking & consultation events
- We undertake research activities within BME sector
- We act as an advocate for BME Voluntary sector and the wider community with local government, central government and other relevant institutions
- We represent the ethnic minority voluntary sector on partnerships and decision-making bodies at local, regional and national level.

WHO DO WE REPRESENT?

We are currently representing views and aspirations of over 200 organisations involving the following communities:

- South Asian Communities
- African Communities
- African-Caribbean Communities
- Filipino Communities
- Asylum seeker & Refugees
- East European Communities

HOW DO WE OPERATE?

The organisation has a constitution and is registered as a company limited by guarantee with a charitable status (Charity Number 1124251). The management of the organisation is based on membership who annually elects a management Board. Our services are open to all BME voluntary & community sector. We have an office and paid staff.

WHO CAN BECOME MEMBER?

Any BME voluntary and community sector organisations can become member of COEMO. Please ask for an application form or visit our website.

BRADFORD & BME COMMUNITY

- Bradford population : approx 480,000
- 22% of Bradford populations are from ethnic minority
- Over 200 BME organisations in Bradford & District (*some are small with no base & staff, some are medium with base & staff and some are large as social enterprise*)
- Over 150 Mosques, Gurduaras & Temples
- Majority of BME populations are < 25 years of age
- Highest BME population growth in the region
- Growing BME 60+ Older People
- Growing BME school population
- >20% BME children leave school with no qualifications
- BME unemployment rate exceed Bradford & National average

ACHIEVEMENTS

Support to Front Line Organisations

Improving Reach Project

This was a West Yorkshire Sub Regional BME project consisted of five districts, Bradford (COEMO), Leeds Voice, Leeds Connecting Communities, Kirklees (VAK), Calderdale (VAC) and Wakefield (VAWD).

The 5 District BME Networks in West Yorkshire was developed to increase the level of support to frontline BME organisations by improving access to support services and information for network members and also to provide networking opportunities for organisations to share similar experiences.

The aim of the project was also to develop cross-district training and establish links with other partnerships, particularly the regional BME panel, West Yorkshire BME Learning Network, WYLDA, Active Faith Communities, Jantela and Local Strategic Partnerships.

The project sought to build the sustainability of the BME frontline organisations by providing a range of support through training events, workshops, seminars, network meetings, resources and one to one support. BME Networks ensured that support offered to the BME organisations was appropriate to their needs.

The Impact of the project:

A comprehensive training programme covering over 25 different topics has been delivered over the past 3 years. Well over 250 organisations have attended and benefited from the training provided.

The News Bulletin delivered to nearly 200 organisations has helped to increase awareness and knowledge of the Improving Reach Project and COEMO support.

Links have been established with various agencies including Bradford CVS and other ISO Group members to increase opportunities of partnership working with BME Organisations.

The Project has helped and supported well over 100 BME organisations with funding advice, information on training, capacity building, quality assurance, governance and networking.

It has also added value in terms of team working across the sub-region, with useful idea and information sharing.

Community Cascade Project

The community cascade project is a West Yorkshire-wide partnership programme, which has made a significant impact since it commenced in 2009. The programme is running extremely well across West Yorkshire.

The Community Cascade programme is a Lottery funded project, delivered in partnership with Bradford CVS, Voluntary Action Kirklees, Voluntary Action Leeds, Voluntary Action Wakefield, Bradford Environmental Action Trust, and Fit4Funding.

We have successfully achieved all the outputs for the first year and we are now well into the second year.

We have helped 12 faith-based networks and community anchors in the first year, and this year are working to achieve double the targets, and supporting 25 frontline community anchors, faith based organisations and anchors.

We have delivered a number of excellent community based workshops and events to help address community cohesion issues, and have also engaged diverse faith groups to look at how we can compliment each other and learn from pooling the resources and activities.

We are also pioneering a number of exchange visits with different faith and community groups to enhance community cohesion activities. We received excellent feedback on our first year visits, and we hope to build on this by doing wider exchange visits across West Yorkshire.

The impact of the project so far has been excellent. We have helped engaged isolated and hard-to-reach community and faith groups to open their doors and work in partnership with others. We have also encouraged participation from diverse community groups who would not otherwise get involved in the centres in their communities.

We will continue to work hard with hard-to-reach and diverse community groups to increase their community engagement and share best practice.

The overall impact of this programme will be more inclusive and sensitive community groups, working collectively with diverse communities to meet their needs effectively.



BASIS Project

COEMO engaged in an infrastructure development programme to help support the hard-to-reach frontline BME organisations across the Bradford District. The programme was a direct response to the needs of organisations that felt particularly marginalised and excluded from mainstream provision.

Funding in the region of £180K was sought from the Big Lottery Fund for 3 years, to deliver a project which sought to build the sustainability of the BME frontline organisations by providing a range of support through funding advice, training events, workshops, seminars, network meetings, resources and one to one support.

