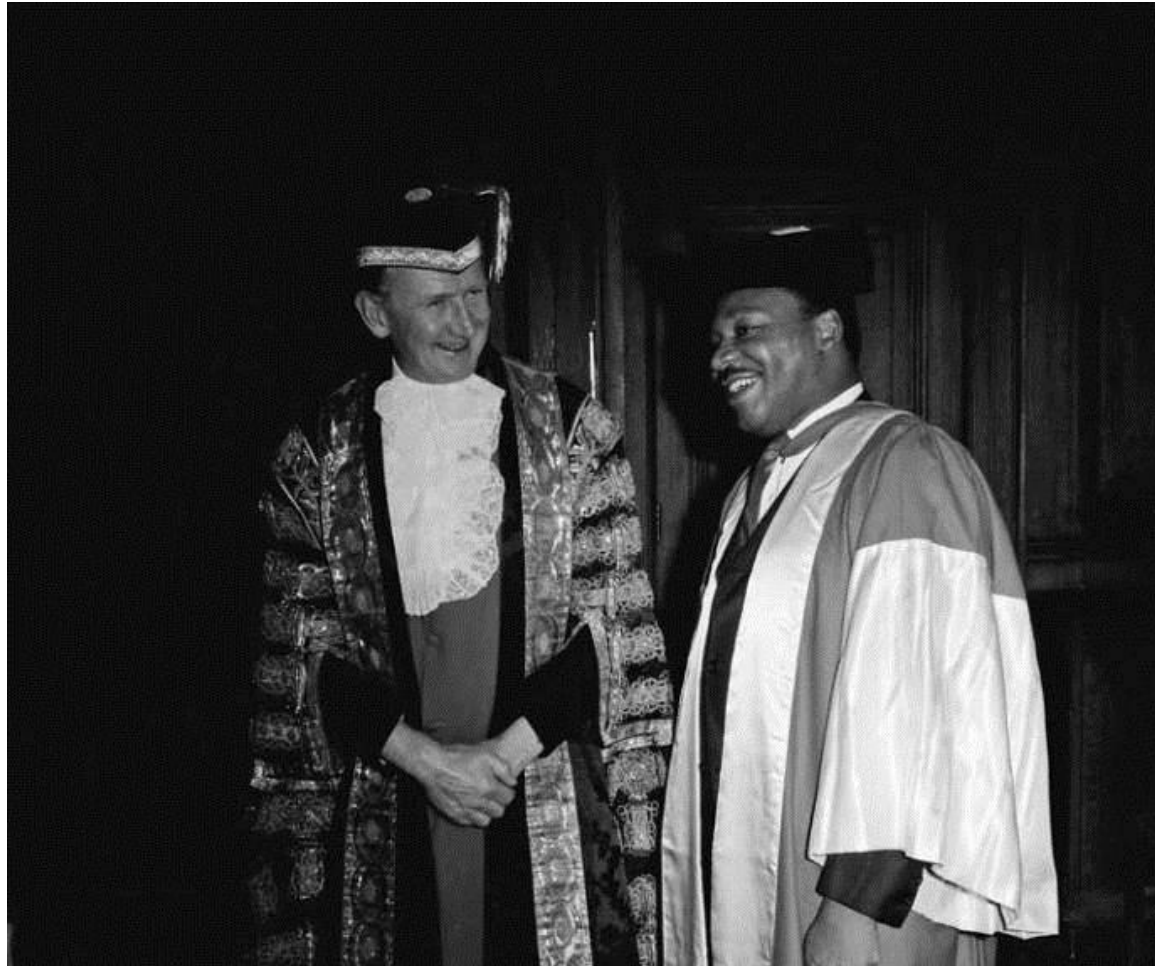


Welcome here

Celebrating voluntary sector work with the diverse Black, Asian, and ethnic minority communities in Newcastle and Gateshead

Pam Jobbins
Newcastle CVS

Martin Luther King Honorary Degree Ceremony



Changing population

- Between 2001 census and 2011 census the BAME population more than doubled in both Newcastle and Gateshead
- In Gateshead 7,472 people (3.7%) were from BAME groups
- In Newcastle 40,600 people (14.7%) were from Black and Asian groups, 8,510 people (3.7%) were White Other, most east European
- White British population was 81.7%

