

NEWSLETTER



RAFIQ'S WORDS STILL RESONATE

Here at the Housing Diversity Network we live and breathe our principles of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion; and we're part of a growing movement of people throughout the world who will stand up for our friends and colleagues whenever they are subjected to prejudice or unfairness.

Now, as much as any other time in our history, it is crucial that we all show caring and humility in our dealings with others, and so the plight of former Yorkshire cricketer Azeem Rafiq remains poignant. It is four months since he talked about the racism he suffered as a player at Yorkshire CCC, a seminal moment in the sport when the authorities finally seemed to face up to the reality of the bigotry which is all too often in evidence.

Rafiq expected a backlash and, depressingly, he has been proven correct. And while overt racism is the preserve of the mindless minority, the fact that his family is asking him to sell the fish and chip shop he bought only six months ago is a sorry reflection on society. Rafiq openly admits that he has been far from perfect himself, but for his clear message to be all too readily diluted by some who point to his own failings was inevitable.

Nothing changes his revelations that Yorkshire CCC was racist in its treatment of him and his words must not be forgotten. Otherwise, while the authorities make empty platitudes, the next marginalised player might feel just as hopeless as did Rafiq.

Listen to and watch our video podcast (Available only to HDN Members) when we discuss the Yorkshire CCC racism scandal with housing professional and cricket campaigner Abdul Ravat; out now on [Spotify](#), [Apple I Tunes](#) and [Google Podcast](#).

EVENTS



Equality Impact Assessment Workshop

A practical and engaging workshop that will provide you with the skills and knowledge to do an Equality Impact Assessment

[More Info](#)



HDN Webinar: The inequalities of Caring

Join us as we discuss 'Harry's Pledge' and how we can level the playing field for working carers

[More Info](#)



Hate Crime and Housing Providers Workshop

This three-hour workshop will help you and your organisation to provide an evidence-based approach to understanding hate crime

[More Info](#)

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

NEW MEMBERS



NOW HIRING



There are two fantastic opportunities to join the board of a unique social housing organisation. **Watmos Community Housing** is currently looking for a Chair of the Board and Chair of Audit. The closing date for applications is Monday, 4th April 2022 and you can find out more about these vacancies [here](#).



And Berneslai Homes have an exciting opportunity for a tenant to join their board as one of two tenant board members. The closing date for applications is Friday, 1st April 2022 and you can find out more [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 THE TEAM'S BEEN TALKING ABOUT THIS WEEK

We've been through (hopefully) the COVID pandemic and now an even worse world catastrophe is unfolding in Ukraine. Our hearts go out to every single person suffering as a result of war, and the global refugee crisis has just reached another level. We have a duty, in the housing sector and in our network, to do everything we can to help those fleeing war or famine in their own countries.

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