DIVE Conference Background Information

In December 2008, London together with Berlin, Amsterdam, Rome, Leeds and Eurocities[1] and expert partners Migration Policy Group and Ethic, commenced the Diversity and Equality in European Cities project (DIVE), which is co-financed by the European Commission's DG for Justice, Freedom & Security under the European Integration Fund.

DIVE's objectives are:

- Evidence based policy recommendations for local strategies to promote integration.
- Identification of adequate roles for cities in the European framework for integration.
- Closer dialogue with policy makers at all relevant levels of governance.
- Raising public awareness on diversity and equality.

These objectives to be delivered in three parts:

- The benchmarking and peer reviewing of successful integration governance structures in four European cities (Berlin, Amsterdam, Rome, Leeds) and promoting innovative models for integration governance.
- The organisation of two high-level conferences (Integrating Cities III in Berlin & IV in London).
- The production of a Cities Charter on the role of cities in integration policies. This Charter will be built on evidence collected through the Peer Review exercise, the conceptual work by a wider group of cities and the two Integrating Cities Conferences.

London conference - 22 February 2010 at City Hall

Europe enriched: Towards a shared vision for migrant integration in European cities

The Mayor of London[2], the European Commission DG Justice, Freedom and Security and EUROCITIES will co-host the conference.

It is expected that the London conference will attract around 190 participants, 90 of whom are from different EU Cities.

Aim of the conference
The aim of the conference is to identify common principles for the integration of migrants in different EU cities through:
- dialogue between politicians, policy makers, EU city government, service providers and migrants,
- sharing knowledge and experience on the integration of migrants across Europe,
- exploring commonality across barriers to successful migrant integration in EU cities including the perspective of migrants and the wider population,
- identifying good practice models which could be shared across Europe.

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[1] http://www.eurocities.eu
[2] www.london.gov.uk