Changing population

- In 2017 black and minority ethnic schoolchildren make up 31% of pupils in Newcastle state schools
- Increase from 24% in 2011, and 16% in 2007
- 33% of reception children are BAME; 25% have English as an additional language
- Older children, 24% in year 11 are BAME and 17% have English as an additional language

Issues facing BAME communities



Issues facing BAME communities

- *“Not dissimilar to those of the communities they inhabit, difficulties with poverty, discrimination and a sense of social exclusion from mainstream Newcastle. They additionally face racism and a sense of being unwelcome”.*

Accessibility

- *“It is not the BAME community who are hard to access, it is the services provided that are difficult to engage with”*
- BAME communities access services through trusted relationships, word of mouth, personal recommendation
- *“Access relies heavily on individual knowledge and connections within the sector”*

Create a welcome

- *“The first step of making the phone call or coming in to the office takes bravery”*
- What is it like to use your service for the first time?
- Consider a welcome sign in a variety of languages
- Poverty Proofing the Voluntary Sector
<http://povertyproofingvcs.org.uk/>

Tackling language barriers



Tackling language barriers

- Riverside Community Health Project employed Czech/Roma workers to meet the needs of the new Czech/Roma population in Newcastle
- Gateshead Carers said
“Volunteers change and so languages available change...we try to match these to the needs of the clients and actively engage with volunteers with suitable language skills”

Tackling language barriers

- JET – Jobs, Education and Training offers ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes in community venues: Newcastle Central Mosque, the Millin Centre, Wingrove School
- BME Advocacy: four bilingual advocates and works with interpreters

Beware jargon

- All sectors and services have jargon
- Not understood by *all* service users
- Even less if English is not your first language
- Includes use of BME and BAME
- Use of Plain English part of solution

Supporting education

- Pakistani, Bangladeshi, and Roma children are the most disadvantaged
- But being eligible for free school meals and living in poverty are greater predictors of poor results and disadvantage than ethnicity
- Gendered: *“with the exception of Roma, Gypsy and Traveller children, white working class boys perform the worst of any group in British schools”*

Supporting education

Success4All Learning Hubs

- Help with school admissions, tutoring children, support parents to navigate the education system
- Focus on tackling impact of poverty and disadvantage
- 65% of users are BAME children

Tackling racism, discrimination, prejudice, hate crime

- Race Relations Act passed in 1976
- Racism, discrimination, and prejudice is still routine and everyday, often unreported
- Fear of attack based on your race:
 - 39.7% of Asian Britons
 - 35.4% of Black Britons
 - 7.6% of White Britons

Tackling racism, discrimination, prejudice, hate crime

- Increasing hate crime based on race and religion
- 2016/17 following Brexit referendum – rise of over 29%; of that more than $\frac{3}{4}$ based on race
- *NSPCC: “A tense political climate is resulting in a spike in the number of British children being exposed to race and faith-based bullying”*

Conversation
not CONFRONTATION

Conversation not Confrontation Resources

Resources are grouped into three easy to use sections:

- Challenge prejudice
- Handle hate crime
- Tackle extremism

Visit <http://cnotc.org.uk/>

Fostering good relations

- People are friends with their own ethnic group and religious group; Bangladeshi communities have the lowest probability of White British friends
- White British pupils overwhelmingly go to White British schools
- 68% BAME children go to schools where ethnic minority pupils are in the majority

Fostering good relations

If you could do one thing

- *“Integration can’t be taken for granted. Social integration needs to be supported and planned, considering the needs and challenges of different localities and communities”*
- Organisations should ask themselves *“how are we fostering good relations between and within communities?”*

Volunteers support

- *“We are exceptionally proud of our Volunteering Programme...recognised and won at the North East Equality Awards” said JET*
- Volunteer run Spice FM broadcasts in 14 languages live across Newcastle and Gateshead on 98.8 FM and on the internet

In summary

- Communities are not static
- To be accessible services need a proactive focus on increasing diversity
- Poverty and disadvantage more impact than race
- Develop BAME volunteer programmes
- Integration does not just happen; need work with BAME and White communities
- VSC activities under threat; resources scarce for new communities



Newcastle CVS gives people who struggle to be heard a voice, supports voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations to be resilient and sustainable and promotes a fairer society by influencing and challenging the debate.

Our established reputation, extensive networks and integrity and strength of approach makes us the go to source in supporting voluntary, community and social enterprise action. We improve the quality of life in Newcastle and Gateshead by supporting the voluntary sector.