

Black Members' Officer report, February 2024

UNISON Devon County Branch

My activities as Black Members Officer over the last year have mainly centred on working within Devon County Council (DCC) to respond to issues raised by the Race Equality Audit that they commissioned.

Anti-Racism work within DCC

Anti racism working groups:

- On a corporate level, we now have a group that can be called a 'safe space' for ethnically diverse staff, as well as a clear route for reporting instances of racism.
- Within my work area of Adults Social Care, we now have an action group that ensures our practice and policy reflect anti racist principles.

Anti-racism training:

- Training has been delivered to Senior Leadership Team, and is being currently rolled out to middle managers, although there is an issue with the finances for delivering in-person training to other staff.

Equality Reference Group

- I continue to work with DCC's Equality Reference Group as the Trade Union rep.

Respect Show on Phonic FM (www.phonic.fm)

- The show is sponsored by our branch and aims to promote diversity through music. The station is on 106.8 FM in Exeter and online at the link above; we recently also started to broadcast beyond Exeter in DAB+, to include Plymouth and Torbay. I have been on the rota as a host for the Respect Show since 2021 and shows I presented are at <https://mixcloud.com/raj-prashar>, so they can be heard again.

Raj Prashar, Black Members Officer, UNISON Devon County branch, 27th February 2024