

# Equality of Opportunity Committee

EOC(3)02-07(p.3): 11 October 2007

## Committee inquiry into issues affecting migrant workers

### Background

At its meeting on 27 September, Members agreed to conduct a scrutiny inquiry focusing on the experiences of migrant workers in Wales.

### Proposed terms of reference

To scrutinise the Assembly Government on the work it is undertaking to support migrant workers and their families, public service providers and local communities with high proportion of migrants within the population; and Make recommendations on the action that needs to be taken to ensure equality of opportunity for migrant workers, their families and the people who live within the communities in which they live and work In doing so, the Committee will:

Examine the experiences of migrant workers and their families in Wales with particular reference to: working and living conditions; access to public services; social networking

Identify the impact of economic migration on public service deliverers and local communities

Explore the impact of the current regulatory framework governing the working and living conditions of migrant workers in Wales

Highlight examples of good practice with respect to community relations; employment policies and service delivery

### Recommendation

That the Committee approves the proposed terms of reference, the draft consultation letter at Annex A and the proposed list of consultees at Annex B. **Committee Service October 2007**

### Annex A

#### Equality of Opportunity Committee

##### Proposed consultation letter

Dear Colleague The Assembly's Equality of Opportunity Committee is conducting an inquiry focusing on migrant workers, their families and the communities in which they live and work. The terms of reference for the inquiry are as follows: To scrutinise the Assembly Government on the work it is undertaking to support migrant workers and their families, public service providers and local communities with high proportion of migrants within the population; and Make recommendations on the action that needs to be taken to ensure equality of opportunity for migrant workers, their families and the people who live within the communities in which they live and work In doing so, the Committee will:

Examine the experiences of migrant workers and their families in Wales with particular reference to: working and living conditions; access to public services; social networking

Identify the impact of economic migration on public service deliverers and local communities

Explore the impact of the current regulatory framework governing the working and living conditions of migrant workers in Wales

Highlight examples of good practice with respect to community relations; employment policies and service delivery

##### Invitation to contribute to the inquiry

Interested parties are invited to submit written evidence to the Clerk of the Committee at the address below, to arrive no later than Friday 4 January 2008. If possible, please supply an electronic version in MS Word or Rich Text format, either by e mail to [equality.comm@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:equality.comm@wales.gsi.gov.uk) or on a disk. Please begin your submission by providing some information about your organisation before setting out your views and experiences in relation to some or all of the following areas.

##### a) Experiences of migrant workers and their families

Are you aware of barriers experienced by migrant workers and their families in accessing public services? What are the key reasons for these barriers?

Can you provide any examples of innovative practice in ensuring that public services are accessible and barriers can be overcome?

Can you provide examples of good and poor working and housing conditions?

Please provide examples of the English and Welsh language provision for migrant workers and their families in your area. How accessible and appropriate is this provision?

What opportunities do migrant workers and their families have to build friendships and social networks between themselves and within local communities? Please provide details of any formal or informal groups or networks in your area.

##### b) The impact of economic migration on local communities

What are the resource implications for public service providers in areas where a significant proportion of the population are migrant workers and their families?

What are the advantages and challenges for people in local communities in which

### **migrant workers live and work?**

#### **c) The regulatory framework**

How does current legislation, such as the Gangmasters Licensing Act 2004, work in practice?

To what extent is the current legislation enforced?

#### **d) Examples of good practice**

Please provide examples of:

projects or initiatives which have enhanced community relations

good employment policies and workplace initiatives

accessible and appropriate public services

#### **e) Suggestions**

What action should be taken to improve the life experiences of migrant workers and their families and the communities in which they live and work? For your information, the Committee has invited submissions from those on the attached distribution list. **They would be grateful if you could forward a copy of the letter to any individuals or organisations that are not included but might like to contribute to the review.** A copy of this letter has been placed on the National Assembly's web-site with an open invitation to submit views.

### **Disclosure of Information**

It is normal practice for the National Assembly to publish evidence provided to a committee. Consequently your response may appear in a report or in supplementary evidence to a report. The National Assembly will not publish information which it considers to be personal data. In the event of a request for information submitted under UK legislation, it may be necessary to disclose the information that you provide. This may include information which has previously been removed by the National Assembly for publication purposes. If you are providing any information, other than personal data, which you feel is not suitable for public disclosure, it is up to you to stipulate which parts should not be published, and to provide a reasoned argument to support this. The National Assembly will take this into account when publishing information or responding to requests for information. Yours sincerely

**Ann Jones**

**Chair, Equality of Opportunity Committee**

**Annex B**

**Equality of Opportunity Committee**

**Inquiry into Issues affecting Migrant Workers**

**Consultees**

**Local Government and Public Sector**

**Community Health Councils**

Board of Community Health Councils in Wales

Brecknock and Radnor CHC

Bridgend CHC

Cardiff CHC

Carmarthenshire CHC

Ceredigion CHC

Clwyd CHC

Conwy East CHC

Conwy West CHC

Gogledd Gwynedd CHC

Gwent CHC

Meirionnydd CHC

Merthyr and Cynon Valley CHC

Montgomery CHC

Neath / Port Talbot CHC

Pembrokeshire CHC  
Pontypridd & Rhondda CHC  
Swansea CHC  
Vale of Glamorgan CHC  
Ynys Mon - Isle of Anglesey CHC

