



Edge Hill University  
CENTRE FOR LOCAL POLICY STUDIES

Centre for Local Policy Studies - Summer School 2009  
30<sup>th</sup> June, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> July

Making Sense of Equality and Diversity at the Local Level –  
engagement, community cohesion, governance and  
multiculturalism

The way in which organisations approach and manage equality and diversity has undergone a transformation. Over the coming months this transformation will begin to take practical shape and it is vital that organisations are ready to understand and respond to what this will mean for service delivery, business and resource management, and relationships with partners. Community engagement and involvement lies at the heart of the changing equality landscape, and the Single Equality Bill and other legislative changes broaden the notions of ‘community’, ‘equality’ and ‘diversity’ and this will affect all sectors including public services, private business and voluntary organisations.

The Centre for Local Policy Studies summer school 2009 aims to engage and equip participants to explore, understand and find practical solutions to managing equality and diversity at a local level, and critically to ensure that there is a clear understanding of communities, community needs, experiences and expectations and social issues– beyond simply focusing on race and faith.

Leading expert contributors and practitioners will explore themes of understanding equality and diversity in the context of engagement, community cohesion, social class and identity, amongst others, and provide an insight into the expectations placed upon different sectors – statutory, non-statutory and community or voluntary in this context. An excellent environment for learning and understand the issues relating to equality/diversity and cohesion for those with responsibility for working in or managing organisations in multicultural settings.

Contributors:

Hosted by expert practitioners and those working at practical and strategic levels, the Summer School is designed to allow time for reflection and exploring the challenging issues as well as practical solutions.

Format and Location:

The Summer School is offered over a two and half days. Delegates will also have the option of a ‘day-school’ option or for day programmes.

The Summer School venue is in a prestigious location – Crewe Hall, Cheshire. Close to excellent road and public transport networks including Crewe mainline railway station.

For information or if you have any questions please contact:

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Website: [www.clps.org.uk](http://www.clps.org.uk)

## PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009 – Reception desk and Check-in facility will be open from 2pm**

4pm	Welcome from Stuart Speeden Director of CLPS Introduction to programme/Presentation of key conference themes, speakers.
4.30pm	'Re-thinking Multiculturalism' – <b>Stuart Speeden</b>
5.00pm	Opening Keynote Speaker (1)– <b>Peter Tatchell</b>
5.30pm	Opening Keynote Speaker (2)– <b>Gary Younge</b>
6.00pm	Panel/Round table discussions and debate – with contributions from leading experts
7.00pm	Dinner

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009**

9.15am	Introduction to day/Chair - CLPS
9.30am	Speaker – <b>Catherine May – Equality and Human Rights Commission</b>
9.55am	Speakers – <b>Alana Lentin/Gavan Titley</b>
10.15am	Speaker – <b>Max Farrar, Leeds Metropolitan University</b>
10.45am	Refreshment Break
11.00am	Presentation – <b>Sameem Ali – 'Author of Belonging'</b>
11.45am	Panel Discussion/Round Tables – facilitator: CLPS
12. 30pm	LUNCH
1.30pm	Presentation- <b>Christine Burns – Plain Sense</b>
2.00pm	Workshops and Learning labs <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Migrant Communities, Community Cohesion and Integration- Experiences of Polish Workers in the UK. TUC Vulnerable workers project &amp; National Federation of Poles in Great Britain</li><li>2. What do we mean by culture? – Julian Clarke</li><li>3. Community Engagement, Partnerships and 'target setting' Dipana Patel</li><li>4. Community Cohesion and the Chinese Community – A case study, Alan Seatwo</li></ol>
3.15pm	Refreshment Break
3.30pm	Speaker – Centre for Local Policy Studies
4.00pm	Workshop/Panel discussion – (round tables)
4.30pm	Presentation – Northwest Regional Youth Unit
5.15pm	Final Questions/Plenary and Networking Opportunity
7.00pm	Dinner

## Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2009

9.15am	Introduction to day /Chair - CLPS
9.30am	Opening Speaker - <b>Karen Chouhan, Equanomics UK</b>
10.00am	Keynote Address – <b>Yasmin Alibhai-Brown</b>
10.30am	Questions/debate with panel
11.00am	Refreshment Break
11.15am	Presentation – <b>Sharon Cotton-Smith, Cheshire Travellers Voice</b>
11.45am	Workshops and Learning labs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. IT and Multicultural Issues – Mohammed Dhalech</li><li>2. Religion or Belief, Zafar Saleem</li><li>3. Workshop by Shelter – Ade Fashade</li><li>4. Engaging with the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Community. Paul Martin &amp; Jules Mackenzie</li></ol>
12.45pm	Discussion/Workshop feedback and key points
1.15pm	Lunch
2pm	Legal Round-up <b>Aileen McColgan – Matrix Chambers</b>
2.45pm	Final Plenary and opportunities for Questions
From 3pm - Networking opportunities until close of conference at 3.30pm	

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTERS:**

### **Gary Young**

Gary Young Gary is a columnist and feature writer for the *Guardian* based in New York was formerly the paper's New York correspondent . He has written extensively from the United States, South Africa and throughout Europe.

