



Social Care: Past and Present

Ethnic diversity in Sheffield communities

V/o:

The Bangladeshi community in Darnall has up until now attracted few resources but following a Sheffield Social Services' study, a new Home Care Service aimed at older Bangladeshis is being set up. One of the people who prepared the survey and is now active on the new scheme is Darnall man Emad Ahmed.

Emad ahmed:

The Home Care Service is mainly for - cooking meals, shopping, drawing pensions, sending letters, or 'phoning the language programmes. That's why, you know, the main city council recruited some bi-lingual people within the community so they had to find out who are the actual people who actually need this help, especially the isolated ones you know.

V/o:

Shaheeda Khanum is joining Ahmed in this work. The city's black and ethnic minority Home Care Service already has staff working with the Pakistani and Somali communities. Ahmed and Shaheeda now need to publicise the new service amongst Bangladeshis.

Shaheeda:

Most of the people don't know about this service, this completely new service so our aim is to let them know what we are doing, what we are providing. (TO GROUP OF BANGLADESHIS)
We are from Social Service department, and you'll be happy to know we are going to do some publicity work about the Home Care Service in this country.

V/o:

Traditionally it's been assumed that Bangladeshi families are self-supporting, but the survey revealed a need for the Home Care Service.

Mr bashir:

My dad he had a stroke, he'd been to hospital about eleven weeks so he come out from hospital, then we contact home care, Shaheeda and Mr Ajmed come to visit our house.

V/o:

Mr Bashir and his father, Edrusilla, a former steelworker, are typical of the people Ahmed and Shaheeda propose to help.

(Subtitles)

Ahmed:

Social Services have newly set up a Bangladeshi Home Care Service specially for people like you, who need help to look after themselves, like dressing, washing, preparing meals, shopping. How do you feel about this service?

Edrusilla:

It's going all right, I am feeling good and I like it.

Ahmed:

How often do you need this service?

Edrusilla:

Every day.

(End of subtitles)

Shaheeda:

Some people don't have any families or relatives in the country, and they're living on their own, they don't have anybody to help them, so we can provide help for them. Some people are really concerned about confidentiality, that we'll go, and someone will come and they'll learn everything about our home. If someone will come, someone will come from same background and speak same language, it will be really great help for them.

Ahmed:

Darnall is a very good place Bangladeshi elders especially, because the Asian shops are nearby and there are mosques so close, and also city centre is so close then, and their friends and relatives also living so close they can meet each other easily, and their cultural backgrounds, you know, are same. And Darnall is a multi-cultural place, there is a lot of people from Bangladesh, Pakistan, Somalian, Yemeni, a very, very mixed culture, white as well, so for elders it's a very nice place I think.