Anti-Apartheid Declaration

The London Borough of Hackney Council

1. Re-affirms its total opposition to racism, within and outside its boundaries, especially the evil system of apartheid, declared by the United Nations and the Commonwealth to be a crime against humanity.

2. Re-affirms the strength of its commitment to its statutory duty to promote good race relations and recognises that contributing locally to international efforts to seek an end to apartheid assists it in this general duty.

3. Recognises that the elimination of apartheid is a responsibility of all citizens and their representatives, wherever they may live.

4. Welcomes the independence of Namibia on 21st March 1990 and the election of a democratic government, and pledges support for the process of reconstruction.

5. While welcoming the release of Nelson Mandela, the lifting of the bans on the ANC and other organisations and the relaxation of some restrictions, recognises that repressive legislation and the pillars of apartheid remain intact.

6. Calls on the South African authorities to take the minimum steps necessary to create a climate conducive to negotiations, such as the unconditional release of all political prisoners, as outlined in the United Nations Declaration on South Africa which was unanimously approved by all UN member states, including the United Kingdom, at a Special Session of the UN General Assembly in December 1989.

7. Supports the vision of a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa elaborated in the Freedom Charter adopted at the Congress of the People on 26 June 1955, and the fundamental principles on which this would be based, as set out in Clause 3 of the UN Declaration on South Africa.

8. Resolves to undertake all practicable actions open to it which may contribute to bringing a speedy end to apartheid and to maintain such efforts until a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa has been created.

26 JUNE 1990
SOUTH AFRICA FREEDOM DAY

Cllr. John McCafferty
Leader of the Council

Cllr. Shuja Shaikh
Mayor of Hackney

Cllr. Tommy Sheppard
Deputy Leader of the Council

HACKNEY
Against Racism