## **Councils**

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council  
Bridgend County Borough Council  
Caerphilly County Borough Council  
Cardiff County Council  
Carmarthenshire County Borough Council  
Ceredigion County Council  
City and County of Swansea  
Conwy County Borough Council  
Denbighshire County Borough Council  
Flintshire County Borough Council  
Gwynedd Council  
Isle of Anglesey County Council  
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council  
Monmouthshire County Borough Council  
Neath Port Talbot County Council  
Newport City Council  
Pembrokeshire County Council  
Powys County Council  
Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council  
Torfaen County Borough Council  
Vale of Glamorgan Council  
Wrexham County Borough Council

## **Local Health Boards**

Anglesey Local Health Board  
Blaenau Gwent Local Health Board  
Bridgend Local Health Board  
Caerphilly Local Health Board  
Cardiff Local Health Board  
Carmarthenshire Local Health Board  
Ceredigion Local Health Board  
Conwy Local Health Board  
Denbighshire Local Health Board  
Flintshire Local Health Board  
Gwynedd Local Health Board  
Merthyr Tydfil Local Health Board  
Monmouthshire Local Health Board  
Neath Port Talbot Local Health Board  
Newport Local Health Board  
Pembrokeshire Local Health Board  
Powys Local Health Board  
Rhondda Cynon Taff Local Health Board  
Swansea Local Health Board  
Torfaen Local Health Board  
Vale of Glamorgan Local Health Board  
Wrexham Local Health Board

## **NHS Trusts**

Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust  
Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust  
Carmarthenshire NHS Trust  
Ceredigion and Mid Wales NHS Trust  
Conwy and Denbighshire NHS Trust  
Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust  
North East Wales NHS Trust  
North Glamorgan NHS Trust  
North West Wales NHS Trust  
Pembrokeshire and Derwen NHS Trust  
Pontypridd and Rhondda NHS Trust

Swansea NHS Trust  
Velindre NHS Trust  
Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust

### **Police Authorities**

Dyfed Powys Police Authority  
Gwent Police Authority  
North Wales Police Authority  
South Wales Police Authority

### **Official Agencies**

Care Council for Wales  
Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales  
Children's Commissioner for Wales  
Commission for Equality and Human Rights  
Gangmaster Licensing Authority  
Health and Safety Executive  
Jobcentre Plus  
Wales Audit Office  
Welsh Consumer Council  
Welsh Language Board  
Welsh Local Government Association

### **Councils for Voluntary Action**

Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations  
Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services  
Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Services  
Conwy Voluntary Services Council  
Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council  
Flintshire Local Voluntary Council  
Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations  
Interlink  
Mantell Gwynedd  
Medrwn Mon  
Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service  
Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services  
Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations  
Swansea Council for Voluntary Service  
Torfaen Voluntary Alliance  
Voluntary Action Cardiff  
Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil  
Vale Centre for Voluntary Services  
Association of Voluntary Organisations in Wrexham  
Wales Council for Voluntary Action

### **Trades Unions**

Amicus  
British Medical Association  
GMB  
Farmers Union of Wales  
National Union of Students Wales  
NFU Cymru  
Royal College of Nursing  
T&G  
TUC Wales  
Unison  
Unite

### **Voluntary Sector**

Age Concern Wales  
All Wales Saheli Association  
Asian Women's Group

Association of Muslim Professionals  
All Wales Ethnic Minority Association (AWEMA )  
Bangladeshi Welfare Association (BWA)  
Bangladeshi Women's Association  
Bangladeshi Women's Group  
Barnardo's Cymru  
Black Association of Women Step Out Ltd. (BAWSO)  
Black Environment Network  
Black Voluntary Sector Network  
CAB Cymru  
Carers Wales  
Children in Wales  
Chinese Community Service Committee  
Chwarae Teg  
Crossroads Wales  
Disability Wales  
Joint Committee for Ethnic Minorities in Wales  
Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants  
Minority Ethnic Womens Network (MEWN Cymru)  
NSPCC Cymru  
North Wales Race Equality Network  
Pakistan Association of Newport & Gwent Welsh Asian Council  
Polish Welsh Mutual Association  
Race Equality First  
Refugee Voice Wales  
Samaritans  
Save the Children  
Shelter Cymru  
Somali Advice Centre  
South Wales Vietnamese Association  
Stonewall Cymru  
Sudanese Community Association  
Swansea Bay Race Equality Council  
Valleys Race Equality Council  
Victim Support Wales  
Welsh Asian Council  
Welsh Local Authorities Consortium for Refugees and Asylum Seekers  
Welsh Refugee Council

### **Religious Organisations**

Cytun - Churches Together in Wales  
Church in Wales  
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Cardiff  
Salvation Army

### **Research Organisations**

Centre for Migration Policy Research  
Economic and Social Research Council  
Joseph Rowntree Foundation

### **Business Organisations**

Business Eye  
CBI Wales  
Federation of Small Businesses

### **NHS Organisations**

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence  
National Public Health Service for Wales  
NHS Direct Wales  
The Welsh NHS Confederation

### **Recruitment Organisations**

Baltic Recruitment Services  
Recruitment and Employment Confederation

**Other Organisations**

Migration Watch  
National Institute of Adult Continuing Education