



Housing LIN

Connecting people, ideas and resources

**Housing Learning and
Improvement
Network**

Launching Housing LIN Diversity Work

East Midlands Housing LIN - Loughborough

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The issue

- Growing BME older people population
- Health and housing both service and provision lagging behind
- BME elders not accessing the current offer of extra care / senior housing
- There is clearly a growing market which remains untapped
- I have been up and down the country looking at many schemes for older people and I must say I have not come across one that I would say my Mum could live in it!
- They are all fantastic schemes BUT do they offer her a culturally and religiously sensitive option?
- Jay has set out some of the barriers
- We must remember that when talking about inequality that factors beyond ethnicity play an important part such as socio economic status



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What we want to do?

- Open dialogue with the sector how the Housing LIN can be fully representative of all BME communities, both across our **membership** and in the **needs and issues** we address and explore across our **events, publications and discussions**
- Raise awareness and influence
- Considering a range of ways of expanding this conversation to engage all regions and members and to inform our strategic work
- We welcome any contributions on the topic, either through our discussion forums, or directly to us
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Some of our ideas

- Blog by Jabeer Butt, CEO, Race Equality Foundation – Thursday, 26 October
- East Midlands HOUSING LIN Meeting – kick starting the debate / gauging views – Wednesday, 25 October
- Future activity:
 - Half day session / round table with key invited BME sector leaders
 - Commission in collaboration programme of work to include:
 - A strategically focused report, outlining the results of the debate so far and any conclusions regarding the key issues, challenges and opportunities in this area;
 - A 'Viewpoint' paper from a BME sector leader, offering a more partisan / challenging perspective
 - Extensive and positive 'case study report' highlighting examples of diversity best practice in housing with care
 - Survey / research to investigate the attitudes and experiences of people who work in the housing & care sectors
 - Leadership programme to recognise best BME talent / scheme in housing with care
- Joint conference event in 2018 in partnership with the Race Equality Foundation, BME National, NHF, Runnymede Trust, BME specialist Housing Associations



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Discussion

- Any suggestions of specific issues we should be covering?
- Organisations we should be working with?
- Any innovative housing and care-related projects or initiatives with and for BME communities we should be promoting / covering?
- What we could do to improve representation of our membership?
- Housing LIN Conference in March 2018 – How reflect diversity - ethnicity of speakers, topics covered, highlight the work we have been doing in this area?
- Any other ideas?



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