

ENFIELD RACIAL EQUALITY COUNCIL



challenging racism ...
... promoting racial equality

Mission

Challenging Racism and Promoting Racial Equality
within the London Borough of Enfield

Aims

- To promote Equality of Opportunity
- To encourage co-operation among all people in the borough without regard to race, colour, ethnic origin or sex, in a multi racial society
- To be a quality organisation delivering effective and efficient services.

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ENFIELD RACIAL EQUALITY COUNCIL

What is Enfield Racial Equality Council (EREC) and what do we do?

EREC is an umbrella organisation and the only one in Enfield solely concerned with racial discrimination and equality of opportunity in every aspect of your life.

EREC is concerned, however, about anyone who may have experienced racial discrimination, whatever their background: white people, Irish people, travellers and other national groups are covered equally by the Race Relations Act 1976.

Despite more enlightened times and constant publicity, incidents of racial harassment and abuse continue to occur, even in Enfield. Racism can breed quickly, especially in areas of economic deprivation. It can occur at all levels in society – from the classroom to the workplace, from graffiti on the walls to actual violence in the streets (and on the football terraces). Instances of name calling can develop into arson and campaigns of orchestrated violence.

Inequality and racial discrimination can take many forms - from the landlord who does not let to 'coloureds', to those who are well qualified but passed over for promotion.

EREC is willing to support all victims of racism and violence and to campaign for an end to injustice, fear and prejudice.

Some of EREC's activities cover employment, housing, health and social services, public affairs, education, racial harassment and violent attacks, injustice and racial abuse. We work with the local authority, local voluntary and statutory groups to ensure their policies and services provide for and are sensitive to the needs of all the community. From time to time, EREC undertakes project work on issues of concern where needs and gaps have been identified.

How can we help?

We can help you if you want free advice and information about racial discrimination, equal opportunities, housing, employment harassment, racial abuse, health and social services, injustices, education and violent attacks. We can also, in certain instances take up race related casework. From time to time, EREC undertakes project work on issues of concern where needs and gaps have been identified.

EREC is a registered charity run by its members through a Board of Trustees and is funded by the London Borough of Enfield and grants obtained through other funders such as the Equality and Human Rights Commission and the Big Lottery.

Would you like to become a member of EREC?

If you support the work of EREC, we would welcome you to join us as a member. Membership is **FREE** and is open to individuals who live or work in Enfield and to organisations operating in Enfield, who are committed to furthering the work of the REC.

Our membership includes the Local Borough Council, MPs, Police, religious groups, political parties, community groups, schools/colleges, BME groups and organisations and individuals dedicated to working against racism.

For further information about our work and/or a membership form, please call 020 8373 6271 or email info@enfieldrec.org.uk

Current Projects

- Initial Advice, Information and Training Project
- Improving Health Project
- Strategic Race Forum

INITIAL ADVICE, INFORMATION AND TRAINING PROJECT

Thursdays & Fridays 10am-4pm

Initial Advice and Information

EREC has received funding from the Equality and Human Rights Commission for the years 2008-2009, to deliver a project which will provide advice, information, referrals and signposting (but not casework support) to individuals experiencing discrimination or harassment in relation to their age, disability, sexual orientation, race, religion or belief, gender and human rights.

To seek assistance over the telephone or to make an appointment, or to refer individuals for assistance, please contact the Project Co-ordinator, Sophie Khan.

Training for Community Advisors

The project will also work in partnership with Enfield Citizens Advice Bureau to empower and build good relations between diverse communities through training workshops for community advisors on the equalities and human rights legislation (age, disability, sexual orientation, race, religion or belief, gender and human rights). We will also co-ordinate meetings of an 'Advisors Network' to share information and good practice.

Funded by the Equality and Human Rights Commission

Contact details

If you would like to know more about this project, or would like to participate in the training please contact Sophie on 020 8373 6275 / aip@enfieldrec.org.uk or Indrani on 020 8373 6272 / admin@enfieldrec.org.uk

Other Support Agencies That Can Help You

Equality and Human Rights Commission

Helpline: 0845 604 6610

(Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9am-5pm, Wed 9am-8pm)

Email: info@equalityhumanrights.com

Website: www.equalityhumanrights.com

Race Discrimination Unit

Employment advice line:

Tel: 0207 737 9777 (Tues 2-4 pm)

Tel: 0207 737 9770 (mainline)

Anti Social Behaviour Co-ordinator

020 8379 4182

Anti-Social Behaviour & Hate Crime Reporting Line

020 8379 4612 (leave a message and an officer will call you back)

Enfield Borough Police

020 8807 1212

Enfield Law Centre

Tel: 020 8807 8888

Email: info@enfieldlawcentre.org.uk

Victim Support Enfield

020 8350 0354 / 0845 450 4442

IMPROVING HEALTH PROJECT

Aim

Tackle health inequality and inequity by improving the health of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities living in Enfield.

