

Our response to Sewell... and the HDN Podcast is here!

HDN Statement on the Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities (Sewell) Report

Housing Diversity Network (HDN) works with organisations across the housing sector so that they can become more inclusive. In the main our work focuses on leadership and governance, workforce development and services to local communities.

Although there are some elements in the report which provide a useful narrative, we believe it is a political document which diminishes the experiences of many of our communities, while pitting the most disadvantaged against each other. At HDN we are deeply disappointed that it paints a diluted picture of both racism in the UK, and how organisations should respond to make their workplaces truly representative of the communities they serve.

We agree with the report that more must be done to tackle racism across all groups, and our stance on unconscious bias training is that, in isolation, it isn't a way of being progressive, but it is a vital part of our aim to engage as many managers as possible in our fight against racism. Biases exist in all of us, and can sometimes lead to unequal decision-making.

At HDN we do a lot of training and consultancy work in the housing sector and will continue to approach this from the position that structural and institutional discrimination exists. An understanding of this is required to address the impact on the workforce, tenants and residents.

We take this position based on the expertise, evidence and experiences of our members and communities in the housing sector.

We think that the report's recommendations around the term Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) miss the point. It's the context in which it is used, and the debate and actions that follow from it that is most important.

We reiterate our unwavering commitment to support all our members in their work to remove barriers to success, drive out inequalities and to tackle racism so that all their staff and tenants can thrive and realise their potential and ambitions.



Listen to Moreen's take on BLM on our

first Podcast!



The first in our new series of podcasts is live, and available to listen to already on Spotify and iTunes, and it will appear on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Stitcher and TuneIn over the next few days.

In our opening podcast HDN's Programmes Manager, Moreen Pascal, takes a look at the Black Lives Matter movement and gives her brilliant insight into what it means to us here in the UK.

Pre and post Sewell Report Moreen's words ring loud and true.

Search **'The Housing Diversity Network Podcast'**

The LGBTQ+ Youth Homelessness Report (2021)

AKT has launched its latest research which collates the experiences of LGBTQ+ and young people who have faced homelessness during the last five years. 59 per cent of LGBTQ+ people have faced some form of discrimination while accessing services and AKT is making a call to action.

[Read and download the full report HERE](#)

Welcome to our new members!

Pickering and Ferens Homes
Phoenix Community Housing
Nottingham Community Housing Association
Gentoo Group
South Liverpool Homes
Vale of Aylesbury Housing
PCHA (Penge Churches Housing Association)
Your Homes Newcastle



Alumni

For past and present mentors and mentees we are gradually growing our database of alumni contacts, and the next steps will include a bespoke page on our website and then we intend to hold an event in 2022.

If you have any queries or information to pass on please contact us:

mentoring@housingdiversitynetwork.co.uk

Upcoming Online Events

Webinar: ***Side by Side The Power of Allyship***

21st April
2pm to 3:30pm

Join this webinar to understand how you can become an ally for your colleagues to promote diversity and inclusion within your organisation.

[To book click here](#)

Webinar: ***Racism, Sewell and the Housing Sector***

4th May
2pm to 3:30pm

Join our expert panel as we discuss the Sewell Report and its implications for the housing sector

[To book click here](#)

[For details of all our events CLICK HERE](#)

What We Do at HDN

Contact us to see if we can help

We work with organisations on a range of equality, diversity and inclusion issues. These include management and leadership training, board and executive team discussions on Black Lives Matter and/or the pandemic, and reviewing and helping on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plans and Strategies.

Contact [Mushtaq Khan](#) for further details.

What's the team been talking about?

So the very richest football clubs in the world have decided they want less risk and more cash. We're not entirely sure that's how business works but hey, Manchester United, Liverpool and the rest of the self anointed 'Big Six' of the Premier League have joined six European clubs to propose a breakaway moneybags Super League, from which they can't be relegated!

We don't always agree on everything but, here at HDN, we don't believe that 'greed is good' whether in sport, work or anywhere for that matter; and these powerful clubs should be ashamed.

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