



## PRESS RELEASE

### ‘HAVE YOUR SAY ON IMPORTANT ISSUES’

**25<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

Residents across Blackburn and Darwen are being invited to speak out on key issues for the borough.

‘Voices’ events are planned as part of Blackburn with Darwen Council’s social integration programme, *Our Community, Our Future*.

You are invited to talk about how well you feel people get on with each other where you live, what barriers there may be to feeling proud of your area, and your perceptions of race, religion and belonging in the borough.

The events are being run by the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Peace Foundation, a charity which was founded in memory of the two boys who were tragically killed in the IRA’s bombing of Warrington in 1993.

The Foundation’s communities programme leader Christine Cox said:

“Everyone is welcome to come and share their stories and ideas. These dialogue events are a brilliant opportunity for open and honest debate. Our facilitators have plenty of experience running events of this type. We make sure that everyone can take part, so that they are interesting and worthwhile – and we’ll be sharing food and refreshments as well as views and suggestions.”

Three dates have already been set:

- Saturday 13 July, 2pm, Sacred Heart and St Edward’s Community Centre, 370 Blackburn Road, Darwen
- Tuesday 23 July, 4 pm, Bank Top Neighbourhood Learning Centre, Arthur Way, Blackburn

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#### The Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Peace Foundation

The Peace Centre, Peace Drive, Warrington, Cheshire WA5 1HQ • Telephone: 01925 581 231

Email: [info@peace-foundation.org.uk](mailto:info@peace-foundation.org.uk) • [www.peace-foundation.org.uk](http://www.peace-foundation.org.uk)

 [@peacecentre](https://twitter.com/peacecentre)



- Saturday 10 August, 11 am, Quaker Meeting House, Paradise Street, Blackburn

Further dates are planned at venues across Blackburn and Darwen. Look out for flyers and social media campaigns for one in your area.

The Peace Foundation is also organising a series of events for young people aged 11 to 16.

To register for any of these events, or to find out more, phone 01925 581 231, email [info@peace-foundation.org.uk](mailto:info@peace-foundation.org.uk) or follow and message the charity on Twitter [@peacefoundation](https://twitter.com/peacefoundation)

Councillor Mohammed Khan, Leader of Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, said:

“The Voices events are an important part of our social integration work in Blackburn with Darwen. Through the debates we hope that we can break down any barriers between people from the borough’s diverse communities and help them to better understand one another.

“I hope that people will take the opportunity to come along to the Peace Foundation’s events.”

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**Note to media organisations**

*For more information, please contact the Peace Foundation on 01925 581 231, or email [info@peace-foundation.org.uk](mailto:info@peace-foundation.org.uk) . Event facilitators are available for interview.*



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