

Programme Schedule:

First Session

1. Arrival & Registration
2. Welcome speech by the MPF chair Mohammed Khaled Noor
3. Presentation "Government Counter-Terrorism Strategies: Restricted Civil Liberties and Community Cohesion" – Dalwardin Babu (OBE)
4. Open discussion and questions and answers
5. MPF Activities Report Presentation, comments, suggestions and contributions
6. Break, lunch and networking

Second Session: AGM and Elections (MPF Members only)

7. Introduction by Mohammed Khaled Noor
8. Bi-annual Finance Report Presentation for Approval
9. Election of MPF EC Members and Chairperson
10. Concluding Remarks

DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION

Welcome Speech by MPF Chair - Mohammed Khaled Noor

The chair of the MPF Mohammed Khaled Noor welcomed the distinguish guests speakers, audience including MPF members. He gave a brief introduction of MPF and an overview of its aims and objectives that it is a non-profit organisation, which provides a common platform for professionals and seek to work against islamophobic and racist attitudes, religious extremism, racial discrimination, crime and disorder, domestic violence and violation of human rights.

"Government Counter-Terrorism Strategies: Restricted Civil Liberties and Community Cohesion" - A brief presentation by Dalwardin Babu (OBE)

Mr Dalwardin Babu also known as Dal Babu is the most high ranking retired Muslim police officer (former Chief Superintendent of Metropolitan Police), who is now involved in an initiative called "Extremism; Community Safety and Security Ltd". Mr Babu is a patron of MPF.

Mr Babu began his presentation with reference to recent BBC programme Great British Bake off and Nadiya Hussain's success. He highlighted how she was stereotyped in some mainstream media as well as social media. He said that some people were more interested in scrutinising who she was and her Muslim identity instead of scrutinising her baking skills.

Mr Babu then moved onto the topic of ISIS, Syria and recent government policies. While he acknowledged that there is a genuine threat that some of our young people are vulnerable to be groomed to join ISIS; government policies have proved to be counter-productive and increasingly marginalising the Muslim community as a whole. He said that there are increasing number of individuals and organisations expressing concerns about "Prevent" programme.

Mr Babu said the "Channel" was a voluntary programme where people could choose whether or not to refer/access the service; however it has now become a mandatory

requirement. He revealed that, so far, the youngest person was a three year old child, who was referred to Channel. He said that the government commissions Quiliam Foundation to run the "de-radicalisation" programme, but it is unknown what the programme includes. Mr Babu urged community members to be vigilant and challenge authorities about the de-radicalisation programme. He said under new legislation, when any young person goes to Syria, there should be a serious case review. He urged community members to ask local authorities if there was a case review and what the outcome was. He also emphasised Muslim community to work with other organisations and Human Rights groups.

MPF Activities Report 2013 to 2015

MPF acting secretary Bablur Hossain presented a summary of MPF Activities Report from the year 2013 to 2015. Hard copy of the report was circulated to everyone, who attended the event/AGM. A copy of the MPF Activities Report can be obtained by contacting MPF chairperson or any of the executive committee members.

After the presentation of the Activities Report, some dignitaries offered their valuable comments and suggestions. Generally MPF's work/activities and perseverance were praised. A specific question was asked about the progress of the Mentoring project. MPF chairperson clarified that the mentoring project is currently on hold as the lead members have become busy with their personal and professional lives and no longer able to offer time and support. However, the lead role will be given to someone else from the EC committee to carry out the project.

Bi-annual Finance Report Presentation for Approval

Bi-annual finance report was presented by Bablur Hossain and hard copy was circulated to everyone present. Finance report was agreed and approved.

Election of Executive Committee Members

Immigration Judge Muhammed Belayeth Hussain conducted the process as the Election Commissioner. Seven members were to be elected as Executive committee (EC) members; however only seven members were nominated from the floor. Therefore there was no need for an election.

Newly nominated EC members elected, by secret ballot, Mohammed Khaled Noor as the chairperson for the next two years.

EC committee held a brief meeting and the responsibilities were allocated as follows:

Mohammed Khaled Noor	Chair (elected)
Mohammed Bablur Hossain	Secretary
Muhammad Khurshid Alam	Treasurer
Maruf Ahmed	Press and Media
Abdul Haque Habib	Public Relations
Faeza Zahra Hussain	Youth Co-ordinator
Shahab Hamid	Research

EC also agreed to co-opt Ansar Habib as EC member.

Concluding Remarks

The seminar was closed by MPF chairperson Mr Mohammed Khaled Noor's concluding remarks.