

Tackling Racism Taskforce

A public summary of the Tackling Racism Taskforce's meeting held on 17 September 2020.

The Tackling Racism Taskforce held its fifth meeting on 17 September 2020. It invited the wider Members of the Court of Common Council to the meeting for them to input into the work. This was a private meeting and so some comments are not included in this public summary.

Ideas from the wider Court were raised as follows:-

Education

- The City's family of schools are already doing some excellent work with programmes and initiatives using the PSHE curriculum. These are initiatives the Taskforce can use and recommend rollout more widely.
- It was recommended that the Co-Chairs meet with the Chairs of Governors.
- The Taskforce should consider the independent review on how the Corporation should balance its resources across the family of schools.
- Christ's Hospital are also doing some work which should be included in the audit of initiatives tackling racism in education.

Police

- The City of London Police is looking at initiatives around improving diversity and inclusion for its own BAME staff and it is important this is shared across with this Taskforce.
- There is an opportunity for the City of London Police to be leaders in this sphere.
- The Taskforce should look at statistics behind Stop and Search powers as well as COVID powers and any disproportionately towards BAME individuals.
- It might be useful for Members to shadow City of London Police officers on duty so they can see first-hand how they operate.

Governance

- It is important that the Taskforce are aware of all the work that is being carried out within other committees in this area and to bring it all together
- External Members are very important in the process of developing work such as this.
- We must ensure that any internal restructures do not indirectly disproportionately disadvantage particular ethnic groups.
- The Taskforce should consider recommending "mandatory" (or as close as possible) unconscious bias training for elected Members (rather than voluntary).

The next meeting of the Taskforce will consider areas connected to its workstream on police.

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