How will this aim be met?

1. Improved awareness amongst targeted BME communities of living healthy lifestyles, particularly healthy eating, physical activity and smoking cessation.
2. Increasing take up of local services to improve health by targeted BME communities.
3. Development of inclusive local health programmes and services that address key BME health concerns.
4. Development of local community groups to better deliver health outcomes for their communities, aligned to local priorities and based on local health need.
5. Increased involvement of BME communities/users with local health forums.

Why is the project needed?

- Enfield's most deprived wards have high percentage of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) populations, and are amongst the worst 25% of wards in England in regard to health.
- Mortality rates for Enfield show that residents of Enfield North wards and Edmonton Wards have the highest death rates from coronary heart disease, stroke and diabetes.

- In Enfield, amongst under 16s, individuals of mixed race, Black Caribbean and Chinese origin have higher than average rates of limiting long term illness. Amongst the 50-64 age group, Mixed race, Caribbean, Pakistani, and Bangladeshi had very high rates. For over 65s, White other (Turkish/Greek Cypriot etc.), and Asian groups had higher than average rates.
- Coronary heart disease, diabetes, cancers, mental health, tuberculosis and poor sexual health also have higher instances amongst BME groups than for White groups. Differences can be attributed to lifestyles, health beliefs, diet, and genes, which vary across ethnic groups.
- Lack of access to appropriate health services also affects health outcomes for BME communities. Refugees and Asylum Seekers are more likely to suffer poor health as a result of their lack of knowledge about health services, not speaking English as their first language, in addition to any physical or mental illness they may have experienced due to persecution in their country of origin and to their adjustment to life in the UK.

(sources: Annual Report of North Central London Strategic Health Authority 2004/2005, Annual Public Health Report 2005-6: Enfield Primary Care Trust)

What is the project doing?

Policy Work

- Key health priorities and concerns, and gaps in health services for local BME groups identified.
- Working with local health policymakers to ensure that health plans address the needs of BME groups in Enfield, including a review of the local health Race Equality Schemes.



Health Promotion Work

- Regular e-bulletins and newsletters on BME Health Awareness issues and a web page on the EREC website.
- Partnership working with local BME community groups and Enfield PCT to deliver health promotion workshops/events with targeted communities.

Community Development Work

- Working with and commissioning BME community groups/representatives to deliver health awareness events/shows to their communities; in partnership where health concerns impact on more than one community.
- Advice provided to BME groups on funding opportunities and to assist with funding bids to develop health activities/advocacy work to improve health outcomes in Enfield.
- Promoting the involvement of BME users with the planning of local health services.

Who will benefit from this project?

- BME communities living in Enfield.
- BME community groups.
- Local health service planners and providers.
- Providers of local health activities which serve BME communities.

Contact details

For more information contact Valdev Chaggar or Saroj Parekh
020 8373 6273/8 or email improvinghealth@enfieldrec.org.uk

Funded by the Commission for Racial Equality

STRATEGIC RACE FORUM

Background

The Strategic Race Forum was established in September 2006 in response to concerns of BME organisations that their issues were not being addressed at strategic level.

Serviced by EREC, the Forum meets regularly to discuss a wide range of topics. The forum has proved popular with both voluntary and statutory sectors in recognition that it is important to keep race issues on the agenda.

Achievements to Date

- ⇒ Meetings attended by at least 30 people
- ⇒ Importance of forum as a consultative mechanism acknowledged by Enfield Council

Who can attend?

The forum is open to organisations and individuals living or working in Enfield. Membership is particularly welcome from BME organisations and representatives.

