

NORTH EAST

RACE EQUALITY FORUM

INFORMATION BRIEFING

No.9



The Lammy Review: Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic representation in the criminal justice system

The government has announced a review of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic representation in the criminal justice system to be chaired by Lord Lamming, the former director of social services in Hertfordshire. This Information Briefing provides background information and is intended to encourage colleagues to submit evidence. The closing date for doing so is 30 June and evidence in whatever form should be sent to BAME_Review@justice.gsi.gov.uk. There is an undertaking from the Review that all evidence will be read.

There is an online survey accessible at

<https://consult.justice.gov.uk/digital-communications/lammy-review-of-bame-representation-in-cjs/consultation>

Material can also be posted to Lammy Review, Ministry of Justice, 102 Petty France, London SW1H 9AJ

The official announcement states that, although established by the Prime Minister, this is an independent review, which aims to make sure that everyone is treated equally, whatever their ethnicity. It has been stimulated by the finding that official figures show that Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups appear to be over-represented at most stages of the criminal justice system and what can be done about it. This finding accords with the findings of evidence collected by the North East Race, Crime and Justice Regional Research Network and presented three years ago to the Ministry of Justice.

The Review, it is also stated, will look at the way the criminal justice system deals with young people and adults from BAME backgrounds. It will address issues arising from the Crown Prosecution Service (which has responsibility for determining whether cases should be brought to court) including the court system, prisons and young offender institutions and rehabilitation in the community. The findings should be published in Spring 2017.



The review will be evidence-based: it will draw on the significant work already published in this area; it will produce new statistical analysis to shed light on the issue; and will provide an opportunity for people to convey their personal experiences and insights. David Lammy wants to hear from a diverse range of voices including:

- Victims and witnesses
- Ex-offenders
- Those working in the CJS
- Academics and NGOs
- Different BAME communities and
- Different parts of both England and Wales.

This is a good opportunity for your organisation to consult with users and communities with which you work and perhaps meet with other organisations to produce a consolidated summary of evidence from the region. If you have evidence you want to share more widely, we can help in publicising it across the region.

If you or organisations or individuals you work with want to make a more informal contribution, there is a Twitter hashtag #lammyreview which will be monitored throughout the review.

Contact: For further information, back copies of Information Briefings or Research Briefings, or to join the Network, email gary.craig@galtres8.co.uk

The North East Race Equality Forum is a Network of around 300 individuals and organisations in the North East Region committed to promoting racial equality in the context of social justice. No one organisation is necessarily committed to every idea published in the name of the Forum. The Forum is supported by the 'Race', Crime and Justice Regional Research Network, which includes researchers from each University in the region.

