

## **Hate Crime and Social Housing: Taking Stock, Taking Action**

Wednesday 21st October 2:00pm to 3:30pm

The Housing Diversity Network invite you to join us in the next of our series of webinars, an informative workshop and update on hate crime, housing specific evidence and actions, and the role of the Crown Prosecution Service in prosecuting hate crime.

The event will be led by Kusminder Chahal, Senior Research Fellow at Birmingham University and will focus providing evidence, trends and changes in hate crime, as well as exploring the CPS role in more detail.

How do we encourage reporting of hate crime and gather evidence as well as supporting victims? There will be plenty of opportunity for other questions and discussion during the fully interactive event.

### **More background...**



Hate crime is on the increase in the UK. Victims of the crimes are attacked because an assailant dislikes something about a person and commits a crime which provides evidence they have targeted that person because of one of five protected characteristics:

- Race
- Religion
- Sexual orientation
- Disability
- Transgender identity

In a recent development, if sex and gender become protected characteristics in order to protect women, the same will apply, and a new report from the Law Commission has suggested just that.

The independent body has said that misogyny should be treated in the same way as other discrimination when it is the motivation for a crime, something Labour MP Stella Creasy has long campaigned for, criticising the complex nature of the existing laws.

Against this constantly evolving backdrop we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming webinar.

[For more information or to book your place click here](#)

**Riverside steps towards total inclusivity**

Lyn Bowker, Equality and Diversity Manager for Riverside has written a guest blog on the HDN website, explaining what the housing association has done to improve its recruitment policy and process.



“We are passionate about ensuring our people reflect the very different communities we serve,” says Lyn, “and, on the back of our recent BAME research, we developed a bespoke **Talent Acquisition Strategy** to address the findings of our report.”

Riverside is taking positive action and has introduced a **BAME Guaranteed Interview Scheme** to address an under-representation within senior level roles, by offering internal and external applicants from diverse backgrounds the option to be considered for an interview for any role at manager level or above, if they meet the minimum criteria for that role.

Lyn says: “This is one real and positive step towards our goal of racial equality.”

[Read more of Lyn's thoughts and Riverside's inclusion process here](#)

## What We Do at HDN

Contact us to see if we can help

We are currently working 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.

## Upcoming Events (free to HDN members)

Tuesday 3rd November 2:00pm

### Diversity Data Roundtable

Tuesday 8th December 11:00am

### Northern Diversity Group

Wednesday 9th December 11:00am

### Midlands Diversity Group

[For more details click here](#)

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