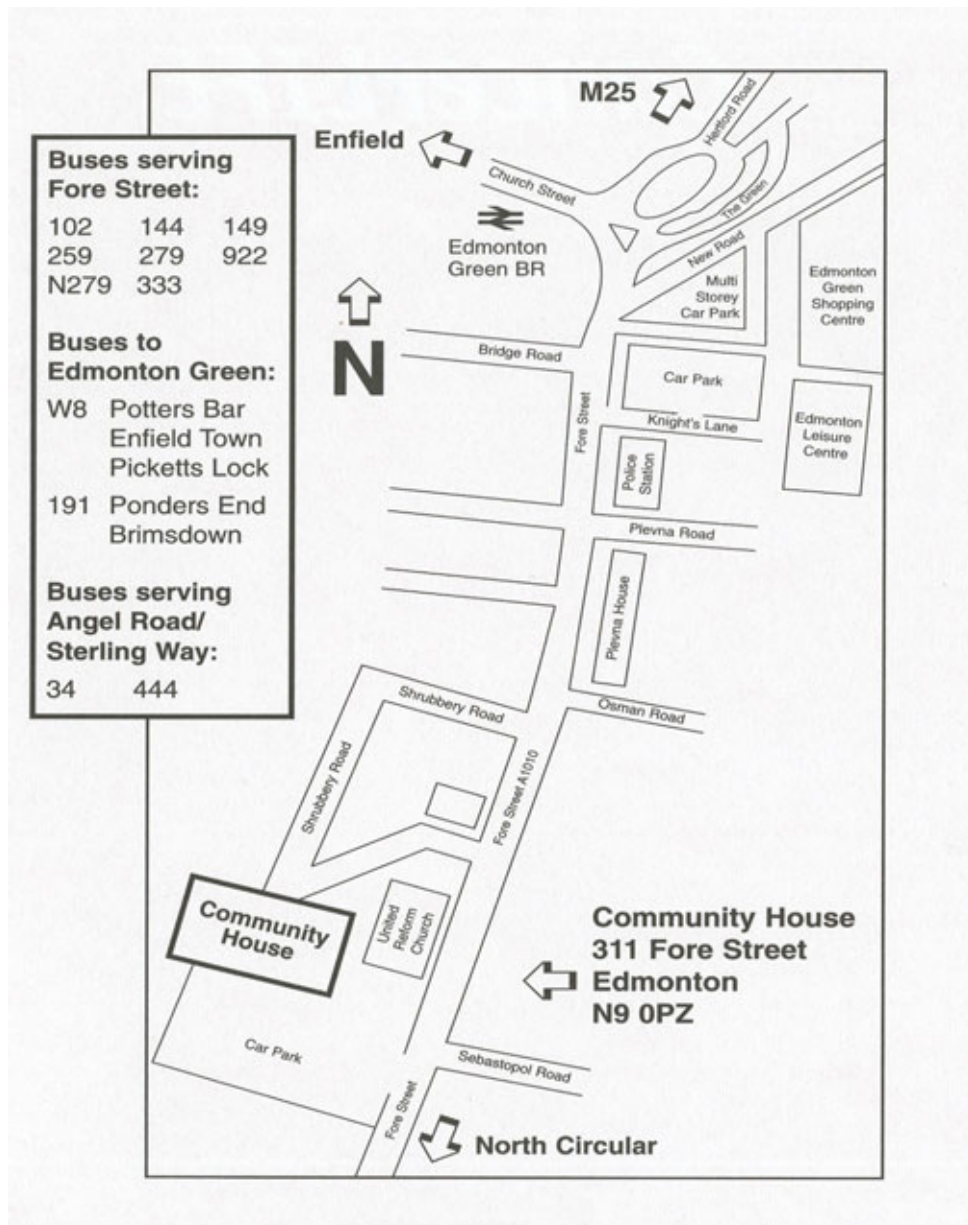
Future Plans

Over the coming year the forum plans to hold a series of meetings directly linking both national researches on race issues to local policy development. The aim being to ensure that local communities are able to have an informed voice of the issues they want EREC to take forward on their behalf or take up directly with policymakers.

Contact us

For membership or programme details call 020 8373 6271/2 or email admin@enfieldrec.org.uk

HOW TO FIND EREC



CONTACT US

Enfield Racial Equality Council

Community House
311 Fore Street
Edmonton
London
N9 0PZ

Telephone: 020 8373 6271
Fax: 020 8373 6281
Email: info@enfieldrec.org.uk
Website: www.enfieldrec.org.uk

Opening Hours

Monday – Friday
9.30am – 5.00pm

EREC Staff

Chief Executive:	Chandra Bhatia
Admin & Support Services Manager:	Soula Solomon
Admin Officer (Finance):	Maria Mercurio

Initial Advice, Information and Training Project

Co-ordinator:	Sophie Khan
Telephone:	020 8373 6275/1
Email:	aip@enfieldrec.org.uk

Improving Health Project

Co-ordinators:	Sameera Hamid Valdev Chaggar
Project Administrator:	Indrani Yogarajah
Telephone:	020 8373 6273/8
Email:	improvinghealth@enfieldrec.org.uk