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This Month in Race Equality

From CORE

June 2021



Welcome to the CORE Newsletter

CORE is a network of some of Britain's leading race equality organisations. By working together we are able to combine our voices and maximise our capacity to fight systemic racism in Britain.

Each month, we will bring you updates and information about race equality in Britain and the work our members are doing to bring about equality.

If you are part of a BME-led organisation, working with any of our minority communities towards racial equality, join our network. Our strength is our unity.

Solidarity.

Maurice Mcleod - CORE Secretariat - CEO [Race on the Agenda](#)

CORE Member Updates

Windrush Day and The Compensation Campaign



Thanks to years of campaigning, June 22nd is now recognised in the UK as Windrush Day, a time to acknowledge the contribution of a generation not only from the Caribbean and African but other parts of the Commonwealth. But due to policy from the UK's Home Office over the last few years, the term 'Windrush' no longer makes us think only of that generation of hopeful Caribbean migrants who willingly came to 'the mother country' in the 1950's to help rebuild it. The term has also become synonymous with the scandal of institutional racism, as campaigner **Patrick Vernon** explains.

Read his blog about the history and context of Windrush Day, and the current state of the compensation scheme [here](#)

Briefing: Voter ID Position Paper

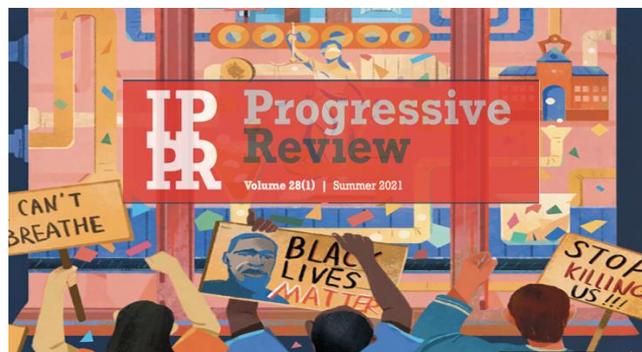


"Voice4Change England is disappointed that the government would begin the parliamentary session by including, in the humble address, plans to require voters to show an approved form of photographic ID at a polling station in a UK parliamentary election in Great Britain and local election in England. We are deeply concerned with the democratic deficit that would be caused by this proposed new legislation. It has called into question the integrity of the electoral process but there is no evidence to support the government's claims of

widespread electoral fraud. The government should instead endeavour to look to extend enfranchisement not put up more barriers for people to exercise their suffrage".

Read the briefing [here](#)

Guest Editing the Progressive Review



When IPPR approached Race on the Agenda, with a view to the organisation guest editing an issue of their journal the Progressive Review (on the theme of race equality and justice), it was an offer ROTA could not refuse.

ROTA reached out to some of the great minds in our network and commissioned a number of thoughtful articles which examine the thorny issue of race from various angles.

You can get access this special issue of The Progressive Review for a limited time [here](#)

2021 Young People Survey

Although all young people are worried about the impact of COVID-19 on their health and future employment opportunities, a new survey conducted by the Black Training and Enterprise Group (BTEG) found that Black, Asian and Mixed ethnicity young people aged 16-24 also rate racial discrimination and poverty as their biggest concerns.

This contrasts with a wider survey of young people conducted by **Hope not Hate** that put the economy and unemployment in second and third place on the list of their concerns.

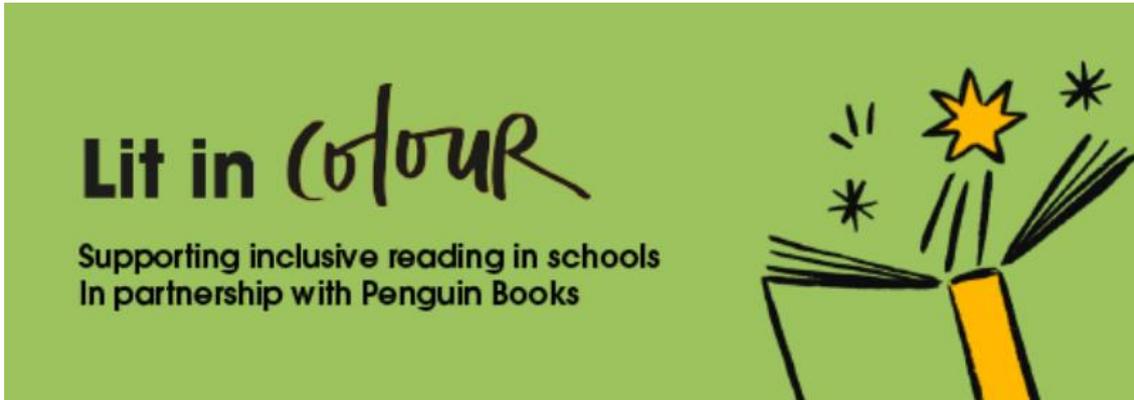
The BTEG 2021 Young People Survey provides a snapshot of the experiences and ambitions of Black, Asian and Mixed ethnicity young people across the UK regarding jobs, apprenticeships and careers.

