

Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister
HONOURS SECRETARIAT

Room E4.15, CASTLE BUILDINGS

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E-mail: gary.smyth@ofmdfmi.gov.uk

TO: KEN FRASER
OFMDFM
Head, Race Equality Unit

FROM: GARY SMYTH

DATE: 15 September 2003

HONOURS - DIVERSITY SEMINAR

Thank you for your minute of 11 September 2003. I am pleased you will be attending this seminar and shall provide ODPM colleagues with details.

I note the points you raised about statistical information: as a matter of policy we do not specifically collect information about the ethnicity of individuals other than nationality which is required. In the context of public nominations, we rely on 3rd party information from the nominator and ethnicity, if not overtly referred to, may be guessed at from the information provided. Information on gender and publicly supported nominations is available.

Given the purpose of the seminar - to determine ways of identifying more potential candidates from specific groups - then more relevant information is likely to be the numbers in those groups. I am not however concerned that individual Departments will be expected to have figures available nor to discuss them: we will not be put in a defensive position and I am content to field questions that might arise concerning public nominations and gender balance of Awards.

Happy to discuss as required in advance of the seminar.

Gary Smyth

GARY SMYTH

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File copy only

Gary Smyth

15/09/2003 14:27

To: Valerie.Richardson@odpm.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: HONOURS DIVERSITY SEMINAR - 27 NOVEMBER 2003

Valerie

If you are taking 'bookings' for this seminar, I shall be attending along with Mr Ken Fraser, Head of this Department's Race Equality Unit.

You have my details; Ken's are as follows:

Ken Fraser
Head, Race Equality Unit
Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister
Room E4.07
Castle Buildings
Stormont
BELFAST
BT4 3SR
Tele: (028) 9052 2615
Fax: (028) 9052 3323
E-mail: Ken.Fraser@ofmdfmni.gov.uk

Hope this helps.

Regards

Gary Smyth

Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister
Honours Secretariat
Room E4.15
CASTLE BUILDINGS, Stormont
BELFAST BT4 3NR
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Fax: (028) 9052 8200/GTN: 28200

15 September 2003

Ken Fraser

11/09/2003 14:15

To: Gary Smyth/OFMDFM/DFP@DFP
Subject: HONOURS - DIVERSITY SEMINAR

Gary cc as per envelope

Please see attached minute in response to yours of 3 September to Mary Bunting.

Ken Fraser



Honours Seminar.do

To: Gary SMYTH
Honours Secretariat

cc: Mr Hamilton
Mr Haire
Ms Bunting
Dr Mulligan
Mr Gamble
Ms Harbinson
REU

From: Ken FRASER
Head, Race Equality Unit

11 September 2003-

HONOURS DIVERSITY SEMINAR

Thank you for your minute of 3 September 2003 to Mary Bunting on the above subject. Mary has asked me to pursue this further.

As we discussed in the smoking room, I will be happy to attend the meeting as the OFMDFM "diversity expert" (my colleagues on the gender policy side are otherwise engaged on that day).

I think that it would be enormously useful if we could go armed with some sort of breakdown of figures for NI relating to nominations for, and award of, honours according to gender and race. I understand from our conversation that you may have some figures (although not complete). We really do need to set the record for awards to minority ethnic people in NI in the context of the relatively small population here. Minority ethnic people may not necessarily be under-represented here (although I daresay that women are).

Although we probably do not need to do this specifically for the meeting, we also need to consider how we might go about ethnic and gender monitoring of the honours process. (I understand that this is not already done as a matter of course). The meeting may, in fact, provide some useful ideas on this.

You kindly agreed to pass my name on to the Valerie Richardson.

The Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister

Race Equality Unit

Room E4.07, Castle Buildings, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SR

Tel 028 9052 22615 Fax 028 9052 3323

Ken.Fraser@ofmdfmi.gov.uk

To: **Gary SMYTH**
Honours Secretariat

cc Mr Hamilton
Mr Haire
Ms Bunting
Dr Mulligan
Mr Gamble
Ms Harbinson
REU

From: **Ken FRASER**
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You kindly agreed to pass my name on to the Valerie Richardson.

Grateful to have any figures you have well in advance of 27
November.

Ken Fraser