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Cantle speaks in Dudley

People from all communities and public sector agencies across the Black Country are invited to hear a keynote speech on Thursday 29th March at 7pm by Mr Ted Cantle, CBE - author of the Cantle Report – which was published in 2001 following disturbances in a number of northern towns.

Ted Cantle is visiting Dudley at the invitation of the Centre for Equality & Diversity and will give a keynote speech at a Community Forum event on Thursday 29th March 2007 @ Dudley College Conference Centre – The Broadway, starting at 7:00pm.

Cantle is a well known, truly inspirational speaker. He speaks to audiences throughout the country on the challenges facing communities, community cohesion and our commitment to multiculturalism. **The theme for this keynote speech is ‘Politics, identity and cohesive communities’.**

He has held a wide range of senior positions at a local level and has served on a number of national bodies. In August 2001 Ted was appointed by the Home Secretary to chair the Community Cohesion Review team and to lead the review, the causes of the summer disturbances in a number of northern towns and cities. The report known as the “Cantle Report” was produced in December 2001. The concept of ‘community cohesion’ was subsequently adopted by the Government and Mr Cantle was asked to chair the Panel which advised Ministers on implementation. He is currently the Chair of the Community Cohesion Institute.

Martyn Copus, Chair of CfED said:

“We are delighted to have such a prominent speaker as Ted Cante to deliver the key note speech at the Community Forum event. Cante defines cohesion as being about “building bridges’ between communities”. Recent events in Dudley demonstrate prime example of the need for communities to break down barriers and build bridges to encourage greater understanding, participation and cohesion”.

Secretary of CfED Mr Mushtaq Hussain said:

“I welcome Ted Cante’s visit to Dudley and believe his speech will represent a significant contribution to the debate on how we promote integration and community cohesion in a society which is very hostile to some faith groups”

Prior to the Community Forum session Ted Cante will be meeting a wide range of community groups and hearing presentations at two other venues across the borough from 2.00pm.

For photo opportunity and further information please contact Rachel Hotchkiss on 01384 456166 or email rachel.hotchkiss@cfed.org.uk.

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---NOTES FOR EDITORS---

- (i) The Centre for Equality & Diversity (CfED) is a newly constituted organisation developed from the Dudley Racial Equality Council (DREC).
- (ii) CfED is a company limited by guarantee (5745005) and a registered charity (91114821)
- (iii) An organisation at the heart of the Borough of Dudley and dedicated to:
 - (a) promoting the interest of all Black and Minority Ethnic communities
 - (b) building effective partnerships
 - (c) creating an environment in which all people in the Borough support equality and diversity, understand and appreciate the differences between individuals and communities.
 - (d) raising the profile of all six equality strands.

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