

Racial disparity and Inclusive Britain

Thank you very much for giving me the floor,

The UK Government is clear that no one in the UK should have to endure racism and remains fully committed to building a fairer Britain.

Racism is abhorrent and has no place in our societies. We can only effectively combat it by working together. Everyone must be able to live their lives free from racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance.

In March this year we published 'Inclusive Britain', our ground breaking race action plan that sets out a clear strategy - and over 70 actions - to tackle negative disparities, promote unity and build a more cohesive and inclusive society. This new approach will advance equality of opportunity and empower individuals across the UK.

We are building trust through improving police scrutiny, promoting fairness in the workplace with new evidence-based resources, tackling serious youth violence which disproportionately affects certain communities, and fostering inclusion.

The causes behind racial disparities are complex and often misunderstood. The new strategy is about action and will help create a country where a person's race, social or ethnic background is no barrier to achieving their ambitions.

The UK is proud of the multi-ethnic, diverse society we have become, the benefits of which can be seen in every aspect of our society, from the NHS to popular culture and indeed the highest levels of politics.

We look forward to welcoming the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent to the UK in January.

Thank you