You can read/download the report [here](#)



Lit in Colour

Fewer than 1% of students at GCSE, study a book by a writer of colour.



Books create belonging. They help us see each other and understand one another. They shine a light on the world.

It's vital that the books we read in our formative years reflect the rich diversity of the society we live in.

That's why The Runnymede Trust have partnered with [Penguin Random House](#) to explore how to support schools to make the teaching and learning of English literature more inclusive. They want to increase students' access to more books by writers of colour.

Their ground-breaking research shines a light on barriers preventing more books by Black, Asian and minority ethnic writers being taught in the classroom and to make recommendations for what needs to change.

Read the report [in full here](#).

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- **Friends, Families and Travellers** (FFT) is calling for people to attend MP surgeries to discuss the #PoliceBill. To find your MP and access FFT's simple briefing, which includes key talking points, click [here](#). Additionally, Drive2Survive have scheduled a protest for 7th July against the Government's #PoliceBill. To find out more, click [here](#)



- **The Ubele Initiative** and the National Lottery Community Fund, on behalf of The Phoenix Way Partners, have announced a new £50 million partnership aimed to boost funding and support to Black and Minoritised Community charities and grassroots groups over the next five years.

'The Phoenix Way' will create a series of national and regional panels, made of leaders and decision-makers from Black and Minoritised Community-led charities and grassroots groups from across England.

The Phoenix Way National Steering Group will work with The National Lottery Community Fund to identify national and regional priorities and award funding to Black and Minoritised community-led charities and grassroots groups that are best placed to support their communities to thrive.

It builds on The Phoenix Fund, a £2.4 million community-led fund co-designed and co-led by community leaders from across Black and Minoritised groups in England in partnership with The National Lottery Community Fund, The Ubele Initiative, and Global Fund for Children.

Designed to target groups that The National Lottery Community Fund had not previously engaged, the reach of The Phoenix Fund was striking:

more than 65 per cent of the organisations that applied to the scheme had no previous history with The National Lottery Community Fund.

The new initiative will help to facilitate engagement with Black and Minoritised community-led charities and grassroots groups to enable them to access funding and support that have previously failed to reach them and have been difficult for them to access.



- **South Asian Health Action (SAHA)** are supporting NHS Leicester with their mental health consultation, and are looking for [#SouthAsianCaseStudies](#), so if you would like to share your experiences/attend community focus groups this month, contact southasianhealthaction@gmail.com.
- **SAHA Chairman** Kirit Mistry will also be speaking at an upcoming event on 14th July, looking at increasing access to healthcare, and improving communication in the community for patients from different cultures.



- **The Caribbean and African Health Network (CAHN)** will be running their next **Health Hour** on Saturday 10th July (14:00-14:30), their next **Healthy Hearts** session on Tuesday 13th July (13:00-15:00), and their next **Collective Community Response Meeting** on Friday 16th July (18:00-19:00). To register for any of these events please contact events@cahn.org.uk



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- **The Croydon BME Forum's** Young at Heart group takes place every Wednesday at 3pm - 4:30pm. It is a FREE weekly session for those aged 55+, allowing people from all over the borough to socialise and learn something new. They also welcome elders from outside of the borough that may be shielding or feeling isolated.

To register, click [here](#)



CROYDON BME FORUM

- **Positive Action In Housing** - Over 80 refugee and migrant organisations, lawyers and academics across Scotland, Wales and England signed an [open letter](#) to the Home Secretary, Priti Patel, to raise questions about the ongoing Aspen Card Crisis and the card contractor [PrePaid Financial Services](#). Read more [here](#).



- **CRÈME (Communicating the Race Equality Message Effectively)**

CRÈME stands for Communicating the Race Equality Message Effectively and is a joint project/collaboration between three of the largest charities in the race equality sector – Race On The Agenda (ROTA), The Black Training and Enterprise Group (BTEG) and the Runnymede Trust.

The project started in 2019 with former journalist and press officer Lee Pinkerton taking the role of the CRÈME Project Communications Officer.

As well as the communications support given to the above-mentioned organisations, the other part of the project is to provide training to smaller organisations.

In its first year CREME delivered three media training workshops which benefitted over 30 different organisations including Black Thrive, South Asian Health Action, the Young Brent Foundation and Black Learning Achievement and Mental Health.

Does your organisation need communication support?

Do you need help with your website or social media platforms?

Are you confident in giving media interviews?

If your organisation is based in London and focused on race-equality, you are eligible for free support from the CRÈME Project. If you feel you would benefit from support in any of these areas contact Lee@rota.org.uk



- **Race On The Agenda** held a Roundtable on Monday 28th June 2021 to examine race inequalities in mental health, with the purpose of building relationships, and exploring future collaboration on race equality and mental health, as part of the sector's recovery from COVID-19.

The organisation's Student Mental Health and Wellness Survey is also now [live](#)

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Race on the Agenda

Keep in touch

If you have any news that you would like to share with the rest of the anti-racist voluntary sector, email karun.maudgil@core-network.org.uk

If you know of any organisations or individuals who should be part of our network, please forward this newsletter to them.

Solidarity,
The Coalition of Race Equality Organisations

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