

BME



introducing the FDA **Black and Minority Ethnic Network**

Why Join

'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world, indeed it's the only thing that ever does.'

The FDA BME network supports active BME individuals in working to raise our profile and ensure our voices are heard within the FDA. The network also aims to increase the skills and knowledge of BME members and provide mutual professional and social support.

Events

The BME Network meets regularly to discuss issues of common interest, and seeks to mark events such as Black History Month in October each year, sometimes with a celebratory reception, sometimes with a conference or seminars, and sometimes a combination!

Other reasons to join and take part

Each year, hundreds of members come to the FDA for confidential and professional advice on:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| bullying and harassment | appraisal and promotion |
| disciplinary issues | contractual disputes |
| performance pay | discrimination |
| legal matters | |

Provide you with a voice and real influence

The FDA's democratic structures allow each individual member to influence the union and its policies. Our branch, section and executive committees are elected by and accountable to the membership, and members are encouraged to get involved in shaping the union's policies.

Unlike large unions where individual voices can get lost, the FDA provides the ideal forum for members to get to know each other and make an impact on their workplaces and among their peer groups.

The BME network helps to draft the FDA's official response to formal consultations on equality matters, to ensure that the BME angle is considered.

FDA networks

To find out more about the work of the FDA and how to get involved, visit our website: www.fda.org.uk/home/networks.aspx. There is more about the FDA and our other networks on the other side of this leaflet.

contact

The BME Network elects two representatives to the FDA's Diversity & Equality Sub Committee (DESC). The current two are Beverley Martin and Maureen Martin.

bme.network@fda.org.uk

The FDA is a modern union and professional association for senior managers and professionals in public service.

Our growing and influential membership of more than 17,000 senior managers, lawyers, diplomats, accountants, tax inspectors and other professionals work across government and the NHS.

All join the FDA for the security and belonging that membership provides. They stay members because of our unrivalled ability to improve their workplaces and their working lives.

We are the only civil service union that focuses uniquely on issues that affect senior managers and professionals.

If you would like to know about the FDA and our networks email membership@fda.org.uk or call 020 7401 5555 for a membership pack.



women

Women's Network

All women members of the FDA are welcome to join the network, which meets regularly to discuss gender issues and what can be done about the continuing under-representation of women at the top of the civil service. We also provide mutual support and encouragement, and help to develop policies on issues such as childcare, flexible working and maternity rights.

disabled members

Disabled Members Network

The FDA's Disabled Members Network is open to all members who consider themselves disabled or have an interest in disability issues. We try to meet informally every three months or so, to discuss ways to improve opportunities for disabled people at work, raise awareness, promote better training and tackle discrimination. We promote the inclusion of disabled people in the civil service and wider society.

LGBT

Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Network

The FDA's LGBT Network provides an instant network of colleagues who share interests and sensitivities, and provides support in dealing with hostility at work. Through the FDA, we work to give lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people a voice in the same corridors of power where they often have to be silent as individuals.

BME

Black and Minority Ethnic Network

The network aims to raise the profile of black and minority ethnic members and ensure our voice is heard within the FDA. We meet regularly to discuss issues at work, provide mutual social and professional support, and help develop policies to promote a fairer and more diverse workplace.

fast stream

Fast Stream

The FDA is the union for fast streamers. We work to protect and promote your pay, benefits and professional interests as the future of the public service. The FDA has sole recognition for fast stream members and the FDA's Fast Stream Network is a vibrant and active group that meets regularly for many work and social events.

lawyers

Lawyers

The Lawyers Network is a formal constituency of the union, and has its own voice on the national Executive Committee through two elected representatives. It meets regularly, in meetings which are open to all lawyer members, and liaises with the Government Legal Service (GLS) on issues relating to GLS lawyers.

statisticians & economists

Statisticians and Economists Forum

The FDA is the voice of statisticians and economists in the civil service, and particularly of senior staff. Membership provides excellent networking opportunities. Many senior statisticians and economists in the SCS are members. We work closely with both the Government Statistical Service (GSS) and the Government Economic Service (GES) on issues affecting our members at work.