



Annual Equalities Weekend Summary Report

Date: 29th and 30th January 2010

Venue: Marriott Hotel Gosforth

NTW Health Branch attendees:

1. Jane Donaghue
2. Irene Mbwanda
3. Pat Heron
4. Kenneth Oliver
5. Matilda Musendo

Delegates took part in various activities and group workshops. They were focussing on how to build self organisation inline with regional equalities strategy. They looked at the benefits of self organisation to the branch and the regional equalities strategy. Issues that were raised following these discussions were:

Women

- Violence
- Childcare /poverty
- Personalisation
- Women abuse/violence
- Getting training-more involvement –promoting the BM, LGBT to participate – links at the regional level and feedback to the branch
- Work life balance
- Cervical and ovarian cancer
- Carer’s leave (at the discretion of managers)
- Victim support – need volunteers

Black Members

- Develop black members
- Increase work against Far right
- Increase black members to become equality reps
- Support migrant –vulnerable workers
- Recession – how are we going to support BM in these difficult times?
- Educate the BM to get better jobs
- Sharing issues
- Public sector enforcement – 14.7% cuts in the MB group jobs
- Campaign race equality scheme
- Personalisation – TUPE – how are we going to protect our staff – educate reps

Disabled Members

- Fit Notes – sick notes
- Sickness and capabilities at work – outsourcing sick management /notification
- A lot of questioning – have you got a disability – what is it , type of disability
- Management training
- General awareness and training – awareness of rights

LGBT

- Communication links –health service groups – regional – branch – SOGs
- Joint working with SOGs
- Encourage LGBT to be positive in the public – become councillors
- Training in the workplaces
- Domestic violence – working with the women’s network
- LGBT labour