Over the three-year period, COEMO has delivered a number of innovative activities to engage the communities who would not have otherwise been engaged. In particular, sessions meeting their specific needs around cultural and social sensitivities meant that there was a large uptake of the services.

The key target of the project was to help engage, support and build the capacity of 120 organisations, with additional intensive support around governance and management committee development, support around policies and procedures, and also direct support through various Networks. During the life span of the project, all the agreed targets have been achieved, and COEMO are extremely satisfied with all aspects of the project. The feedback and response from those who engaged with this project have reassured us that we have achieved the key objectives of improving the capacity of frontline BME organisations.



Coemo has helped provide direct support to frontline BME organisations with their quality systems and policies.

Coemo provided 15 organisations with intensive support with their quality systems and organisational policies. This allowed organisations to have up-to-date documents to help them run their organisations more effectively. Furthermore, this met the requirements of funders who requested groups to have particular policies in place.

Coemo also delivered a seminar on policies and procedures to help engage groups directly and work on various policies, in particular around Safeguarding children and young people. This was supported by the Bradford Safeguarding Children's Board, who helped prepare sample documents for organisations to implement.

Coemo has also provided various support to frontline BME organisations with their governance and management structures.

Through various seminars, workshops and direct one-to-one specific support the frontline organisations have received sufficient training and support to their management committees.

Through the project 5 organisations have received intensive support with their management structures. In addition to this, 15 organisations have been intensively assisted with training of their management committee and trustee members. This has been a very valuable resource for the frontline organisations.

Many organisations, in particular smaller and newer groups are now able to understand the key roles of their organization, and now have sufficient training on their roles and responsibilities to their organization and general members.

One of the key successes of this project has been the ability to engage with hard to reach communities, and to bring diverse frontline organisations together to look at networking and sharing best practice.

The Impact of the project:

The project has made a huge impact to the frontline BME organisations across the District. The one-to-one support offered to the groups allowed specific issues of support to be identified, thus enabled the Project Manager to deliver activities specific to each organisations needs. This approach made a huge difference to the smaller organisations that had very little, or no, knowledge of running a sustainable organisation. The key impact of the project has been that frontline BME organisations have had the direct support which they have been requesting for many years.

A comprehensive programme covering various different topics has been delivered over the past 3 years. All our 120 organisations have benefited from direct advise, support and information sharing opportunities, specific to their needs.

Through one-to-one support offered by this project many BME organisations are now working in collaboration and sharing resources, with developed policies & procedures, governance and management structures to be able to sustain their organisation.

The Project has helped and supported a number BME of organisations with funding advice, information on training, capacity building, quality assurance, governance and networking.

Overall the impact of this 3-year project has been immense. It has allowed smaller organisations in particular to flourish in the tough economic climate. The management committees and governance of a number of organisations have been enhanced, which will allow the organisations to seek new ideas with the appropriate quality assurances in place to deliver new and innovative projects. COEMO's support has guided them to new funding streams and has helped them access over £100K of funding.

Future Jobs Fund Project

Coemo championed a new Employment-based project to help train, develop and place young people into various employment positions across the District.

The Future Jobs Fund (FJF) is government initiative, aimed at helping unemployed people in deprived areas gain valuable work skills for a period of six months. COEMO was able to provide Community Organisations with workers for 6 months. These roles varied from basic administration positions to community development workers.

Throughout the life of the project Coemo has successfully recruited 10 employees through the FJF. They have been based with various community organisations throughout the district. The programme has been running extremely well and has made a huge impact not only to the frontline organisations, but has allowed young people to develop their skills that will enhance their future employment prospects.

The feedback from both the young people and the organisations has been outstanding. Furthermore, Coemo can proudly say that three of the employees have gone on to secure full time employment with the host or other employers, whilst the remaining have been supported to secure further training or employment.



Some of the young people who were part of the FJF.

Community Cohesion Project (BCCI)

COEMO embarked on a District-wide community cohesion project to help strengthen communities, and develop better understanding of diverse faith and cultural groups.

The project supported by Bradford Council's Inclusion Team, was a ground-breaking partnership programme which worked across the District with the most diverse and hard-to-reach community groups. The partners included: Grange Interlink, The Peacemakers, Kala Sangam, West Bowling Community Centre, Bangladeshi Community Association, and Thorpe Edge.

The project brought together diverse communities to look into issues of multiculturalism, integration and tolerance of diverse faith and community backgrounds. This was an excellent initiative, which helped young people, older people, women, isolated communities and those who were hard-to-reach to collectively explore issues in a creative and friendly atmosphere. Sessions included, sports activities, a residential, arts, and a number of other thematic methods to engage groups to be open and confident to discuss sensitive issues.