In 1996 he was seconded to the *Washington Post* after being awarded the Lawrence Stern fellowship.

Born and raised in Stevenage, Hertfordshire, he studied French and Russian at Heriot-Watt University and taught English to refugees in Sudan. His most recent book is 'Stranger in a Strange Land: Encounters in the Disunited States'; he is also the author of 'No Place Like Home', published in 1999. TBC

### **Yasmin Alibhai-Brown – Author, Journalist and political commentator**

Yasmin Alibhai-Brown is a journalist who has written for The Guardian, Observer, The New York Times, Time Magazine, Newsweek, The Evening Standard, The Mail and other newspapers and is now a regular columnist on The Independent and London's Evening Standard. She is also a radio and television broadcaster and author of several books. Her book, No Place Like Home, well received by critics, was an autobiographical account of a twice removed immigrant. From 1996 to 2001 she was a Research Fellow at the Institute for Public Policy Research which published True Colours on the role of government on racial attitudes. In April 2004, her film on Islam for Channel 4 won an award and in May 2004, she received the EMMA award for best print journalist for her columns in the Independent. In September 2004, a collection of her journalistic writings, Some of My Best Friends Are... was published in 2005.

Since that year, she has been seen on stage in her one woman show, commissioned and directed by the Royal Shakespeare Company as part of their new work festival. In 2005, she was voted the 10th most influential black/Asian woman in the country in a poll and in another she was among the most powerful Asian media professionals in the UK. In 2008 she was appointed Visiting Professor of Journalism at Cardiff University School of Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies and Visiting Professor of Journalism at the University of Lincoln. Yasmin's new book The Settler's Cookbook is a food memoir of East African Asians.

### **Peter Tatchell – Human Rights Campaigner**

Peter Tatchell has been campaigning for human rights for over 40 years, on issues of democracy, civil liberties, social equality, environmental protection, peace and global justice. His political inspirations are Mahatma Gandhi, Sylvia Pankhurst, Martin Luther King and Malcolm X.

From 1971, he was a leading activist in the Gay Liberation Front in London.

He was voted the sixth greatest "Hero of our Time" by readers of the New Statesman in 2006, and in the same year The Independent listed him as one of top 50 "Good" people in Britain.

Peter is the Green Party parliamentary candidate for Oxford East.

### **Aileen McColgan QC, Matrix Chambers**

Aileen McColgan is Professor of Human Rights Law, King's College London and the UK National Expert on the European Network of Legal Experts in the Field of Gender Equality. Her practice covers public law, including election law; human rights; actions against the police; all aspects of employment and discrimination; privacy, data protection and freedom of information. She also undertakes extensive strategic advisory work for clients including (but not limited to) trade unions and the various equality commissions, latterly the EHRC. Aileen was

legal adviser to the Forum on a Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland in 2007-8 and a member of the Local Government Pay Commission in 2002-2003. She is Vice president of the Institute for Employment Rights. An internationally acknowledged expert on pay equality and discrimination, Aileen has conducted human rights training for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and (through the FCO) for the Turkish military and lay judiciary. She has also done extensive training on human rights, employment and discrimination training for trade unions, LAG and other bodies, including equality and diversity training for the Bar Council.

### **Karen Chouhan, Equanomics UK**

Karen Chouhan is a commentator and advisor in race relations and social equality. She is the founder, and the Director of Policy and Research for the beacon project *Equanomics UK* based in London. Karen was chosen and supported by the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust as one of seven UK 'visionaries'. Previously a senior Lecturer at De Montfort University, Karen now consults public and private organizations, fervently pushing the agenda for social equality and economic empowerment.

### **Professor Max Farrar**

Max Farrar is Professor for Community Engagement at Leeds Metropolitan University, UK. He is a sociologist whose doctoral research was on community organising in the multi-ethnic inner city of Leeds. This was published as *The Struggle for Community ...* (Edwin Mellen, 2002). He has worked as a volunteer and as a paid worker in the voluntary sector for more than 35 years, as well as teaching, consulting and researching in his academic roles over the past 20 years. In the 1970s and early 1980s he was a member of the libertarian Marxist organisation *Big Flame*. Among various current projects he convenes the Thinking Cohesion study group in Leeds composed of representatives of the local authority, the voluntary/faith sector, the police and the Leeds strategic partnership organisation; he convenes the David Oluwale Memorial Committee, which remembers the tragic death in Leeds of a Nigerian citizen of the city; and he co-convenes the British Sociological Association's Race and Ethnicity Study Group. His current research focuses on political Islam.

