



Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council
United Kingdom

March 30th , 2026

Dear colleagues,

It has been an honour to serve as President of the Social Inclusion Committee over the past year. This role is deeply important to me, because at its heart, our work is about people, their dignity, their opportunities, and their right to feel that they belong.

Over the last 12 months, we have worked together to ensure that social inclusion is not just a principle, but a priority reflected in real action. We have strengthened cooperation between local and regional leaders, amplified the voices of underrepresented communities, and promoted practical solutions to challenges such as inequality, integration, and community cohesion.

I am particularly proud of our work to support youth participation, ensuring that the next generation has a stronger voice in shaping their future. At the same time, we have continued to build partnerships and share best practices across our member states, because we know that progress is strongest when it is shared.

But there is more to do. The challenges facing our communities are evolving, and so must we. We need to go further in tackling inequality, in supporting inclusion at the local level, and in turning our commitments into measurable change.

I am asking for your support to continue this work. Not just to build on what we have achieved, but to deepen our impact, together.

Because social inclusion is not an abstract goal. It is the foundation of stronger, fairer, and more resilient societies.

With all best wishes,

Cllr Nazia Rehman
Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council
Member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities and
the Group of Socialists, Greens and Progressive Democrats