

Green Party demands independent BAME Covid-19 inquiry



3 June 2020

- Greens of Colour call for independent inquiry to factor in institutional racism
- Azzees Minott: "The government's inquiry into the impact of Covid-19 on BAME people has let communities of colour down"

The Green Party has backed calls for an independent inquiry into the disproportionate impact of Covid-19 on black, Asian and minority ethnic people.

Greens of Colour chairperson Azzees Minott said: "The government's inquiry into the impact of Covid-19 on BAME people has let communities of colour down.

"It has been clear from the start that this review simply was not going to go far enough because it was never going to address the institutional racism that affects people of colour, particularly in the context of Covid-19.

"We have known since the beginning of this crisis that communities of colour are more at risk because of the social injustices that result in wide health, housing and employment inequalities within society.

"It is simply not acceptable that this report deliberately left out the impact of public health cuts, the experience of BAME frontline staff and the effectiveness of government messaging.

"It is also extremely worrying to hear reports that Matt Hancock's office may have removed key parts of the report which showed how discrimination and poorer life chances played a part in the increased risk to communities of colour. [1]

"We are backing the wider calls for an independent inquiry. It is time for the demands of the We Need Answers campaign to be heard." [2]

ENDS

Notes

1

<https://www.hsj.co.uk/coronavirus/exclusive-government-censored-bame-covid-risk-review/7027761.article>

2

<https://www.ubele.org/weneedanswers>

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