



ANNUAL REPORT



2010-2011

Preston Muslim Forum

CORE SERVICES

Information, Advice and Guidance on education employment and training remained our core services benefiting hundreds of clients throughout the year.

The demand for employment support has remained steady including making CVs, completing application forms, job searches, identifying appropriate courses and development activities for people with low confidence and skills. The workload for completing on-line job application has increased.

PRESTON EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP (PEP):

One of the most successful partnership established between PMF and PEP provided immense benefits to the clients in the areas of training and employment for three years. The clients were able to receive sustained support and access to job vacancies with support mechanism and expertise provided by PEP staff. Unfortunately these services ceased from 1st April due to cuts in Council spending. This will inevitably mean increased demands on PMF's resources. We are however committed to provide interrupted services with limited resources we will have at our disposal.

PRESTON
EMPLOYMENT
PARTNERSHIP

Neighborhood Management

The meaningful relationship established with Neighbourhood Management since 2004 also came to an end from 1st April 2011 due to cuts in Council spending. The new neighbourhood arrangement would still exist but with limited resources. We were able to deliver several projects related to youth, cohesion, community safety, health, community participation and neighbourhood issues in partnership with PrimeFocus. We are however committed to work closely with local groups in tackling neighbourhood issues, increase community participation and empowerment for residents to make area cleaner and safer.



ESOL

PMF continued to organise and deliver ESOL classes for the people facing language barriers. 15 women and 12 men benefitted from the training and secured qualifications.

HAMAARA CENTRE

Our community venue was well used by the local groups, police, city council, colleges, for meetings, consultation, courses, youth activities, training etc.

LEARNING THROUGH MENTORS

The project funded by Lancashire County Council was aimed to identify and provide appropriate advice, guidance and practical support to people Not in Education, Employment and Training. (NEET), with a view to empower them with confidence, skills and motivation, through informal mentoring scheme and community learning initiatives. The project enabled to engage 44 beneficiaries who met the criteria to receive assistance through the project.

PRIDE PASSION AND PREVENT

The project funded by Preston City Council aimed at challenging violent extremism ideology, supporting vulnerable individuals and increasing cohesion and resilience of communities. This was done through establishing a community dialogue forum involving muslims and non-muslims, organizing discussion form to bring community representatives to meet policy makers and exchange any concerns. The project also produces 'Good Governance Islamic Institution Toolkit' for mosques and madrassah and delivered training to strengthen their governance matters.

CO-OPTED DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

The year 2010-2011 saw much reduced funding and activities compared to previous years. This was mainly due to changes in the management board and high turnover of staff members.

Forms filling and social welfare issues still account for the majority of our staff time and efforts. We have also seen increased requests

for representation, liaising with authorities, utility companies and providing advocacy services.

The future for various funding streams looks bleaker with cuts proposed by the new government and we are looking at new ways for organisation's sustainability.

I hope that the following way forward strategy would enable us to focus our skills and expertise to provide maximum benefits to all.

WAY FORWARD 2011-2012

Build on the good practice from Preston Employment Partnership, and deliver meaningful employment support initiatives.

Enhance community participation in the area of neighbourhood issues, cohesion and empowerment.

Work closely with the County and City Councils to deliver local agendas.

Increase youth activities to cater to young people from NEET category.

Develop services for elderly people in terms of their lower level needs.

Develop organisation's capacity in the areas of tendering and commissioning.

PMF TEAM (2010 - 2011)

Vali Patel	Co-opted Director
S. Hussain	Project worker
M. Tutla	Project worker
K. Afsar	Youth volunteer
I. Seedat	Volunteer Officer



Preston Muslim Forum:

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Services for All



