

The Bristol Manifesto for Race Equality “Batook’s Blueprint”



Our pledge to improve
race equality in Bristol

We believe Bristol is a great city; in 2013 it was named 'the best city to live in the UK for wealth and happiness' by the Telegraph. The European Commission has recognised Bristol's success in creating a green city with a high quality of life by naming the city as European Green Capital 2015.

Yet race equality seems at a standstill in Bristol; inequality, lack of social mobility and exclusion from social, cultural and political spheres are key challenges still facing Bristol's BME (Black & Minority Ethnic) communities.

Levels of social mobility for most BME communities in Bristol are as low today as they were in the 1970s.

There is a cycle of continuous poverty, powerlessness and exclusion for BME people; a cycle which needs to be broken.



This manifesto is intended to give hope to Bristol's increasing BME population. Written and agreed upon by local BME people, this manifesto sets out the core principles needed in order to address the inequalities faced by BME communities in Bristol.

Core Principles

1. Equality is a fundamental right, applicable to everyone and inclusive of all BME people.
2. To address the impact of discrimination and disadvantage of BME people.
3. Decision-making bodies should reflect the diversity of our society.
4. To work toward the elimination of racial stereotyping.
5. To integrate a racial equality outlook within local and regional organisations.
6. Action plans and programmes must be properly resourced and funded.
7. To improve the overall social and economic position of BME people in Bristol.

Written in memory of local race relations champion Batook Pandya, this manifesto is a call to city officials, public bodies and services, private organisations, BME groups, individuals and allies. In order to achieve the changes required for a better, more inclusive Bristol, active work and leadership is required not just from the public, private and voluntary sectors but also local BME communities and businesses. This manifesto is not meant to be a list of asks or demands, but an initial rallying point around which we can make real progress through taking action to effect real change, and help real people.



To read the full manifesto, visit <http://goo.gl/5iXgiZ>

This manifesto has been drafted by a range of agencies including Avon & Somerset Black Police Association, Black South West Network, Bristol BME Voice, Building the Bridge, Nilaari, SARI, Somali Media Group, Ujima Radio, Voscur, Bristol City Council Equalities and Public Health Teams, BME individuals and others.