### **Stuart Speeden- Centre for Local Policy Studies**

Stuart Speeden is director of the Centre for Local Policy Studies. He has worked extensively with local government and the voluntary sector in policy development, community involvement, equalities, local economic development and environmental issues. He has been a lecturer in urban policy and local government for fourteen years and is currently involved in post graduate teaching and the development of courses in voluntary sector management. In the past five years, Stuart has worked extensively on equality themes, including two major reports for the Commission for Racial Equality. His current work involves a number of research projects and policy initiatives around equality and social inclusion. This includes work with the SEQUAL project that has focused on employment, race and ethnicity and formal assessments and validation reports for local authorities regarding the Equality Standard for Local Government.

### **Dipana Patel**

Dipana Patel works across the public, private and voluntary sectors on strategic partnerships and community engagement. She has extensive experience of working with 'grass roots' and community organizations. Her particular focus within local government has been the development of Community Strategies, Local Strategic Partnerships and the development of community based projects. Dipana is the Chair of the BBC Radio Northampton Advisory Committee, as well as a part-time Magistrate.

### **Dr Alana Ientini**

Alana Lentin is a political sociologist and social theorist at the Department of Sociology, University of Sussex, UK. Specialising on the critical theorisation of race, racism and anti-racism and she has carried out extensive research into the contemporary politics of (im)migration and collective action for migrants' rights.

Her first book published in 2004 is entitled *Racism and Anti-Racism in Europe*, and she has also co-edited *Race and State* with Ronit Lentin. Her latest book, an accessible insight into her approaches to racism, *Racism: A beginner's guide*, is published by OneWorld in 2008. *The Politics of Diversity in Europe*, co-edited with Gavan Titley of the National University of Ireland, is published by the Council of Europe in 2008. I am also the co-editor of *Football Against Racism in Europe*, co-edited with Christos Kassimeris of Cyprus College, which looks at the work of anti-racist organisations in the world of sport.

In addition, Alana publishes regularly in *European Journal Social Theory* and *Patterns of Prejudice* among other journals and is also a regular contributor to *OpenDemocracy*.

### **Gavan Titley**

Gavan Titley is the Subject Leader for Media Studies, and is the coordinator for the BA in Media Studies at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. He teaches modules on media theory and social theory across the different years of the BA and on the MA in Radio and Television Production.

Gavan studied at Trinity College Dublin and at Dublin City University, where he completed his PhD. Prior to working in NUIM Gavan lectured at the University of Helsinki. His current research interests centre on media, migration and trans-nationalism, on discourses of 'diversity' in the media and public life, and on the mediation of the 'crisis of multiculturalism' in Europe

### **Bob Blyth**

Bob Blyth is the lead co-ordinator for the Vulnerable Projects, TUC

### **Jan Mokrzycki**

Jan Mokrzycki leads the Federation of British Poles, campaigning for the rights of migrants workers in the UK.

### **Dan Moxon**

Dan Moxon is the Regional Participation officer at the North West Regional Youth Work unit. He works in partnership with youth services and youth work organisations to support young people who are active in local participation projects to come together and influence regional decision making. His work includes co-ordinating UK Youth Parliament in the North West, as well projects which give young people direct access into the decision making of the Cheshire and Merseyside Child Health development Programme, Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive and Government Office North West.

He also sits on the North West Together We Community empowerment stakeholder board and undertakes a variety of other work to support and stimulate youth participation and youth work within the North West, including a variety of work to support the voice of young Muslims.

### **Sharon Cotton-Smith**

Sharon Cotton-Smith is employed through WINCAP for Cheshire Gypsy and Traveller's Voice as a Community Outreach.

Cheshire Gypsy and Travellers Voice actively campaign for the rights of Gypsies and Travellers and work to overcome the inequalities in accommodation, health, education, social exclusion and to break down stereotypes. Working to make sure that organizations take account of the needs of Gypsy and Traveller communities and understand how decision making affects the lives of Gypsies and Travellers. From an educational perspective, Cheshire and Gypsy Travellers Voice works to raise awareness of Gypsy and Traveller culture.

Cheshire Gypsy and Travellers Voice is the only dedicated Gypsy and Traveller Support Organisation in the North West, providing an advocacy and advisory service to Gypsies and Irish Travellers who reside in or regularly travel through Cheshire, Halton and Warrington.

