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# Business means Race Equality

Keeping housing associations at the forefront of good practice

Wednesday, 5 May 2004

Thistle Hotel, Brighton



Support  
Against  
Racist  
Incidents

## Purpose of the Conference

Housing associations are increasingly becoming the leading providers of social housing in the UK. As such, they need to be seen to be achieving best practice in race equality provision. Sweeping changes in diversity legislation and procedures for housing associations have also placed race equality firmly on the agenda.

This conference presents key information on race equality and launches a series of dynamic, South East based seminars for housing association management, practitioners and front line staff. It is an event which will ensure that housing associations better understand and meet the needs of Black and Minority Ethnic tenants, staff and communities, and remain at the forefront of housing policy and practice.

### Conference speakers will:

- put in context recent legislative, policy and practice changes
- review the Housing Corporation's regulatory framework from the race equality point of view
- promote pioneering tools to enable housing associations to meet the standards expected of them
- introduce a series of innovative Housing Corporation funded race equality seminars to be run through-out the South East
- provide case studies of housing associations striving to achieve good practice in this area

### Who should attend:

Management and staff from housing associations in the South of England, in particular:

- board members
- chief executives and directors
- management
- practitioners and front line staff

## Support Against Racist Incidents

**Support Against Racist Incidents (S.A.R.I.)** is a dynamic award-winning charity with 13 years of expertise in anti-racist work. It provides intensive support and advocacy for victims of racism, carries out proactive educational work and provides considerable training and consultancy for agencies.

The Housing Corporation has commissioned S.A.R.I. to work with two housing associations to develop a detailed and tailored race equality training programme for housing associations which was designed to:

- respond to the differences in needs of Black and Minority Ethnic communities
- apply to a variety of different types of housing association and staffing roles within the industry
- offer relevant guidance on best practice for all staffing roles in the industry

The training programmes have been developed with the help of Knightstone Housing Association and Solon South West Housing Association and will be introduced to the South East this year.

**Contact details:** S.A.R.I., PO Box 642, Bristol BS99 1UT  
Phone: 0117 952 5652 Fax: 0117 952 5454 Email: [sari@sari.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:sari@sari.freeserve.co.uk)



## Agenda (subject to change)

- 9.30 - 10.15      **Registration and coffee**
- 10.15 - 10.20      **Welcome from the conference chair**  
Jackie Canham, founder member of S.A.R.I.
- 10.20 - 10.30      **Setting the context - why race equality is a key part of your business**  
Batook Pandya MBE/ Alex Raikes, S.A.R.I.
- 10.30 - 10.55      **Staying ahead**  
The latest race equality legislative and policy developments for housing associations  
Leroy Phillips MBE, Chair of Race and Housing Inquiry; Chair, Hexagon Housing Association
- 10.55 - 11.20      **Equality and diversity - the Housing Corporation's perspective**  
An exploration of how the Housing Corporation sees the future of Race and Housing  
Andrew Wiles, Director of Regulation (South), Housing Corporation
- 11.20 - 11.35      **Questions and open forum**
- 11.35 - 12.05      **Coffee and networking**
- 12.05 - 12.30      **How you shape up**  
Areas for action identified in Audit Commission inspections  
Loraine Martins, Head of Diversity, Audit Commission
- 12.30 - 12.55      **Race equality in a rural setting**  
Addressing race equality issues in rural and semi-rural areas  
Byl Rice, Plymouth District Racial Equality Council
- 12.55 - 1.10      **Questions and open forum**
- 1.10 - 2.10      **Lunch** - with demonstrations of the **Race Equality Toolkit** and **RaceActionNet**, both pioneering tools to assist housing associations to meet the race equality challenge
- 2.10 - 3.25      **Seminars** (see details overleaf)  
• From policies to practice - S.A.R.I.'s training programme  
• The Housing Corporation's approach to Race & Diversity Reviews  
• Lessons from Audit Commission inspections  
• Race equality in a rural context
- 3.25 - 3.55      **Case Studies - changing communities and responsive housing**  
Pam Richardson, Regional Manager, Refugee Housing Association  
Surinder Bains, Regional Director (South), Hyde Housing Association
- 3.55 - 4.15      **Questions and open forum**
- 4.15              **Close of conference**



## Seminars

Delegates will be able to choose ONE out of the four seminar groups which will run immediately after lunch. The seminars will expand on the morning's presentations and will have a practical orientation. Each will be facilitated by a seminar co-ordinator and will provide an opportunity for delegate participation.

The following seminars are available:

- 1 - **From policies to practice** - S.A.R.I., Knightstone Housing Association and West Devon Homes.  
How the specially developed training packages can benefit your housing association.
- 2 - **The Housing Corporation's approach to Race & Diversity Reviews** - Trevor Ives, Lead Regulator, Housing Corporation South West.  
An opportunity to gain a more detailed understanding of Race & Diversity Reviews.
- 3 - **Lessons from Audit Commission inspections** - Mark Elsworth, Housing Operations Manager, Audit Commission.  
A review of findings and implications based on practical examples from inspections.
- 4 - **Race equality in a rural context** - speaker to be confirmed  
Adapting race equality strategies and practice in rural and semi-rural areas.

Please ensure that your preferred group is flagged on the booking form.

### Delegate fees

Each place costs £65.00. Places will be available for a third delegate from the same organisation for £40 providing all places are booked at the same time. Invoices will be issued.

### Venue, access and travel

The conference takes place at the Thistle Hotel, King's Road, Brighton. This is a four star hotel, in The Lanes area of central Brighton, near the seafront. The hotel is approximately one mile from Brighton rail station. Car parking (for which there is a charge) is available beside the hotel.

There is disabled access to all conference rooms and there are disabled toilets on the ground floor. You are strongly advised to contact **Central Conference Consultants Ltd on 0115 916 3104** if you have any special requirements, so that your particular needs can be addressed.

Directions, together with details of overnight accommodation at the hotel and elsewhere, and car parking information, will be provided upon booking.

Please ensure that you flag any special requirements (eg access or diet) on your booking form.

### To make a booking

Please **complete the enclosed booking form, which contains full terms and conditions of booking**. You may then **fax this to 0115 916 3106**, or post it to: Central Conference Consultants Ltd, 23 Barratt Lane, Attenborough, Nottingham NG9 6AD.

Your booking will be acknowledged within seven days of receiving your form. Please notify Central Conference Consultants if you have not received confirmation after this period.

The closing date for bookings is **Friday, 23 April 2004**.

### Enquiries

If you have any questions regarding the conference, please call:

**Central Conference Consultants Ltd on 0115 916 3104.**