COEMO 10 year celebration

HONORARY OFFICERS AND STAFF

HONORARY OFFICERS

Imran Khan – Chairman
Peter Tate – Vice Chair
Yusuf Karolia – General Secretary
Mohammed Abbas – Treasurer

STAFF

Mohammed Salam - Chief Executive
Mushtaq Hussain – Community Cohesion Adviser
Mohammed Imran – Project Manager
Mohammed Ibrahim – Training & Development Officer
Helene Brown – Admin & Monitoring Officer

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

COEMO Member organisations & contact person 2011

ORGANISATION	CONTACT PERSON
<i>Action For Business (Bradford) Ltd</i>	<i>Mrs Jenny Pupius</i>
African Community Support Project	Katende Mbuyi
African Network (Anet)	Kabeya Boniface
Ahmadiyya Muslim Association	Abdul Barry Malik
Anah Project	Joyce Simon
Ashiana Elderly Day Care Centre	Suleman Mir
Asian Disability Awareness Action in Bradford (ADAAB)	Liaquat Hussain
Asian Trades Link (ATL) Ltd	Ashrad Javed
Asian Youth and Cultural Organisation	GS Chatha / Raghvir Sign Sangha
Association of Bradford Deaf	Ms. N Nazir
Astana Aliya Naqeebiya	Mohammed Afsar
Attock Community Association	Mukhtar Ahmad
Bangladesh Porishad	Ashraf Miah
Bangladeshi Community Association Bradford	Mr Mohammed Jalal
<i>Bangladeshi Forum for Community Cohesion</i>	<i>Shaukat Ahmed, MBE</i>
Barnados	Samina Tariq
BEAP	Shahid Rehman
BPI Drama Group	Mohammed Rafique
<i>Bradford & District Women's Forum</i>	<i>Cora Browning</i>
Bradford Action for Refugees	Vikki
Bradford Black and Asian Gov Assoc	Hamayun Arshad
<i>Bradford Eid Committee</i>	<i>Mohammed Abbas</i>
Bradnet	Asif Hussain
British Filipino Association	
<i>Budhay Buddies</i>	<i>Yusuf Karolia</i>
Cabinda Community West Yorkshire	Mr. Peguilson
Copthorne Community Association	Mohammed Taj
<i>Council of Mosques</i>	<i>Ishtiaq Ahmed / Khadim Hussain</i>
East African Muslim Association	Mr. Bashir / K A Hafeez
Fresh Start	Jahangir Ghani
Frizinghall Community Centre	
<i>Grange Interlink Community Centre</i>	<i>Imran Khan</i>
<i>Gujrat Welfare Society</i>	<i>Abdul Hamid Ismail</i>
Guru Nanak Gurdwara Day	Hardeep Singh
Heaton Community Centre	Mr. G.M. Mussa
<i>Hindu Cultural Society of Bradford</i>	<i>Mr Ashok Nair</i>
Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh	M Mistry
Hungarian Cultural Society	Rachel Novak
Indian Women's Association	Mrs A. Johar
Islamic Men & Women's Association	Ms Mubarik Iqbal
Kala Sangam	Dr Geetha Upadhyaya
Karmand Community Centre	Mr. Rashid Ahmed
Keighley Asian Women & Children Centre	
Khidmat Centre	Saleem Khan
M A Community Development	Tariq Khan
Madhav Elderley Day Centre	Kantibhai Panchal
Manningham And Girdlington HEAT Project	Mohammed Akhlaq
Manningham Housing Association	Ansar Ali
Manningham Sports and Youth Club	
Manningham Youth Project	Nasreen Akhtar
Marshfield Community Association	Zubair Khan
<i>McMillan Adventure Playground Association (MAPA)</i>	<i>Peter Tate</i>
Millan Centre	Surji Cair

Millan Group	Nighat Khan
Millet E Islamia Cultural Society	Mohammed Bashir
Mother & Toddler Group	Mohammed Khaliq
Pak Kashmir United Forum	Asif Khan
Pakistan Community & Neighbourhood Assoc	N. A. F. Raja
<i>Palm Cove Society</i>	<i>Yvonne Hall</i>
Pan African Arts & Cultural Groups	Herbert Wuver
Peacemakers	Yemi Fagbourn
Polish Community Centre	Agnieszke Andryszewski
QED UK	Mohammed Ali, OBE
Roshni Ghar	Nazia Ali
S M Community College	M Ishtiaq
Saheli	Rubina Burhan / Nasrat Bhatti
Sant Niran Kari Mandal	Mr Jawahar Singh
SHAPE-UK	Naz Hussain
Sharing Voices (Bradford)	
Shree Prajapati Association	MR. Balu Lad
Sultan Bahu Trust	Naseer Baig
<i>West Bowling Advice & Training Centre</i>	<i>Javed Khan</i>
West Bowling People's Partnership	Darren O'Connell-Wood
West Bowling Youth Initiative (WBYI)	Haqueq Siddique
WomenZone	Rubina Khalid

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Management of COEMO would like to thank all our partners, members & funders for supporting COEMO over the year



For further information & support please contact:
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Chief Executive

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