### **Ade Fashade**

Ade is the Equality and Diversity Manager at Shelter, the National Housing Advice and Campaigning Charity. He has almost 20 years working and volunteer experience in statutory and voluntary and community sector, having previously worked with organisations such as Metropolitan Police as a Personnel Administrative Officer in the 90s and the London Borough of Newham on democratic engagement and community development. He worked for bassac, a national community development membership organisation as a Partnership project Coordinator, from 2005 to 2007, where he delivered a 2-year project, looking at partnership working between BME and mainstream community organisations. He is a Trustee of the Volunteer Centre in Chelmsford, Essex, a Vice-Chair of the Standards Committee in Chelmsford Borough Council and a co-founder/trustee for Development Impact for Nigeria UK (DIFN UK), a small 'Diaspora-led' international development NGO, which promotes social justice, volunteering and development amongst UK based Nigerians. He has an MSc in Voluntary Sector Organisations (Civil Society) from the London School of Economics.

### **Zafar Saleem**

Zafar Saleem, is currently Head of Community Engagement and Cohesion at Rotherham Metropolitan Borough council. Zafar has been involved in the field of cohesion, community development, equality and diversity for over twenty years. He has a particular interest in the Equality Standard for Local Government which he has been supporting local authorities on since its inception. Other areas of expertise and interest include childrens safeguarding, delivering race equality in mental health, developing positive action programmes, and community engagement.

### **Paul Martin**

Paul Martin is the Director of the Manchester based Lesbian and Gay Foundation.

### **Sameem Ali**

Sameem Ali is the author of the best selling book 'Belonging' the subject matter of which, forced marriage and life in Britain for Asian families and women, is rarely written about and captured in such powerful and courageous terms. Sameem is now involved in campaigning and educative projects, and is also an elected Councillor, since in 2007 she decided to stand for election to Manchester City Council, and won the biggest ever majority in her ward..

### **Jules Mackenzie**

Jules joined Centre for Local Policy Studies in 2004 as a research assistant. She has previously worked in a variety of managerial roles in the private sector, has taught in further education and has a particular interest and involvement in issues around disability.

Within the Centre, Jules has worked on a number of projects relating to equalities including Aimhigher - researching good practice in higher education for disabled students.

She has also been involved in a number of evaluations and research projects around policy and diversity.

### **Julian Clarke**

Dr Julian Clarke is Research Fellow at the Centre for Local Policy Studies. Julian has worked extensively on developing the Equality Standard for Local and its implementation throughout English public sector organisations.

### **Mohammed dhalech**

Mohammed Dhalech is the Partnerships Association within the Centre for Local Policy Studies. Mohammed has worked at a senior strategic level in the voluntary and public sectors including higher education, criminal justice, local government and the voluntary sector advising on a range of issues related to equality and diversity. He has particular experience of working on equality and diversity issues in rural areas in the UK and Europe, and is currently working on several projects in this area including postgraduate research.

He has been actively involved in youth work at local, national and European level, particularly utilising the medium of outdoor education, and developing and facilitating training and seminars at an international level in Europe with the Council of Europe.

More recently Mohammed has been working with a range of agencies and organisations to develop partnerships to deliver diversity at local, regional, national and European levels. He provides training and support on diversity, equality, training, Equality Impact Assessments, and community engagement issues and rural equality issues.

### **Alan Seawto**

Alan Seawto works within Knowledge Transfer at Edge Hill University. He has carried out research on the Chinese Community in Liverpool and the Northwest.

### **Catherine May**

Catherine May is the Regional Manager for the North West at the Equality and Human Rights Commission. The broad role of the Commission's regional teams is to manage and intervene on equality and human rights issues and to manage relationships with regional stakeholders.

Prior to this she has worked in the Voluntary Sector; most recently as the Project Manager on the Mental Health anti-discrimination campaign "Time to Change" and as the Programme Coordinator for Oxfam's UK



Poverty Programme. She has a MA (Econ) in Social Policy and Social Development from the University of Manchester.

### **Christine Burns**

Christine Burns has been a specialist advocate for trans people's equality of social inclusion for over sixteen years. A member of the Parliamentary Forum on Transsexualism and a former Council member of Liberty, she has written extensively on every issue confronting trans people in everyday life and has been an advisor to Ministers and Senior Civil Servants on the occasions when legislation has been introduced to protect people's privacy and rights. She is currently an advisor to the Department of Health's LGBT Advisory Group and, during the last 3 years, she has been responsible for the commissioning of a groundbreaking series of projects to research trans people's needs and generate educational material for health professionals.

Christine also chairs the North West Equality and Diversity Group, made up of over 100 regional equality stakeholders, and was awarded an MBE in 2004 for her contribution towards Gender Issues in the UK. A business and IT consultant for most of her career, Christine also worked for five years in the Social Care field, helping to run an organisation providing care and support to adults with Learning Difficulties and long term mental health problems. She now runs her own Equality and Diversity training and consultancy business and produces a regular Podcast series about E&D topics, "Just Plain Sense" (<http://podcast.plain-sense.co.uk>)