

Ambassador Johnson  
33 Nine Elms Lane  
London  
SW11 7US



Date: 5<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Tel: 01452 396396  
[richard.cook@gloucester.gov.uk](mailto:richard.cook@gloucester.gov.uk)

Dear Ambassador Johnson,

It is with great regret that I write this letter on behalf of Gloucester City Council and its residents to unequivocally condemn the recent unlawful death of George Floyd by members of the Minneapolis Police Department. Gloucester City Council is gravely concerned by the actions that caused the death of Mr. Floyd and condemns all acts of racism and racial injustice, especially in the policing of marginalized communities in many parts of United States.

As demonstrated through the United States of America's national anthem, America is committed to being;

“... the land of the free and the home of the brave.”

The death of Mr. Floyd is a stark reminder that more must be done to uphold these values central to American culture, and fight back against racism across America in all of its forms.

At Gloucester City Council we stand with the American people in fighting racism and racial injustice wherever it appears. During your recent visit to Gloucester in November 2019, you would have seen the value diversity brings not only to our city, but to society as a whole. At Gloucester City Council we recognize and value the contributions of Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) members of our community, and our Equalities Vision and Action Plan seeks to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations with BAME communities.

The death of George Floyd has resulted in Gloucester City Council reflecting on how we as a city can continue to advance the voices of those in the BAME community. We have subsequently instituted a Race and Equalities Commission which will continue to fight back against racism and racial injustice in our communities and continue our work towards a more inclusive society.

We would be happy to welcome you back to Gloucester to experience our diverse city once again.

Regards,



Cllr Richard Cook  
Leader, Gloucester City Council